

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2019

BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST AND PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATE LICENSING EXAMINERS



**Department of Commerce, Community
and Economic Development**

**Division of Corporations, Business
and Professional Licensing**

This annual performance report is presented in accordance with
Alaska statute AS 08.01.070(10).

Its purpose is to report the accomplishments, activities, and the
past and present needs of the licensing program.

**BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST AND PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATE LICENSING EXAMINERS
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Identification of the Board

Board Member	Duty Station	Date Appointed	Term Expires
Allen Levy, LPA Psychological Associate Board Chair	Anchorage	Mar 1, 2012	Mar 1, 2020
Joel Wieman, Ph.D Psychologist	Anchorage	Mar 1, 2012	Mar 1, 2020
Suzanne Dutson Public Member	Juneau	Sep 9, 2016	Mar 1, 2020
Matthew Dammeyer, Ph. D Psychologist	Anchorage	Mar 1, 2019	Mar 1, 2021
Erin Johnson, Ph.D Psychologist	Anchorage	Mar 1, 2019	Mar 1, 2024
Richard Lazur, Ph.D Psychologist	Anchorage	Aug 20, 2018	Mar 1, 2019
Christopher Reynolds, Ph.D Psychologist	Anchorage	Aug 20, 2018	Mar 1, 2019

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Identification of Staff

Lacey Derr – Licensing Examiner

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
Post Office Box 110806
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806
(907) 465-2550

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Sonia Lipker, Erika Prieksat, Brian Howes – Investigator

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Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
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Greg Francois – Chief Investigator

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Narrative Statement

The FY 2019 report of activities is based on the Board of Psychologist & Psychological Associate Examiners (PSY) Board Meetings held between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019. During that period, the board held five meetings for a total of eight days. Meetings were held in Anchorage on August 9-10 2018, November 29, 2018, and May 9-10, 2018; in Juneau on January 31 to February 1, 2019. In addition, there was a Special Teleconference held on July 12, 2018 on an urgent matter. The November meeting was administratively adjourned due to the November 30, 2018 earthquake. Unfinished business from the November meeting was completed by the end of the January/February, 2019 meeting in Juneau.

The Board continues with the goals and purposes of protection of the public; ensuring the public of continued competency of licensed psychology professionals; ensuring psychological care is offered by professionally qualified persons; and ensuring qualified psychology practitioners are available. The Board has approved applicants for licensure as Psychologists and Psychological Associates, as well as monitored continuing education requirements.

Board member, Joel Wieman, attended the Annual Meeting of Delegates for the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) on October 17-21, 2018 in Salt Lake City Utah. Travel restrictions prevented any board members or our licensing examiner from attending the ASPPB Mid-Year meeting in Santa Fe New Mexico in April 2019. The travel restriction is a very unfortunate development for this board as there are new members in need of training and key national issues going unattended by this board. ASPPB provides valuable training, resources and support. Board members have the opportunity to remain informed about key issues relating to licensure, enforcement, ethics and even Supreme Court decisions that directly impact board functions and responsibilities. Attendance at the ASPPB annual and mid-year conferences by as many Board members as possible in FY 2020 is an even higher priority than in years past. There will be a major turnover in board members in FY 2020. The terms of the three most experienced board members are set to expire in March, 2020. The loss of institutional memory coupled with lack of training risks severely compromising the Board's ability to serve the public interest by effectively licensing and regulating psychologists and psychological associates. Regulating the practice of psychology is complex and has a very steep learning curve. The Board cannot afford to pass up valuable training opportunities. The efficient and effective functioning of this board has been compromised by the unexpected replacement of two recently seated board members in March, 2019. Board function has also been negatively impacted by the new policy of limiting face to face meetings to only one per year. The Board Chair had been planning for a smooth transition of leadership and membership during the last half of FY 2019 and the second half of FY 2020. The Board has struggled with frequent turnover in licensing examiners over the past seven years. The board experienced another turnover in FY 2018. Fortunately, the transition between examiners went smoothly—the previous examiner, Rissa Teske had been doing an excellent job and left her house in order for the current licensing examiner—Lacey Derr. Ms. Derr has shown extraordinary diligence, dedication and skill in carrying out her duties—even in times of great difficulty. This board has complete confidence in Ms. Derr's ability to manage the complex demands of her job.

