

**STATE OF NEVADA COMMITTEE ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
(BATTERER'S TREATMENT CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE)**

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING FOR GRANTING WAIVERS
OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS
FOR PROGRAM SUPERVISORS

MINUTES

Wednesday, May 25, 2011 at 10:30a.m.

Location: Office of the Attorney General
Grant Sawyer Building
555 E. Washington Avenue, Room 4500
Las Vegas, Nevada
AND
Office of the Attorney General
100 N. Carson Street
Mock Courtroom
Carson City, Nevada

Please Note: The Batters Treatment Committee may address agenda items out of sequence to accommodate persons appearing before the Committee or to aid the efficiency or effectiveness of the meeting. The Committee may convene in closed session to consider the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence or physical or mental health of a person (NRS 241.030).

***Asterisks (*) denote items on which Committee may take action.
Action by the Committee on an item may be to approve,
deny, amend, or table.***

1. Call to order and roll call of members.

Members Present

Tim Hamilton
Sue Meuschke

Members Absent

Attorney General's Office

Jennifer Kandt, Admin.

Public Present

Leah Boe

2. *Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding minutes from the following meeting:

a) August 19, 2010 Waiver of Licensure Subcommittee

Motion: Sue moved to approve the minutes. 2nd: Tim

Vote: All in favor. Motion carried.

3. Interview for waiver of professional licensure.

a) Leah Boe

QUESTION 1. In the batterer intervention program you propose to supervise, how will you demonstrate respect for the plight, right and individual differences of victims as well as respect the individual differences and rights of the perpetrator?

Ms. Boe indicated that she does full assessments on each individual coming into her program. She said she follows all statutes in regards to topics. She said she also provides victim service information. Ms. Boe stated that she treats everyone fairly and with respect, and that she makes all appropriate referrals.

QUESTION 2. What is your ideal of a model intervention program?

Ms. Boe stated that she has a very good intervention program. She said she takes bits and pieces from various treatment models, and that she keeps current on all research and studies.

QUESTION 3. How do you propose to cooperate and communicate with interrelated agencies?

Ms. Boe said that she does all of the reporting for her agency, and said she is very accessible. She said she corresponds with the courts, parole and probation, and service providers.

QUESTION 4. How have you contributed to public awareness about the issues of domestic violence? Either individually or as an agency.

Ms. Boe stated that she previously did elder abuse trainings. She speaks and asks questions at all trainings. She said she talks with hospitals. She also said she talks to judges in a "soft way" as not to "butt heads" with judges.

QUESTION 5. How do you demonstrate ongoing evaluation of your program? And how do you incorporate new information into your batterers' intervention?

Ms. Boe said she does chart audits every month. She stated that she does all reporting and looks at studies and new treatments and then brings those in to add to the existing treatment standards.

QUESTION 6. Situational question: How would you handle a referral who comes from a culture which condones the use of violence to remedy family conflict?

Ms. Boe said she would try to get the batterer to understand different perspectives, and would hope that he would get feedback from other participants. Ultimately, she said it could be difficult to change his beliefs, but hopefully he could begin to change his beliefs.

QUESTION 7. What professional code of ethics will you follow in your program? What is your affiliation with that group?

Ms. Boe stated that she is a licensed drug and alcohol counselor and a licensed social worker. She said she also has applied for MFT licensure and will follow the code of ethics for all of those organizations.

QUESTION 8. How would you deal with the following situation: you receive a call on your voice mail a few minutes before group begins from the wife of a group member. She says her husband is threatening to kill her cat.

Ms. Boe stated that she would contact the victim outside of group so that the offender would not be aware that she is contacting the victim. She also stated that if she thought the victim was in immediate danger, she would contact the police. Additionally, she stated that she would discuss it with the batterer.

QUESTION 9. Another situational question: A batterer who has graduated from your program leaves a message on your voice mail that he re-offended the previous evening by hitting his wife; she did not call the police. What would you do?

Ms. Boe stated that her agency offers free after care and that any graduate from her program can attend groups for free. She stated that she would contact the courts to let them know that he re-offended and that she would also contact the victim to offer her support services.

QUESTION 10. What training have you received in diversity? How will your program handle people of different ethnic, racial or cultural backgrounds?

Ms. Boe said that she attends classes offered locally that might offer cultural diversity training. She stated that part of the intake questionnaire for her agency includes questions on whether there are any religious or cultural beliefs which may impact treatment.

QUESTION 11. What training have you received which most influenced your work with batterers?

She said she attended an excellent training in Pacifica, California that dealt with local diversity and California statutes dealing with batterers treatment.

QUESTION 12. Situational question: How would you handle a batterer who complains to the court that after a month of attendance, he does not like you or your group?

Ms. Boe stated that hopefully she would notice the attitude before the client went to the court. She said that she had an incident where she sat down with a client outside of the group setting and asked what could be done to help the client succeed in the classes.

QUESTION 13. Another situational question: A batterer comments in your group that he's found out his ex is seeing another man and he feels like slashing her tires. How would you handle the situation?

Ms. Boe said she would talk through the situation with the batterer, and if it appears to be a real threat, she would contact the victim to safety plan. She said that she tends to believe the batterers when they state that they are going to do something.

QUESTION 14. What do you expect a graduate of your program to come away with after participating for 28 weeks?

Ms. Boe stated that she hopes the batterers do not reoffend after the program, and she hopes that they learn the skills taught in group. She said she hopes that they understand the cycle of violence. She said the ultimate goal is that they don't reoffend and that they come to aftercare if needed.

4. *Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding recommendation to the full Committee on the waiver of professional licensure for the following individuals:

a) Leah Boe

Tim stated that she felt the answers to questions number one and two were light on content.

Sue agreed that she started out light at first and then seemed to offer more with her answers.

Tim and Sue agreed that Ms. Boe did not say anything about evaluation of the program in question number five. There was general consensus that the answers to questions number six and seven were good, but that the answer to number eight presented problems due to her statement that she would contact police which could violate victim confidentiality and put the victim at risk. Additionally, Sue and Tim stated that they agreed that her telling the offender would be a big risk to the victim.

Tim and Sue agreed that Ms. Boe's answers to questions number twelve and thirteen were better than average.

There was discussion that in general, she seemed to be aware of victim safety issues, but there were a couple of problems with some of her responses.

There was discussion that confidentiality issues seem to be problematic for many providers and that a training on confidentiality could be very beneficial. Additionally, there was discussion that maybe these questions should be available to interviewees prior to the interview.

Tim stated that based on her overall interview, her reputation in the field, and her training, he would recommend approval.

Motion: Sue moved to recommend approval for the waiver of licensure for Leah Boe.
2nd: Tim

Vote: All in favor. Motion carried.

5. Public Comment.

Note: No vote may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020). Public Comment will be limited to 3 minutes per person.

6. Adjournment.