



STATE OF NEVADA
BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR SOCIAL WORKERS
4600 Kietzke Lane — C - 121
Reno, Nevada 89502
(775) 688-2555

January 14, 2002

Lorne J. Malkiewich, Director
Legislative Counsel Bureau
401 South Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701-4747

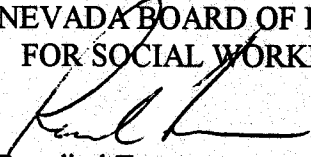
Dear Mr. Malkiewich:

Pursuant to SB 420, the Board of Examiners for Social Workers is submitting the required quarterly disciplinary report for the period of October 1, 2001 through December 31, 2001. On October 1, 2001 the Board records reflect 37 active allegation files. During the quarter the Board received an additional three allegations, dismissed two allegations, held two hearings and entered into one consent decree in lieu of hearings. On December 31, 2001, 35 allegation files remained open.

Attached is a summary of the consent decrees entered into and the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law for the hearings for the last quarter. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions or would prefer to receive this material in a different format.

Sincerely,

NEVADA BOARD OF EXAMINERS
FOR SOCIAL WORKERS


Rosalind Tuana
Executive Director

Enclosure

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR SOCIAL WORKERS

January 14, 2002

Consent Decree Summary for the period of 7/1/01 to 9/30/01

1. Conclusions of Law Findings of Fact in the matter of Jeffrey Knepler, LCSW 00948-C
Case #G99-13 Hearing October 12, 2001

The charges against Mr. Knepler in Case G99-13 were as follows:

On or about December 8, 1999, Knepler was convicted of the crime of Conspiracy, a violation of Title 18 USC 371, a felony. The underlying conduct leading to the conviction included Knepler providing illegal kickbacks to a corporation in exchange for referring patients to corporation-controlled facilities. Knepler's conviction was an offense involving moral turpitude and therefore constitutes a violation of NRS 641.400 (2)(b). This conduct also violated NAC 641B.220(4) that prohibits a licensee from offering or accepting a payment for referral. Therefore, Respondent is guilty of Unprofessional Conduct as defined by NAC 641B.220 that states that a licensee who violates any provision of NAC 641B.200 to 641B.215, inclusive is guilty of unprofessional conduct. Specifically, Respondent is guilty of a violation of NAC 641B.200(4) and is therefore subject to discipline pursuant to NRS 641B.400(1). Respondent is Guilty of a felony and is subject to disciplinary pursuant to NRS 641B.400(2)(a).

The Board found the evidence presented to be credible and substantiated. The Board voted to find the respondent, Jeffrey Knepler guilty of the charges outlined in the complaint.

The respondent, Jeffrey Knepler was given a public reprimand to and fined \$5000 due and payable to the General Fund within 6 months. Additionally, respondent must pay all disciplinary costs related to this matter. The Executive Director of the Board is to distribute the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and Order to 1) all boards in this state and states surrounding Nevada that license professional practicing in the mental health field, the state of Wisconsin, 2) ASWB Disciplinary Action and Reporting and 3) Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank (HIPDB).

2. Conclusions of Law Findings of Fact in the matter of Leonard J. Scezney, LCSW 2500-C
Case #G99-14 Hearing October 12, 2001

The charges against Mr. Scezney in Case G98-14 were as follows:

On or about December 8, 2000, the New Mexico Board of Social Work Examiners rendered a Decision and Order in which Scezney's license was suspended for a period of five (5) years. The underlying conduct leading to the license suspension included Scezney submitting and attempting to submit false and fraudulent information and documents with forged signatures to the New Mexico Board in support of an upgrade of his Master Social Work license to an Independent Social Work License. The information and documents submitted by Scezney to the Nevada State Board of Examiners for Social Workers to obtain a license as a clinical social worker were identical to portions of the false and fraudulent information and documents with forged signatures that were submitted to the New Mexico Board. The suspension of Scezney's license by the New Mexico Board constitutes a violation of NAC 6541B.220(3). Scezney's conduct also violated NRS 641B.400(3)(s) that provides that the use of fraud and deception constitutes grounds for initiating disciplinary action. That the foregoing facts constitute grounds for initiating disciplinary action pursuant to NRS 641B.400(1) unprofessional conduct as defined in NAC 641B.220(3) and NRS 641B.400(3)(a). Respondent is guilty of unprofessional conduct as defined in NAC as defined by B.220(3) which states that the "revocation, suspension or other disciplinary action taken by another state on the license, certificate or registration to practice social work or a related field that was issued by that state is grounds for disciplinary action by the Board for unprofessional conduct. Respondent Scezney is also guilty of using fraud and deception in applying for a license for clinical social work in the state of Nevada and is subject to discipline pursuant to NRS NAC 641B.220 which states that a licensee who B.400(3)(a).

The Board found the testimony and exhibits submitted to be credible and supported the allegations in the complaint. The Board found the respondent, Leonard Scezney guilty on all counts in the complaint.

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR SOCIAL WORKERS

January 14, 2002

The respondent received a public reprimand to and a fine of \$5000 due and payable to the General Fund within 6 months. Additionally, Respondent must pay all disciplinary cost related to this matter. The Executive Director of the Board is to distribute the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and Order to 1) all licensing boards in this state, in the state of Missouri and states surrounding Nevada that license professional practicing in the mental health field, 2) ASWB Disciplinary Action and Reporting 3) Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank (HIPDB).

**3. Consent Decree in the matter of Steven Craig, LCSW 01511-C G00-22
Approved by the Board on November 16, 2001**

The decree stipulated to the following violation:

1. A violation of NAC 641B.200(17)(a) that provides that a licensee shall notify the Board in writing within 10 days after an action is taken against his license issued by another state.
2. That is was guilty of unprofessional conduct as prohibited in NRS 641B.400(1) and defined at NAC 641B.20(1) which states that a licensee who violates any of the provision of NAC 641B.200 to 641B.215, inclusive is guilty of unprofessional conduct.

The stipulated form of discipline was as follows:

1. The Board shall impose a public reprimand relating to his professional misconduct as outlined
2. Respondent shall pay \$300.00 in legal and investigative fees within forty five (45) days from the date of the Consent Decree approved by the Board.
3. Respondent cannot reapply for licensure in the State of Nevada until 2 years from the date of the Consent Decree is approved by the Board and that respondent must appear before the Board if he does reapply. (Note: Respondent let his license expire after notification of the potential violation.)