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FY 2019 Narrative Statement (continued)

The Board is fully staffed. The priority for the coming year will be training new board members and making a smooth leadership transition. The Board will need to continue work on rebuilding the test bank for the State Law and Ethics Exam. This is slow, tedious work that requires much discussion and attention to detail. It also requires work sessions with all board members physically present. The Board has been slowed down in its efforts on this critical task due to circumstances beyond its control. There are key legislative and regulatory matters needing to be addressed, but these matters will progress at a slower pace during the period of training and transition. The current restrictions on travel and limits on face to face meetings will limit the Board's ability to meet its goals and carry out its duties—thus hindering it in carrying out its primary duty of protecting the public. The Board's functions are revenue neutral to the State of Alaska. This board has responsibly managed its finances and is in the fortunate position of having a healthy budget surplus and a positive cash flow. Restrictions on travel by this board will do nothing to balance the state's budget, but will have long and short-term consequences that will inevitably result in increased costs to the state. Therefore, this board is respectfully requesting reconsideration of current policies related to meetings and travel by self-funded boards.

Membership

There have been significant changes to the Board's membership in FY 2019. Board Members Sarah Angstman PhD and Paul Dukarm PhD submitted their resignations last summer—they became ineligible to serve when they relocated out of state. Their seats were filled by Richard Lazur PhD and Chris Reynolds PhD. Dr.'s Lazur and Reynolds were unexpectedly replaced by Matthew Dammeyer PhD and Erin Johnson PhD. All board members serve at the pleasure of the governor and this board respects the governor's authority to create an administration best suited to meet his goals. Nevertheless, this board must deal with the consequences that naturally follow. Three board members' terms expire in March, 2020. With their replacement, the total years of experience of the five board members will be less than two years. This will be a board consisting of, essentially, brand new members, with no experienced member to lead or guide them. For that reason travel, training, and transition in the last half of FY 2019 and throughout FY 2020 are the highest priorities for this board.

Investigations

Erika Prieksat became The Board's investigator in FY 2019. An investigator has attended each of our board meetings, either in person or by phone, and has provided comprehensive and timely updates regarding investigative matters. Investigators actively sought consultation and advice on matters that came before them. Investigative matters appear to have been handled effectively and efficiently. Investigations also provided a board training on the investigative process at the May meeting.

Testing and Test Items

The State Law and Ethics Exam (SLEE) is an essential tool in the board's mission of protecting the public and assuring a qualified pool of psychology practitioners. The Board has been delayed in the process of rebuilding the lost SLEE exam due to unexpected turnover in board members. Restrictions on face to face meetings will also delay progress in this effort. All scheduled tests were successfully administered.

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FY 2019 Narrative Statement (continued)

Statute and Regulation Changes

The Board is engaged in an ongoing process of updating its regulations. In the fall of 2015, the Board received training and consultation from the ASPPB lawyer, Alex Siegel. Mr. Siegel pointed out areas in the regulations that were in need of being updated. The Board has continued the process of updating and reviewing its regulations. The Board has also set a goal of getting legislation authorizing background checks of applicants. Further legislative action is needed to authorize the board to create licensing statuses –such as retired and inactive.

Future Board meetings

The Board is mandated to hold at least three meetings per year. The Board's work load requires four meetings per year. Restrictions on face to face meetings unnecessarily limit the Board's ability to carry out its mission of protecting the public. The Board respectfully requests reconsideration of the travel restrictions and limits on face to face meetings.

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Budget Recommendations for FY 2020

The Budget Recommendations section anticipates the board’s fiscal priorities for the upcoming year. Please complete all parts of this section with details about anticipated meetings, conferences, memberships, supplies, equipment, to other board requests. Meeting expenses that are being funded through third-party reimbursement or direct booking must be identified separately from expenses paid through license fees (receipt-supported services or RSS). Be sure to explain any items listed as “other” so they may be tracked appropriately.

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
August 2019	Anchorage	5	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$600.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$800.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$300.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$430.00
Total Estimated Cost:			\$2,130.00

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
October/November 2019	Anchorage	5	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$600.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$800.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$300.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$430.00
Total Estimated Cost:			\$2,130.00

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
January/February 2020	Juneau	5	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$1,850.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$3,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$200.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$430.00
Total Estimated Cost:			\$5,480.00

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Budget Recommendations for FY 2020

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
April/May 2020	Anchorage	5	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$600.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$800.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$300.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$430.00
Total Estimated Cost:			\$2,130.00

Travel Required to Perform Examinations			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not applicable			
Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$0.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections):			
Total Estimated Cost:			\$0.00

