

### PG. 1

Notes from Delegate Assembly

### PG. 3

Frequently Asked Question

## BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

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### Board Staff

Rachel Dickinson

Executive Director

Karen Hester

Examination Specialist

## Notes from the Delegate Assembly

In November of 2023, I was privileged to be Alabama's Delegate to the Association of Social Work Boards' Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly in Memphis. This is where association leadership is elected, and general operations of the association are discussed. It was interesting to talk with other board members from around the country and Canada.

Several issues were identified by many Social Workers as needing focus.

They were:

- Some states' attempt at deregulating the profession of Social Work
- Telehealth and Technology
- Social Work Licensure Compact
- Independent practice for macro level social workers, not just clinical SWs
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

There was a lot of discussion about the importance of state boards actively and continually educating the public and the legislature about the pitfalls of bad social work and about non-social workers practicing social work. This is an area your board identified as need, to bridge the communication gap, prior to this delegate assembly meeting. As such, we have held an annual "The State of Social Work in Alabama" in 2022 and 2023, with plans to continue this annually. Your Board is also attempting more public engagement by accepting a university's invitation to host a board meeting on their campus this calendar year. Board meetings have always been open to the public and we encourage constituents to attend. However, we do suggest notifying the Board's Executive Director, Rachel Dickinson, if you plan to attend so that we can prepare for any large crowds. In addition, we are working to provide audio access to the meetings.

A random fact I found interesting was that for 2023, ASWB's email open rate was 59.88%, compared to the membership organizations/associations industry average of 42%. The click rate (percentage of openers who clicked a link to read more) for ASWB was 19.45%, compared to 4% industry average. We Social Workers are super engaged as a profession!

The ASWB is moving from strategic planning to strategic mapping as a way to address the rapidly- changing landscape of our profession. Instead of a linear one-thing-at-a-time approach, mapping enables the Board to be more fluid and to multi-task.

The new ASWB CEO, Stacey Hardy-Chandler, was introduced. She shared a book that is influencing her approach, Leading from the Roots: Nature-Inspired Leadership Lessons for Today's World by Kathleen Allen. She talked about the importance of authentic relationships, a shared purpose and reciprocity on making an impact and on long-term sustainability.

There are so many exciting things happening at ASWB. I encourage everyone to visit the ASWB website, scroll to the bottom, and click on News. There are some excellent articles about the Practice Analysis Task Force, test administration changes, qualitative research findings from the Community Conversations initiative, the upcoming Census, Interstate Compact, the need for informed Social Work regulators, the ASWB President's different views on regulation, upcoming changes to competence assessment, and an update on the change to PSI test centers.

I was proud to represent the Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners where great work for the Social Work profession is taking place. It is a privilege to serve!



**WENDY RUSSELL PEEK, DISTRICT 6**

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# BOARD FAQ'S

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**Applications for exam and re-exam can take 14-21 days to receive approval.**

**Transcripts and immigration compliance forms can now be emailed to the office at [info.socialwork@swb.alabama.gov](mailto:info.socialwork@swb.alabama.gov)**

**If you submit a transcript to the office, please let us know if it is in different last name other than what is on your application.**

**Please keep in mind if you mail something to our office it is routed through a central mail room. We do not receive certified, overnight, Fed Ex or UPS items physically at our office. These items are delivered to us from another location. Please know the email above is the fastest way to receive a document.**

**Effective now, if you renew online you will now have the option to print your own wallet card and license. We will no longer print and mail wallet cards or seals for online renewals.**

**As a reminder, all LICSWs must have 6 hours of Clinical CE's, with 3 hours devoted to covering the most current version of the DSM, at each renewal. If renewing online you will be required to upload proof of the DSM CEU. If mailing in your renewal ALL CEU's documents must be included.**

**Supervisors must have 3 hours of Supervision CE's at each renewal.**

**All licensed Social Workers must have 3 CE's of Ethics at each renewal. Please remember that you need 10 classroom-based CE hours as part of your 30 CE total. Live/interactive webinars will count toward your classroom requirements. Recorded webinars are not considered live.**

**Please keep in mind you cannot earn CEU's during your 60-day grace period.**

# HELLO!

If you would like to keep a record of your continuing education hours, print a copy of your license or wallet card, you must register through our website. To do so you need the code that was provided in your original license packet. If you do not have this letter, please contact the Board & we can provide the code again.

## Happy Social Work Month

Next Board meeting March 27<sup>th</sup>, 10 am.



The Social Work Census is Out!!!

<https://swcensus.org/>

### Introducing your New Board Members



Heather Perley  
District 3  
Appointed January 2024

Alvin Reed, LICSW, PIP  
District 7  
Appointed January 2024