July 2020 Newsletter

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Board Members:

Valeri White, LBSW Chair District 3

LaShea Cobb-England, LICSW Vice-Chair District 7

Amy E. Smith, LMSW Secretary District 4

Angela Dean, LMSW District 1

Kai Mumpfield, LICSW District 2

Dr. Octavio Ramirez, LICSW District 5

Marilyn Latham Colson, LICSW District 6

Upcoming State Holiday's

September 7th, Labor Day

> October 12th, Columbus Day

Please note that the Board Office will be closed on the days

ABSWE

Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners 334-242-5860 or 1-888-879-3672



View from the Chair

By: Valeri White, LBSW

I wanted to thank all of you for the past six years that I have been able to serve on the Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners. It has been a rewarding journey that makes me proud of our profession. I am thankful for the opportunity to serve as the Board Chair the past few months.

The Board has worked hard this past year to bring several items in line with other Boards from across the country to assist in making mobility across state lines more consistent. Soon you will have a chance to look over and comment on our proposed supervision rule changes that will help clarify the process for supervisors and supervisees. This has been a collaborative project with the Board and the Association of Social Work Boards. Our Board is working hard to ensure portability of licensure is an easier process for social workers moving into Alabama.

I feel confident that the Board will continue to protect the public and advance the standards of social work practice in Alabama. I wish you all the best!

Proposed Rule Changes

Be on the lookout for proposed rule changes to the following sections – 850-X-2-.01 Definition of Terms, 850-X-2-.02 Classification of Social Workers, and 850-X-3 Supervision. These proposed changes will be posted on the Board website July 31, 2020. Written comments and suggestions will be accepted through Friday September 4, 2020. You can email your comments to <u>Rachel.dickinson@swb.alabama.gov</u> or mail them to 100 North Union Street, Suite 736, Montgomery, AL 36104.

Upcoming Board Openings

The Board will have three Member positions open for appointment October 1, 2020. The positions are for US Congressional District 3, 4, and 7. The positions will need to be filled by a Licensed Bachelor Social Worker, Licensed Master Social Worker and a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker who is current and in good standing. If you are a licensed social worker at any of these levels of licensure from these Districts and are interested in serving on the Board, you may start collecting letters of nomination from fellow social workers from your District. The nomination letters and a resume must be mailed to the Board at 100 North Union Street, Suite 736, Montgomery, Alabama 36104, postmarked by September 15, 2020. The Governor makes the final selection from the list of the persons with the most nominations for the District.

If this is not something you're interested in, you may wish to submit a letter on behalf of someone. We'll accept nomination letters through September 15, 2020. We then submit the top three names for the District who receive the most letters to the Governor.

The duties of the Board are:

- To protect the public from incompetent, unethical and unlawful social work practice.
- To enforce qualification standards for all levels of licensure and certification.
- To delineate unlawful conduct through disciplinary procedures against practitioners who violate applicable laws or rules.

Nomination Requirements:

- The person being nominated and the person doing the nominating **must** both live in the same District.
- You can nominate yourself.
- The person making the nomination must be a licensed social worker.
- Nomination letters must be mailed, or hand delivered, you may collect the letters and send them in all together faxed or emailed letters **are not** acceptable.

The Board appointment will be for **three years** running through September 30, 2023. There is no pay for serving under this capacity, but you are reimbursed for in-state and out-of-state travel expenses at the same rate as a state employee.

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Board of Social Work Examiners

100 North Union Street Suite 736 Montgomery, AL 36130

> (334) 242-5860 or (888) 879-3672

Board Staff

Rachel Dickinson Executive Director

Karen Hester Examination Specialist

Cassandra Burrell Registration Coordinator



Board Reminders

• CE requirements – you must have 3 CE's in the following – Ethics, Clinical and Supervision (if you are under contract to supervise). Please remember that you need 10 traditional classroom-based CE hours as part of your 30 CE total. Live webinars will count toward your classroom requirement.

• The Board will meet again in September at 9:30am in our Montgomery office.