

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY  
LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING  
BY TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL  
JUNE 28, 2011  
MINUTES  
(Draft)**

**DIAL-IN NUMBER: 1-888-808-6959  
PUBLIC CONFERENCE CODE\*: 4246812343#**

1 **Dr. Harry Reiff, Chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 8:03 a.m. Those**  
2 **present for all or part of the meeting, included the following:**

3 **MEMBERS PRESENT**

4 Harry J. Reiff, Psy.D.  
5 Rafael Rivas-Vazquez, Psy.D.

**STAFF PRESENT**

Allen Hall, Executive Director  
Anna L. Hart King, Program Operations Administrator

6 **ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL**

7 Donna McNulty, Esq.

8 **Tab 1. Proposed Legislation: Delegation of Professional Responsibilities or**  
9 **Activities by Licensed Psychologists to Paraprofessionals**

10 During the discussion, the subcommittee was addressed by the following individuals:

11 Dr. Valerie Masten Hoese, Licensed Psychologist  
12 Connie Galietti, J.D., Executive Director of the Florida Psychological Association (FPA)  
13 Dr. Carolyn Stimel, Florida Psychological Association (FPA) Director of Professional Affairs

14 During the April 2011 meeting the Board agreed to the following draft language.

15 **490.xxx**

16 (1) Definition. – As used in this section, “psychological assistant” means an individual not  
17 otherwise licensed or certified by the State of Florida, possessing as a minimum, a  
18 bachelors degree in psychology ~~a bachelor or masters degree in psychology~~, education or a  
19 health related field, who receives training and supervision in various duties related to the  
20 practice of psychology by a psychologist licensed pursuant to Chapter 490, F.S. A  
21 psychological assistant assists with patient care, administrative, and managerial functions,  
22 and shall adhere to the same ethical, legal, and practice standards as does a psychologist.

23 (2) A psychologist licensed pursuant to Chapter 490, F.S., shall ~~directly~~ supervise and be  
24 responsible for all delegated acts performed by a psychological assistant under her or his  
25 ~~direct~~ supervision.

26 (3) As used in this section ~~direct~~ supervision requires that the supervising psychologist shall  
27 sufficiently monitor and be reasonably available whenever a psychological assistant is  
28 performing any delegated duty listed in section (6).

- 1 (4) The supervising psychologist shall be available for emergency consultation and direction of  
2 a psychological assistant, and for patient intervention and management.
- 3 (5) A psychologist ~~licensed pursuant to Chapter 490, F.S.~~ shall not delegate diagnostic  
4 interviewing, diagnostic or psycholegal determinations or treatment (or psychotherapeutic)  
5 interventions to a psychological assistant, unless that psychological assistant is also a  
6 psychology practicum student, psychology intern, or psychology resident.
- 7 (6) Before delegating duties to a psychological assistant, other than administrative and  
8 managerial functions, the supervising psychologist must first complete a diagnostic  
9 interview, or shall first review existing diagnostic records, of the service recipient in order to  
10 determine the appropriateness of such delegation.
- 11 (7) Delegated duties include:  
12 (a) gathering history and behavioral data, as long as such data does not involve clinical  
13 judgments or clinical inferences  
14 (b) administering and scoring those psychometric assessments selected by a psychologist  
15 (c) implementing cognitive skills training as designed or prescribed by a psychologist  
16 (d) implementing behavioral programs as designed or prescribed by a psychologist  
17 (e) implementing biofeedback programs or relaxation training as designed or prescribed by  
18 a psychologist.
- 19 (8) A psychological assistant shall not hold herself or himself out to the public as a  
20 psychologist, or as independently providing psychological services.
- 21 (9) The Board shall establish by rule as it deems necessary a training and supervision  
22 verification process for a psychological assistant, and shall establish by rule as it deems  
23 necessary additional tasks clarifying, or adding to, the delegated duties listed in section (6).
- 24 (10) This section shall become effective on January 1, 20XX.

25 During the meeting the subcommittee decided to edit the language in (1) to remove the term “or  
26 certified by the State of Florida” from the definition of psychological assistant, and include  
27 individuals “in professions regulated under Chapter 456, F.S.”

28 The subcommittee also decided to remove the terms “sufficiently” and “reasonable” from (3) so  
29 that it reads: “... the supervising psychologist shall ~~sufficiently monitor~~ and be ~~reasonably~~  
30 available whenever a psychological assistant is performing any delegated duty...”

31 The subcommittee also decided to replace “psycholegal” with the term “forensic” in (5).

32 The subcommittee also considered providing an internet based survey on the Board website for  
33 input and comments from interested parties.

1 The proposed language which will be presented to the full Board now reads:

2 **490.xxx**

- 3 (1) Definition. – As used in this section, “psychological assistant” means an individual not  
4 otherwise licensed as a health care practitioner in a profession regulated under Section 456,  
5 F.S., or certified by the state of Florida possessing as a minimum, a bachelors degree in  
6 psychology a bachelor or masters degree in psychology, education or a health related field,  
7 who receives training and supervision in various duties related to the practice of psychology  
8 by a psychologist licensed pursuant to Chapter 490, F.S. A psychological assistant assists  
9 with patient care, administrative, and managerial functions, and shall adhere to the same  
10 ethical, legal, and practice standards as does a psychologist.
- 11 (2) A psychologist licensed pursuant to Chapter 490, F.S., shall ~~directly~~ supervise and be  
12 responsible for all delegated acts performed by a psychological assistant under her or his  
13 ~~direct~~ supervision.
- 14 (3) As used in this section ~~direct~~ supervision requires that the supervising psychologist shall  
15 sufficiently monitor and be reasonably available whenever a psychological assistant is  
16 performing any delegated duty listed in section (6).
- 17 (4) The supervising psychologist shall be available for emergency consultation and direction of  
18 a psychological assistant, and for patient intervention and management.
- 19 (5) A psychologist ~~licensed pursuant to Chapter 490, F.S., shall~~ not delegate diagnostic  
20 interviewing, diagnostic or forensic psychological determinations or treatment (or  
21 psychotherapeutic) interventions to a psychological assistant, unless that psychological  
22 assistant is also a psychology practicum student, psychology intern, or psychology resident.
- 23 (6) Before delegating duties to a psychological assistant, other than administrative and  
24 managerial functions, the supervising psychologist must first complete a diagnostic  
25 interview, or shall first review existing diagnostic records, of the service recipient in order to  
26 determine the appropriateness of such delegation.
- 27 (7) Delegated duties include:  
28 (f) gathering history and behavioral data, as long as such data does not involve clinical  
29 judgments or clinical inferences  
30 (g) administering and scoring those psychometric assessments selected by a psychologist  
31 (h) implementing cognitive skills training as designed or prescribed by a psychologist  
32 (i) implementing behavioral programs as designed or prescribed by a psychologist  
33 (j) implementing biofeedback programs or relaxation training as designed or prescribed by  
34 a psychologist.
- 35 (8) A psychological assistant shall not hold herself or himself out to the public as a  
36 psychologist, or as independently providing psychological services.
- 37 (9) The Board shall establish by rule as it deems necessary a training and supervision  
38 verification process for a psychological assistant, and shall establish by rule as it deems  
39 necessary additional tasks clarifying, or adding to, the delegated duties listed in section (6).
- 40 (10) This section shall become effective on January 1, 20XX.

41 The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:38 a.m.