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Budget Recommendations for FY 2020 (continued)

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel (Rank in order of importance)

#1 Rank in Importance or Not Applicable

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff	
October 16-20, 2019	Minneapolis Minn	5	1	
Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:				
ASPPB Annual Meeting: ASPPB provides valuable training, resources and support. Board members have the opportunity to remain informed about key issues relating to licensure, enforcement, ethics and even Supreme Court decisions that directly impact board functions and responsibilities. Attendance at ASPPB annual and mid-year conferences by as many board members as possible in FY 2020 is mission critical due to the total turnover in board membership.				
Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$1,600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,600.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$170.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$170.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$1,740.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,740.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections):				
Net Total:	\$7,010.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,010.00

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel

#2 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff	
April 2020	To Be Announced	5	1	
Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:				
ASPPB Mid-year meeting: ASPPB provides valuable training, resources and support. Board members have the opportunity to remain informed about key issues relating to licensure, enforcement, ethics and even Supreme Court decisions that directly impact board functions and responsibilities. Attendance at ASPPB annual and mid-year conferences by as many board members as possible in FY 2020 is mission critical due to the total turnover in board membership.				
Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$1,600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,600.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$170.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$170.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$1,740.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,740.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections):				
Net Total:	\$7,010.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,010.00

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Budget Recommendations for FY 2020 (continued)

Non-Travel Budget Requests

- Not Applicable Resources Examinations
 Membership Training Other

Product or Service	Provider	Cost Per Event
ASPPB Annual Membership Dues	Association of State & Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB)	\$1,100.00

Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

Essential to maintain nation's organizational membership.

Other Items with a Fiscal Impact

Cost Per Event: \$0.00

Not Applicable

Number of Events: 0

Product or Service	Provider	Total Cost
		\$0.00

Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

Summary of FY 2020 Fiscal Requests

Board Meetings and Teleconferences:	\$11,870.00
Travel for Exams:	\$0.00
Out-of-State and Additional In-State Travel:	\$14,020.00
Dues, Memberships, Resources, Training:	\$1,100.00
Total Potential Third-Party Offsets:	-\$0.00
Other:	\$0.00
Total Requested:	\$26,990.00

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Legislation Recommendations Proposed Legislation for FY 2020

No Recommendations

The Board has no recommendations for proposed legislation at this time.

Recommendations

The Board has the following recommendations for proposed legislation:

1. Authorization to conduct criminal background checks of applicants.
2. Authorization to create licensing categories/types (e.g., retired, inactive)
3. **(Currently under review by the board)**
Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact (PSYPACT): ASPPB is developing a program of interstate compacts that will assist us in compliance with the requirements of the recently passed telehealth bill. Participation in PSYPACT will require legislative action. The Board is still considering whether or not to pursue this legislation.

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Regulation Recommendations Proposed Legislation for FY 2020

No Recommendations

The Board has no recommendations for proposed regulations at this time.

Recommendations

The Board has the following recommendations for proposed regulations:

The Board has a regulations project underway to review and update regulations as needed. Currently, there are regulation change in the works as part of this on-going effort.

**BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST AND PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATE LICENSING EXAMINERS
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Goals and Objectives

Part I

FY 2019's goals and objectives, and how they were met:

1. To enforce the Psychology Practice Act by:

- (a) Requesting to hold meetings for FY 2018 and to hold teleconference meetings as deemed necessary.

The Board met five times in FY 2019. All meetings held a quorum. During those meetings, the board evaluated and approved license applications, conducted evaluations, and proposed regulatory changes consistent with the growing and changing needs of the public. There was a Special Teleconference held on July 12, 2018 on an urgent matter. The November meeting was administratively adjourned due to the November 30, 2018 earthquake. Unfinished business from the November, 2018 meeting was completed by the end of the January/February meeting in Juneau.

- (b) Maintaining board activity and involvement in review of investigative matters, regarding the practice of psychology. Maintaining an annual update of the list of expert witnesses that the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing, Investigative Section, may use for investigative matters.

The Board received an investigative report during each meeting. The board assured that the investigator had convenient and timely access to qualified board members to review data collected during the investigative process. The Board is prepared to provide the investigator with appropriate referrals to well qualified Psychologists, should their expertise be required.

- (c) Requesting that the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing, Investigative Section, continue to provide statistics reflecting the number of cases investigated, provide a projected cost of those investigations, provide the Department of Law expenses so that the board can be aware of the project expenses, and advised annually of the projected cost with updates given quarterly.

