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OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

VINCENT C. GRAY
MAYOR

July 11, 2014

The Honorable Phil Mendelson
Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 504
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

In accordance with section 213 of the District of Columbia Health Occupations Revision Act of 1985, effective March 25, 1986 (D.C. Law 6-99; D.C. Official Code § 3-1202.13 (2012 Repl.)), which established the Board of Professional Counseling, and in accordance with section 2(f)(24) of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-142; D. C. Official Code § 1-523.01(f)(24) (2013 Supp.)), I am pleased to nominate the following individuals for reappointment:

Laurie Ferreri
3559 Appleton Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008
(Ward 3)

as a licensed professional counselor member, to the Board of Professional Counseling, for a term to end July 1, 2017; and

Arthur Blecher
3716 Windom Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016
(Ward 3)

as a licensed professional counselor member, to the Board of Professional Counseling, for a term to end July 1, 2015.


Enclosed you will find biographical information detailing the experience of the above-mentioned nominees, together with proposed resolutions to assist the Council during the confirmation process.

I would appreciate the Council's earliest consideration of these nominations for confirmation. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or Darryl Gorman, Director, Office of Boards and Commissions, should the Council require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vincent C. Gray". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent "V" at the beginning and a long, sweeping tail that extends downwards and to the right.

Vincent C. Gray


Chairman Phil Mendelson
at the request of the Mayor

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

—————
IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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Chairman Phil Mendelson, at the request of the Mayor, introduced the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on _____.

To confirm the reappointment of Mr. Arthur Blecher to the District of Columbia Board of Professional Counseling.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "District of Columbia Board of Professional Counseling Arthur Blecher Confirmation Resolution of 2014".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the reappointment of:

Arthur Blecher
3716 Windom Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016
(Ward 3)

as a licensed professional counselor member, pursuant to section 213 of the District of Columbia Health Occupations Revision Act of 1985, effective March 25, 1986 (DC Law 6-99; D.C. Official Code § 3-1202.13), and section 2(f)(24) of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-142; D. C. Official Code § 1-523.01(f)(24)), for a term to end July 1, 2015.

Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this resolution, upon its adoption, to the nominee and to the Office of the Mayor.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Dr. Arthur Blecher, Licensed Professional Counselor

Curriculum Vitae Abstract

August, 2012

RELEVANT GRADUATE AND POST-GRADUATE EDUCATION

1972-1975 Jewish Theological Seminary, Department of Psychiatry, New York, NY

Theories of human psychology, normal and abnormal developmental psychology; indications and recognition of psychopathology, theories and techniques of psychiatry and psychoanalysis. Techniques of individual and group therapy. Approaches to crisis intervention. The mental health agency setting and case management; diagnosis, evaluation techniques and methodology of case progress reporting. Theories of normal and abnormal child development. Etiology and diagnosis of disorders, theory and techniques of intervention. Theories of small and large group dynamics. Bereavement and loss. Clinical characteristics and therapeutic interventions for survivors of concentration camps, political refugees and victims of displacement and warfare.

1973 St. Luke's Hospital, Department of Psychiatry, New York, NY

Death and dying for health care professionals; theories and techniques of counseling terminally-ill individuals and their families; trauma, complications of grieving.

1991-1992 Family Therapy Practice Center, Washington, DC

Family Systems Theory; techniques of crisis intervention and case management; individual, couples and family therapy; trauma and abuse. Clinical assessment of family systems, clinical interventions in family systems

1992-1994 Wesley Theological Seminary, Psychology Department, Washington, DC

Theories and techniques of pre-marital, couple and family counseling; family systems theory and applications. Uses of diagnostic instruments. Concepts of human development, personality and behavioral theory; marital, sibling and individual subsystems. Treatment methodologies and therapeutic interventions. Concepts of agency work, inter-agency cooperation and case-reporting. Techniques and standards for clinical research and reporting, design of surveys and evaluative instruments. Clinical assessment of personality types. Inter-generational assessment of family systems.

2001 Post-graduate seminars in trauma, Research Triangle Park, NC

Assessment and treatment of trauma and abuse; assessment and therapeutic interventions for post-traumatic stress disorder. Psychological and neurological sequelae of violence,

emotional trauma, abuse and child-molestation. Cognitive and affective characteristics of survivors of warfare, political imprisonment and torture. Diagnostic instruments for critical incident distress and post-traumatic dissociative disorder.

2001 Advanced post-graduate seminars in trauma, Albuquerque, NM

Cognitive and affective characteristics of survivors of warfare, political imprisonment and torture. Diagnostic instruments for critical incident distress and post-traumatic dissociative disorder. Ego-state assessment and palliative techniques. Cognitive and affective interventions for post-traumatic disorders.

2001 Professional training in stress disorder and critical incident response, Alexandria, VA

Specialized seminars and clinical practica in working with uniformed responders to disaster and with civilians experiencing Acute Stress Disorder related to the events of September 11.

2005 Professional training in forensic psychological evaluation, Philadelphia, PA

Certification training provided by The National Board of Forensic Evaluators and the American Mental Health Counselors Association. Legal standards of evidence, professional practice standards, evaluation and reporting techniques.

2007 Professional training in psychotropic drugs and medical management, New Orleans, LA

Classes provided by the American Mental Health Counselors Association.

