

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

MINUTES

Thursday, February 28, 2013, at 10:00a.m.

Via Video Conference:
Office of the Attorney General
Grant Sawyer Building
555 E. Washington Avenue, Room 3315
Las Vegas, Nevada
and
Office of the Attorney General
100 North Carson Street
Courtroom
Carson City, Nevada

Please Note: The Committee on Domestic Violence may 1) address agenda items out of sequence to accommodate persons appearing before the Committee or to aid the efficiency or effectiveness of the meeting; 2) combine items for consideration by the public body; and 3) pull or remove items from the agenda at any time. 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)

Public comment is welcomed by the Committee, but at the discretion of the chair, may be limited to five minutes per person. A public comment time will be available before any action items are heard by the public body and then once again prior to adjournment of the meeting. The Chair may allow additional time to be given a speaker as time allows and in his/her sole discretion. Once all items on the agenda are completed the meeting will adjourn. Prior to the commencement and conclusions of a contested case or a quasi judicial proceeding that may affect the due process rights of an individual the board may refuse to consider public comment.

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

1. Call to order, roll call, establish quorum.

Members Present

Tim Hamilton
Lt. Robert Lundquist
Sue Meuschke

Members Absent

Cheryl Hunt
Neil Rombardo
Judge Bunch

Attorney General's Office

Henna Rasul, Senior DAG
Jennifer Kandt, Admin. Coord.

Members Present
Traci Dory
Carol Ferranti
Meri Shadley

Public
Craig Merrill
Dr. Michael Freda

2. Public comment.

Craig Merrill stated that many providers are faced with clients who are not able to pay, and end up carrying significant balances. He said that his agency has experimented with allowing clients who are unable to make the minimum payment to check into class and then be excused. He stated that this allows them to keep contact with the client, not default them to the court, but also not carry a huge balance that the client cannot pay. He also said that he has notified the courts of the policy.

Tim stated that agencies are allowed to institute any policy they would like as long as it does not violate the regulations.

There was discussion that the clients were still required to attend for the number of sessions that they were sentenced to, and that the courts did not have any issues with the policy.

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)

3. *Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding review and approval of minutes of the following meetings:

a) November 8, 2012

Motion: Traci moved to approve. 2nd: Sue

Vote: All in favor. Motion carried.

b) December 18, 2012

Motion: Sue moved to approve. 2nd: Carol

Vote: All in favor. Motion carried.

4. Updates by Domestic Violence Ombudsman Kareen Prentice.

a) Budget

Jennifer stated that information on expenditures and budget details for FY2013 and FY2014 were included in the packets.

b) Court Assessments

Jennifer stated that Kareen had been working with the AOC to develop a new collection form that would mirror the form used for collection of other court assessments. She said that the form would ask the court to breakdown the number of cases that each payment represented. She said she thought that the form was nearly completed, but that it would probably take several months to institute.

Sue expressed concern that the court assessment collections were way down, and asked if there was any insight into why collections were so low.

Jennifer stated that she did not have any details other than she has heard that collections are down in all areas. Additionally, she said that originally there was discussion around conducting an audit, but that they were told that the AOC would not be doing an audit, but would help with a new form.

c) Match

Jennifer asked that all members complete their match forms.

5. *Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding ideas for increasing treatment in the rural areas. This item will include updates from the Rural Issues Subcommittee.

Jennifer stated that there was going to be a meeting in March with Rural Clinics to discuss possibilities for working with them to get certified, or to see if they have any feedback for ways to increase treatment in the rural areas. She said that Kareen and Sue would be attending the meeting as members of the Rural Issues Subcommittee.

Tim commented that he had received a call from a judge in Ely regarding getting treatment in that area. Tim said he gave them all the relevant information, but had not heard anything further.

6. *Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding possible changes to NAC 228 including addition of dual relationship and/or professional conduct language.

Jennifer stated that she had drafted two options for this possible change. She said that one option was to add several items to an existing section, and the other option was to create an entirely new, detailed section dealing with professional responsibility. There was discussion and general consensus that the new section was preferred.

Motion: Meri moved to include the professional responsibility section in the regulation changes. 2nd: Sue

Vote: All in favor. Motion carried.

7. *Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding approval numbers for continuing education.

Jennifer stated that she thought it might be helpful to have approval numbers for courses to eliminate confusion over whether or not a course had been approved. She stated that the approval numbers could then be listed on documents.

Motion: Sue moved to adopt a numbering system for approval of continuing education. 2nd: Carol

Vote: All in favor. Motion carried.

8. *Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding approval of report due to LCB March 1, 2013.

Jennifer stated that she had incorporated changes that had been suggested by several members. She also stated that the Attorney General had asked about the Committee's suggestion to remove the language in NRS requiring the Committee to

assist victims of domestic violence in divorce proceedings. She said that the Attorney General had suggested that this change be added to her omnibus bill. Jennifer stated that it was her understanding that a request had been made to amend the bill, but it appeared that the amendment might not go through because the bill had already made it out of committee. Additionally, Jennifer stated that the Attorney General had indicated that she felt that the Committee should focus on collecting the funds that they were entitled to receive as opposed to instituting new fees. Lastly, Jennifer indicated that she would submit the report by the deadline.