Communication and cooperation with the Investigations Unit during FY 2019 were positive and productive.

- (d) Adhering to statutes and regulations in awarding licenses to applicants.

All applications received by the Board were reviewed and acted on, consistent with current statutes and regulations. The Board worked to improve forms and applications.

- (e) To continue to review AS. 08.86.204 – grounds for imposition of disciplinary sanctions and to recommend statutes or regulations as deemed necessary.

The Board did not find a need to recommend statutory or regulatory changes related to imposition of disciplinary sanctions during FY 2019.

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**BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST AND PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATE LICENSING EXAMINERS
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Goals and Objectives (continued)

Part I (continued)

FY 2019's goals and objectives, and how they were met:

2. To ensure continued competency of licensed psychology professionals by:

- (a) Continuing to review and update as needed regulations regarding continuing education.

The Board is looking forward to conducting the required CE Audit of the 2019 renewal applicants. No regulation changes in the area were identified.

- (b) Continuing to encourage the Alaska Psychological Association (AK-PA) to communicate matters of interest or concern with the Board regarding competency, licensing, continuing education or other information relevant to the practice of psychology in the State of Alaska.

- (c) The Board made time at each meeting for public comment and invited an AK-PA representative to attend. In addition the Board responded positively to AK-PA's requests to be placed on the agenda for engaging in discussions with the Board on matters of mutual interest and concern.

3. To assure the public that persons offering psychological care throughout the State of Alaska are professionally qualified by:

- (a) Reviewing AS 08.86.130 (licensing requirements) and recommend statutory or regulation changes as deemed necessary.

The Board reviewed AS 08.86.130 and associated regulations on an ongoing basis while reviewing applications for new licenses. The Board initiated regulation changes to clear up an ambiguity and to update an outdated regulation.

- (b) Maintaining board knowledge of issues and licensing.

Activity #1:

To send as many board members as possible and the licensing examiner to ASPPB annual and midyear conferences.

Restrictions on travel and unexpected turnover in board membership limited the Board's ability to meet this goal. Only one member attended the ASPPB Annual Meeting in October 2018. No board members attended the ASPPB Mid-Year Meeting in 2019. As a result, the Board is not staying current on national issues that directly impact the practice of psychology in Alaska: 1. PLUS (Psychology Licensing Universal System (PLUS) – The Board has implemented the PLUS system as an option for new applicants. So far the system is working.

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Goals and Objectives (continued)

Part I (continued)

FY 2019's goals and objectives, and how they were met:

Activity #1 Continued...

But the new licensing examiner and new board members need training on understanding and use of the PLUS system. 2. PSYPACT - ASPPB's interstate compact has reached the minimum threshold for activation of this interstate compact. The board is reviewing PSYPACT in order to decide whether or not to participate. Continued attendance at ASPPB Conferences is essential in this process. 3. EPPP 2 - The EPPP 2 is replacing the old EPPP - the national licensing exam used by Alaska to qualify for a psychologist or psychological associate license. The EPPP2 is set to replace the EPPP in January, 2020. Board members need training and information on the impact of the new test on licensing and practice of psychology. 4. Antitrust issues - The 2014 Supreme Court ruling in the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners v. Federal Trade Commission put all licensing boards on notice to be paying attention to antitrust and unfair restriction of trade. New and old board members need training on this issue as an on-going process.

Activity #2:

Making online training available through the Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation (CLEAR) to each board member annually.

This resource was available, but the board did not find a need to make use of it during FY 2019.

4. To ensure the public that qualified psychology providers are available by:

- (a) Continuing to review applications for licensure and issue licenses in accordance with statutes and regulations. All applications were processed and reviewed by the Board in a timely manner in accordance with statutes and regulations. The Board has been increasingly using ONBOARD to review applications. In general that is working, but there have been applications with unique circumstances that would need extra scrutiny or attention—better addressed in a face to face meeting.
- (b) Conducting four jurisprudence examinations for FY 2019. This is an area of strength as the Board has continued to offer the examination as required, while continuing to add and develop new test items. The Board conducted four jurisprudence examinations in FY 2019.
- (c) Reviewing and updating the current pool of questions for the State Law and Ethics Examination (SLEE). Work on this goal was interrupted by the earthquake and by unexpected turnover in board members.
- (d) Maintaining good relations and professional relationships with training programs and professional associations.

