



# LOUISIANA Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners

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Sent via Email to: [apa.senatepresident@legis.la.gov](mailto:apa.senatepresident@legis.la.gov)

February 7, 2022

Office of the President of the Senate  
Attention: Senator Cortez  
P.O. Box 94183  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Dear Senator Cortez,

Pursuant to LA R.S. 49:968(K), the Louisiana Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners (LPCBE) hereby submits the following report regarding rule-making actions in the calendar year 2021. This report also encompasses actions taken by the legislatively mandated committee of the Board, the Marriage and Family Therapy Advisory Committee (MFTAC).

In **April 2021**, the LPCBE submitted an extension on emergency rules that rescinded teletherapy regulation for counselors practicing in Louisiana. The rule was executed in accordance with JBE-2021-80. The governor's proclamation expired May 24, 2021; thereby, the emergency rule was rescinded June 1, 2021.

In **May 2021**, the LPCBE submitted an emergency rule to rescind rules that would require a Provisional Licensed Professional Counselor (PLPC) to expire after 6 years of provisional licensure if the licensee had not met the requirements to become fully licensed as a professional counselor. The emergency rule effectively provided for all provisional licenses that were due to expire after 6 years an additional 120 days to meet board requirements to be a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC).

In **July 2021**, the LPCBE finalized a rule that removed language that required counselors to consult with medical practitioners in regard to diagnosing serious mental illnesses. In 2017, Act 235 was passed which no longer required counselors to consult with medical practitioners to diagnose a serious mental illness. The strike-out of the language was technical, as it was an oversight to previous amendments to board rules after the statutes were changed in 2017.

The board submitted two Notifications of Intent in the **July 2021 Louisiana State Register**. The first proposed rule would allow for 100% tele-supervision via a HIPAA compliant platform.

The second rule proposal would require licenses to notify the board of any changes in criminal status.

In **October 2021**, the previously mentioned NOIs were finalized in the *Louisiana State Register*. The Board received no comments regarding these rule changes and therefore did not conduct a hearing pursuant to R.S. 49:953(A)(2)

Please contact me if the Board may be of any assistance to you concerning this report. Thank you for your time dedication to the safety and welfare of the citizens of Louisiana.

Respectfully Submitted by,



Jamie S. Doming  
Executive Director  
Louisiana LPC Board of Examiners  
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cc: House Speaker  
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