9. *Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding the following requests for domestic violence continuing education credits and/or formal training:

- a. Re-evaluation of Application for 7.5 training credits
Dennis Fitzpatrick
"Teaching the Domestic Violence Class Part 1"
Distance Media course previously approved for 3.75 victim and 3.75 perpetrator credits; Request to approve for 3.5 victim and 4 perpetrator (Reviewed by Neil Rombardo)

Jennifer stated that Neil recommended approval.

Motion: Sue moved to approve. 2nd: Meri

Vote: All in favor. Motion carried.

- b. Application for 4 training credits
Dennis Fitzpatrick
"Preventing Domestic Violence, 6 Counselor Issues, 8 Ethical Issues"
Dates to be Determined; Las Vegas, NV
(Reviewed by Judge Bunch)

Jennifer stated that Judge Bunch recommended approval of 2 victim and 2 perpetrator hours.

Motion: Traci moved to approve. 2nd: Sue

Vote: All in favor. Motion carried.

- c. Application for 6 training credits
Leah Boe
"Anger and Oppositional Defiant Disorder"
May 24, 2012 Reno, NV
(Reviewed by Tim Hamilton)

Tim recommended approval.

Motion: Sue moved to approve. 2nd: Lt. Lundquist

Vote: All in favor. Motion carried.

10. *Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding corrective action plans from the following agencies:

- a. Winnemucca Batterers Intervention Program
Winnemucca, NV
(Reviewed by Sue Meuschke)

Sue recommended approval.
Motion: Traci moved to approve. 2nd: Lt. Lundquist
Vote: All in favor. Motion carried.

- b. ACCS
Reno, NV
(Reviewed by Lt. Lundquist)

Lt. Lundquist recommended approval.
Motion: Sue moved to approve. 2nd: Traci
Vote: All in favor. Motion carried.

- c. ACCS
Carson City, NV
(Reviewed by Lt. Lundquist)

Lt. Lundquist recommended approval.
Motion: Sue moved to approve. 2nd: Meri
Vote: All in favor. Motion carried.

- d. Ridgeview
Reno, NV
(Reviewed by Meri Shadley)

Meri recommended approval.
Motion: Sue moved to approve. 2nd: Lt. Lundquist
Vote: All in favor. Motion carried.

- e. Sierra Counseling Center
Sparks, NV
(Reviewed by Carol Ferranti)

Carol asked whether Dr. Hughes included dates on his reports to indicate when the site visit occurred. Jennifer said that the first page of the report includes a range of dates for the visits, but the report does not state the exact date which each agency was reviewed. Carol requested that the date of the review be provided. She recommended approval of the corrective action plan.

Motion: Sue moved to approve. 2nd: Lt. Lundquist
Vote: All in favor. Motion carried.

11. *Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding the application for certification renewal from the following agencies:

- a) Cornerstone Counseling Center
Las Vegas, NV
(Reviewed by Cheryl Hunt)

Jennifer stated that Cheryl recommended that this item be continued as one of the providers did not seem to have adequate continuing education hours.

Motion: Sue moved to continue. 2nd: Carol
Vote: All in favor. Motion carried.

- b) Safe Nest
Las Vegas, Boulder City, and Mesquite, NV
(Reviewed by Traci Dory)

Traci stated that the renewal application was very well organized. She recommended approval.

Motion: Sue moved to approve. 2nd: Carol

Vote: All in favor. Motion carried. Tim abstained.

- c) Great Basin Counseling Center
Reno, Sparks, Fernley, and Carson City, NV
(Reviewed by Tim Hamilton; Continued from November meeting)

Tim stated that the supervisor did not have enough approved continuing education. He stated that the program had already been continued once, and that it is the supervisor's responsibility to ensure that everyone has adequate approved continuing education.

There was some discussion that the supervisor had originally intended to go to a training that she was unable to attend and therefore needed to take an online course which had not been approved. There was further discussion that the agency be strongly reminded of the requirements, and that this be the last option for a continuance.

Motion: Sue moved to continue. 2nd: Traci

Vote: All in favor. Motion carried.

12. Discussion regarding future agenda items and future meeting dates.

Future meeting dates were set for May 23, 2013, August 15, 2013, and November 14, 2013. Jennifer stated that at the next meeting they needed to have a final version of the regulation changes and that there would need to be discussion on whether the regulation changes would have a financial impact on small business.

13. Public comment.

Sue stated that VAWA passed the House and was headed to the President to be signed.

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)

14. *Adjournment (for possible action).

Motion: Sue moved to adjourn. 2nd: Lt. Lundquist.

Vote: All in favor. Motion carried.