The Board Chair provided a two-hour lecture to UAA's psychology graduate program on February 28, 2019

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Goals and Objectives (continued)

5. To promote high professional standards of psychology practice by:

(a) Assessing the impact of continuing education requirements for the license renewal process.

(b) Educating the public regarding the practice of psychology and the purpose of the board by:

Activity #1:

Advertise meetings of the Board.

All board meetings were properly noticed.

Activity #2:

Include public comment on agendas at the Board meetings.

A time for public comment is included on every agenda. Agendas are made public in advance of each meeting.

Activity #3:

Hold public hearings to consider regulatory changes.

Improvements to the Board's web site have been made. The Board holds public hearings and allows for public comment on all regulatory matters and proposed changes. The Board complies with the Open Meetings Act.

(c) Maintaining good relations and appropriate distinctions between the State Medical Board, Board of Clinical Social Work Examiners, the Board of Marital and Family Therapy, the Board of Professional Counselors, and other boards as appropriate; to work on areas of mutual interest by participating in joint meetings as appropriate.

The Board communicates with allied boards on issues of mutual interest.

(d) Maintaining good relations and ongoing communications with the legislative, executive and judicial branches of the State of Alaska government.

(e) During the February 2019 meeting in Juneau, board members made contact with legislators and their staff on issues of importance to the Board.

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Goals and Objectives

Part II

FY 2020's goals and objectives, and proposed methods to achieve them.

Describe any strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats and required resources:

1. To enforce the Psychology Practice Act by:

- (a)** Requesting to hold face to face meetings for FY 2020 and to hold teleconference meetings as deemed necessary.

Weakness and possible threat: The complete turnover in board membership set to happen in FY 2020 threatens the future healthy functioning of the Board due to the loss of experience and institutional memory. This threat can be mitigated by permitting face to face meetings of the Board for purposes of training and team building.

- (b)** Maintaining board activity and involvement in review of investigative matters regarding the practice of psychology. To maintain an annual update of the list of expert witnesses that the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing, Investigative Section, may use for investigative matters.

Weakness and possible threat: The complete turnover in board membership set to happen in FY 2020 threatens the future healthy functioning of the Board due to the loss of experience and institutional memory. This threat can be mitigated by permitting face to face meetings of the Board for purposes of training and team building.

- (c)** Requesting that the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing, Investigative Section, continued to provide statistics reflecting the number of cases investigated, provide a projected cost of those investigations, provide the Department of Law expenses so that the board can be aware of the project expenses, and advised annually of the projected cost with updates given quarterly.

Strength—The Division has been consistently supportive and has always provided the information necessary for the Board to carry out its duties.

- (d)** Adhering to statutes and regulations in awarding licenses to applicants.

Weakness and possible threat: The complete turnover in board membership set to happen in FY 2020 threatens the future healthy functioning of the Board due to the loss of experience and institutional memory. This threat can be mitigated by permitting face to face meetings of the Board for purposes of training and team building.

- (e)** Continuing to review AS. 08.86.204 – grounds for imposition of disciplinary sanctions and to recommend statutes or regulations as deemed necessary.

Anticipated area of weakness due to the lack of experience and training of new board members. This weakness can be mitigated by seizing opportunities for improvement by increasing the number of board members attending ASPPB annual and midyear conferences, as well as attending CLEAR conferences and online trainings. It is imperative that as many board members as possible and the licensing examiner attend both the ASPPB Annual and Midyear conferences in FY 2020.

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Goals and Objectives (continued)

Part II (continued)

FY 2020's goals and objectives, and proposed methods to achieve them.

Describe any strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats and required resources:

2. To ensure continued competency of licensed psychology professionals by:

- (a) Continuing to review and update as needed regulations regarding continuing education.

Weakness and possible threat: The complete turnover in board membership set to happen in FY 2020 threatens the future healthy functioning of the Board due to the loss of experience and institutional memory. This threat can be mitigated by permitting face to face meetings of the Board for purposes of training and team building.

- (b) Continuing to encourage the Alaska Psychological Association (AK-PA) to communicate matters of interest or concern with the Board regarding competency, licensing, continuing education or other information relevant to the practice of psychology in the State of Alaska.

Strength—The Board has been and will continue to build a healthy and appropriate relationship with AK-PA. Progress is expected to continue in this area as AK-PA's leadership has been actively attending board meetings.

