

**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**

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**Thursday, February 16, 2012 at 9:00a.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*

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**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.*

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***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.***

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**1. Call to order, roll call of members, establish quorum.**

Members Present

Tim Hamilton  
Sue Meuschke

Members Absent

Attorney General's Office

Jennifer Kandt, Admin.

Public Present

Leah Boe

**2. 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)

**3. Interview for waiver of professional licensure.**

a) Amy Martin

*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. Martin stated that Cornerstone Counseling Center will work with the offenders, and will refer victims to all of the good victim service providers that exist in the community. She said that since their agency is very small and only has one entrance, it would be best for victims to be seen elsewhere.*

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

*Ms. Martin stated that she favored the cognitive behavioral therapy model coupled with the Deluth model. She said she liked the power and control wheel, the equality wheel, and the domestic violence cycle. She said if she can change the way a person thinks, they can change the decisions they make. She said she will also use some of the skill-based therapy available, and that she would make group interactive with role-playing.*

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

*Ms. Martin said that their agency already has a substance abuse program so they already have a good working relationship with the courts and parole and probation. She said they get referrals from various courts and agencies and that they would continue to build those relationships. She said they will need to work on building relationships with the victim groups in the area.*

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

*Ms. Martin said that as an agency, they have focused on providing well rounded treatment to the clients that they serve. She said that they educate their*

*substance abuse clients about healthy relationships. She said that living a violence free life and leading by example is very important.*

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

*Ms. Martin indicated that by keeping accurate records and by doing thorough evaluations, they can then reassess the offenders and adjust their treatment plans. She said a pre-test and a post-test during the program can be helpful. She also stated that having good working relationships with the courts and other agencies will be helpful with becoming aware of someone who may have been picked up for DUI or burglary or some other crime.*

*Ms. Martin said that the agency had put together the curriculum according to the standards and that if they find something useful in the future they can bring it to the Committee for approval.*

*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. Martin indicated that it is important to be very sensitive when it comes to different cultures to avoid insulting anyone. She also said it is important to discuss culture with the client because you don't want to make assumptions about their culture. She stated that it is important to acknowledge their culture and inform them of the laws and boundaries of this country and educating them on why there may be differences.*

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

*Ms. Martin said they took the substance abuse code of ethics and revamped it based on the NAC and NRS for domestic violence and adapted it to fit with domestic violence. She said she also has a Master's degree in social work and is familiar with the social work ethics. Additionally, she stated that she is not afraid to contact the Committee for assistance on any ethical questions that may arise.*

*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. Martin said the unique thing about domestic violence is that they are trying to educate the batterers, but also have to make sure the victims are safe. She said that confronting the batterer about the situation could put the victim in danger. She stated that there could be more general discussion about types of violence including psychological violence and talking about threats to harm possessions and animals without letting anyone know that the victim had reported an incident.*

*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. Martin said that this would indicate a good relationship had been built with the offender and that he is feeling comfortable enough to disclose this information. She said that she would encourage the offender to come in for additional counseling.*

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

*Ms. Martin stated that every year she obtains continuing education units every year and that they generally cover diversity issues. Additionally, she stated that an entire semester of her Master's level training focused on diversity issues. She said that researching is very important in situations where she might not have all the information needed.*

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

*Ms. Martin stated that in 1998 she went to a conference about getting to know the individuals with role-playing and counselors response. She stated that she learned the work is really in the relationship even though you might have all types of specialized training.*

*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. Martin said that prior to the client going to court to complain, that she would hope to have noticed a problem with the client relationship, and have talked to client to see if the problem was with a resistance to treatment or some other issue with the facilitators or group. She said it would be important to figure out if the issue was manipulative in nature or if there really was something going on.*

*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. Martin stated that the whole point of group is to get batterers to talk about their feelings without acting on every feeling that they have. She said that it would be a great time to have a discussion about the consequences of acting out on those feelings. She said that they will not get any work done if offenders feel like they cannot express their feelings.*

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

*Ms. Martin said that ideally they would be very knowledgeable about power and control, equality, relationship skills, stress management skills, parenting, and then overall be a better citizen.*

- 4. \*Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding recommendation to the full Committee on the waiver of professional licensure for the following individuals:**
  - a) Amy Martin

*Tim stated that he felt she was one of the best interviewees that they had seen in several years.*

*Sue stated that she agreed, but stated that she felt it is important for batterer intervention programs to know more about victim needs than simply giving them a phone number. There was also some discussion about where her observation hours occurred, and needing proof of those hours. There was further discussion that this item was about the waiver, but that when the decision regarding actual approval as a supervisor is made, approval would need to be contingent upon proof of those hours.*

*Motion: Sue moved to approve the waiver of licensure.*

*2<sup>nd</sup>: Tim*

*Vote: All in favor.*

**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)*

**6. \*Adjournment (For Possible Action).**

*Motion: Sue moved to adjourn. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Tim*

*Vote: All in favor.*