

UNAPPROVED D R A F T

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF COUNSELING
INFORMAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 18, 2010
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER: An Informal Conference Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Counseling (“Board”) convened on Thursday, February 19, 2010, at 9:27 a.m., at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, VA.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Johnston Brendel, Ed.D., Chair
Eric McCollum, Ph.D.

STAFF PRESENT: Evelyn B. Brown, Executive Director
Patricia L. Larimer, Deputy Executive Director
Peter Opper, Adjudication Specialist
Diana Pollick, Operations & Compliance Manager

MATTER SCHEDULED: Kristen Stidham, LPC Applicant
Case No.: 129117

DISCUSSION: Ms. Stidham appeared before the Committee in person in accordance with a Notice of the Board dated January 5, 2010, to consider her application for licensure as a professional counselor by examination, and to inquire into allegations that grounds exist to deny her application. Ms. Stidham was not represented by counsel. The Committee fully discussed the allegations contained in the notice with Ms. Stidham.

CLOSED SESSION: Upon a motion by Dr. McCollum and duly seconded by Dr. Brendel, the Committee voted to convene a closed meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3711(A)(7) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of deliberation in the matter of Kristen Stidham. Additionally, he moved that Ms. Brown, Ms. Larimer, Peter Opper, and Diana Pollick attend the closed meeting, because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Committee in its deliberations.

RECONVENE: Having certified that the matters discussed in the preceding closed session met the requirements of § 2.2-3712 of the Code, the Committee reconvened in open session and announced its recommendations.

DECISION:

Upon a motion by Dr. McCollum, and duly seconded by Dr. Brendel, the Committee made certain recommended Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and voted to recommend to the Board that Ms. Stidham's application to register her supervision as a preliminary step in the licensure process for professional counseling be denied.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Committee adjourned at 9:28 a.m.

Johnston Brendel, Ed.D., Chair

Evelyn B. Brown, Executive Director

Date

Date