3. To assure the public that persons offering psychological care throughout the State of Alaska are professionally qualified by:

- (a) Reviewing AS 08.86.130 (licensing requirements) and recommend statutory or regulation changes as deemed necessary.

Weakness and possible threat: The complete turnover in board membership set to happen in FY 2020 threatens the future healthy functioning of the board due to the loss of experience and institutional memory. This threat can be mitigated by reconsidering the travel restrictions currently in place and allowing this necessary training to take place.

- (b) Maintaining board knowledge of issues and licensing.

Activity #1: To send as many board members as possible and the licensing examiner to ASPPB annual and midyear conferences.

Weakness and possible threat: The complete turnover in board membership set to happen in FY 2020 threatens the future healthy functioning of the Board due to the loss of experience and institutional memory. This threat can be mitigated by reconsidering the travel restrictions currently in place and allowing this necessary training to take place.

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Goals and Objectives

Part II (continued)

FY 2020's goals and objectives, and proposed methods to achieve them.

Describe any strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats and required resources:

4. To ensure the public that qualified psychology providers are available by:

- (a) Continuing to review applications for licensure and issue licenses in accordance with statutes and regulations.

Weakness and possible threat: The complete turnover in board membership set to happen in FY 2020 threatens the future healthy functioning of the Board due to the loss of experience and institutional memory. This threat can be mitigated by permitting face to face meetings of the Board for purposes of training and team building.

- (b) Conducting four jurisprudence examinations for FY 2019.

Weakness and possible threat: The complete turnover in board membership set to happen in FY 2020 threatens the future healthy functioning of the Board due to the loss of experience and institutional memory. This threat can be mitigated by permitting face to face meetings of the Board for purposes of training and team building.

- (c) Reviewing and updating the current pool of questions for the State Law and Ethics Examination (SLEE). An area in which we expect to see continued growth and improvement, but will require the Board spending extra time on this project.

Weakness and possible threat: The complete turnover in board membership set to happen in FY 2020 threatens the future healthy functioning of the Board due to the loss of experience and institutional memory. This highly demanding and complex task is best done in work sessions in which all members are physically present. This threat can be mitigated by permitting face to face meetings of the Board for purposes of training, accomplishing set tasks, and team building.

- (d) Maintaining good relations and professional relationships with training programs and professional associations.

An area of past strength that hopefully will continue with the new board.

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**BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST AND PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATE LICENSING EXAMINERS
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Goals and Objectives

Part II (continued)

FY 2020's goals and objectives, and proposed methods to achieve them.

Describe any strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats and required resources:

5. To promote high professional standards of psychology practice by:

- (a) Assessing the impact of continuing education requirements for the license renewal process.
- (b) Educating the public regarding the practice of psychology and the purpose of the Board by:

Activity #1:

Advertising meetings of the Board.

Activity #2:

Including public comment on agendas at the board meetings.

Activity #3:

Holding public hearings to consider regulatory changes.

This is an area of opportunity and strength. The Board is actively working on improving its web site and improving its ability to reach the public, to make the public more aware of the Board as an instrument for protection of the public.

- (c) Maintaining good relations and appropriate distinctions between the State Medical Board, Board of Clinical Social Work Examiners, the Board of Marital and Family Therapy, the Board of Professional Counselors, and other boards as appropriate; to work on areas of mutual interest by participating in joint meetings as appropriate.

This an area with great opportunity. The Board will continue its communication with allied professional boards.

- (d) Maintaining good relations and ongoing communications with the legislative, executive and judicial branches of the State of Alaska government.
- (e) This is an area of growing strength that may be expected to continue if the Board is allowed to hold one meeting a year in Juneau.

**BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST AND PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATE LICENSING EXAMINERS
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Sunset Audit Recommendations

Date of Last Legislative Audit: 2018

Board Sunset Date: June 30, 2026

Audit Recommendation: The Division of Corporations, Business, and Professional Licensing in consultation with the Board, should reduce fees.

Action Taken: The Board has implemented a fee reduction for psychologists and psychological associates effective in the next renewal period – July 1, 2019.

Next Steps: Continue evaluating fees and budget surplus to maintain fees at an appropriate level.

Date Completed: July 1, 2019

Audit Recommendation: Division of Corporations, Business, and Professional Licensing’s director should develop procedures to ensure courtesy licensees comply with monthly reporting requirements.

Action Taken: Improved reporting and tracking procedures have been implemented.

Next Steps: Maintain compliance

Date Completed: Fall 2017