2007 Professional training in psychological testing and evaluation, New Orleans, LA

Classes provided by the American Mental Health Counselors Association.

2008 Professional training in psychological disorders of adolescents, San Diego, CA

Classes provided by the American Mental Health Counselors Association.

2009 Professional training in child abuse, Washington, DC

Classes provided by the American Mental Health Counselors Association.

2009 Professional training in neuropsychology, Washington, DC

Classes provided by the American Mental Health Counselors Association.

RELEVANT CLINICAL TRAINING AND SUPERVISION

1972-1975 Behavior Therapy Center, New York, NY

Case consultation.

Work with survivors of child molestation and abuse, trauma, psychological trauma.

1973-1974 Bernstein Psychiatry Center, New York, NY

Psychotherapy for adult individuals referred to the agency.

Work with survivors of violence, political imprisonment, torture, mass murder, warfare.

1974-1975 Madeline Borg Child Guidance Institute, Jewish Family Service, New York, NY

Psychotherapy for children and families referred to the agency.

Work with survivors of spousal abuse, physical and emotional child abuse, abandonment and neglect.

1991-1994 Family Therapy Practice Center, Washington, DC

Psychotherapy for individuals, couples and families referred to the agency.

Work with survivors of rape, spousal abuse, emotional child abuse, abandonment.

Family Systems assessment and treatment.

2001-2002 Private certified supervision, treatment of trauma and abuse.

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

AGENCY WORK

1974-1980 United Synagogue of America Affiliates, Oneonta, NY, Nyack, NY, Rockville, MD.

Crisis intervention and brief therapy; individual, couple and family counseling; small group facilitation.

Work with concentration camp survivors; cult victims; survivors of incestuous and non-incestuous child molestation, spousal abuse, violence, sexual harassment, abandonment, abusive neglect, physical and psychological trauma, complications of grieving.

1981-present The Greater Washington Jewish Humanist Society, Washington, DC

Crisis intervention and brief therapy; individual, couple and family counseling; group facilitation, psycho-education. Work with concentration camp survivors and political refugees, victims of violence, spousal abuse, torture, sexual harassment, physical and psychological trauma, complications of grieving.

PRIVATE PRACTICE

1981-present

Crisis intervention and psychotherapy for adult individuals, couples and families. Assessment, intervention and therapy for victims of physical trauma and abuse, emotional trauma and abuse, loss and grieving; post-traumatic phobia and panic disorder; post-traumatic depression; post-traumatic stress disorder; survivors of incestuous and non-incestuous child molestation, rape, violence, abusive neglect, abandonment; survivors of concentration camps, political imprisonment and torture; adult children of holocaust survivors; victims of sexual harassment

Assessment and clinical interventions of family systems. Marital and couples therapy, parent-adolescent therapy. Counseling and psycho-education for inter-cultural couples.

EXPERT WITNESS ASSESSMENTS AND TESTIMONY

1973-1978 Oneonta County NY, City of New York, and Rockland County NY Criminal Court cases

1978-2001 Montgomery County Maryland and District of Columbia Family Court Cases: divorce and child custody matters

1979 State of Maryland Legislature: expert witness re. religious cults

1997-1998 Fairfax County Virginia Criminal Court Cases

2001-present United States Immigration and Naturalization Courts, Baltimore, Maryland, and Arlington, Virginia:

assessments and appearances relating to
Violence Against Women Act
J Visa applications
U Visa applications
applications for asylum
applications of withholding of removal and for cancellation of removal
applications for adjustment of status
waivers based on hardship to United States citizens
waivers based on humanitarian consideration.

GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENT

July 2009-present District of Columbia Department of Health, Board of Professional Counseling

Serve on State licensing agency for Professional Counseling, drafting of licensing regulations, definitions of scope of practice, ethical and professional standards, issuing of professional licenses, investigation of professional complaints, administration of professional discipline

Elected Co-chair in April 2012

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

Bachelor of Arts (English Literature), Lafayette College, Easton, PA, 1969

Master of Arts (Hebrew Literature), Jewish Theological Seminary of America, New York, NY, 1972

Graduate Rabbinical Degree, Jewish Theological Seminary of America, New York, NY, 1975

Certification (Family Systems Therapy), Family Therapy Practice Center, Washington, DC, 1991

Doctor of Ministry (Psychology), Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC, 1994

Licensed, District of Columbia Board of Professional Counseling, 1995 (current)

Clinical Member, The American Association of Mental Health Counselors, 1997 (current)

Certification, EMDR Institute, Austin, Texas, 2001

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



Legal Counsel Division

MEMORANDUM

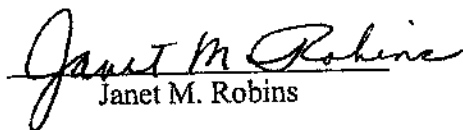
TO: Lolita S. Alston
Director
Office of Legislative Support

FROM: Janet M. Robins
Deputy Attorney General
Legal Counsel Division

DATE: June 6, 2014

SUBJECT: Legal Sufficiency Review of Resolution, the "District of Columbia Board of Professional Counseling Arthur Blecher Confirmation Resolution of 2014"
(AM-13-942 B)

This is to Certify that this Office has reviewed the above-referenced legislation and has found it to be legally sufficient. If you have any questions regarding this certification, please do not hesitate to contact me at 724-5524.


Janet M. Robins

JMR/phg