



Virginia Board of Counseling Formal Hearing October 4, 2024

Matter: Joao Benzaquen Perosa, Applicant for Licensure as a Resident in Counseling
Attorney: n/a
Case No.: 222502

Call to Order: A panel of the Board of Counseling (“Board”) convened on October 4, 2024 at 12:38 p.m. at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, Virginia, Board Room 2.

Presiding: Terry Tinsley, Ph.D., LPC, LMFT, CSOTP, Chairperson

Board Members Present: Benjamin Allison, Citizen Member
Maria Anastasiou, LMFT
L. Paul Bernard, Ph.D., LPC
Marlo Burdge, Citizen Member
Luann Griffin, LPC
Matthew Scott, LMFT
Tiffinee Yancey, Ph.D., LPC

Board Counsel: James Rutkowski, Assistant Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General

Board Staff: Latasha Austin, Licensing Supervisor
Jennifer Lang, Deputy Executive Director
Charlotte Lenart, Deputy Executive Director

Court Reporter: Julissa Jackson, Court Reporter
Veteran Reporters

Establishment of a Panel: With eight (8) members present, a panel of the board was established.

Parties on Behalf of the Commonwealth: Emily Tatum, Esq., Senior Adjudication Specialist
Administrative Proceedings Division

Discussion: Joao Benzaquen Perosa appeared before the board in person, in accordance with the board’s Notice of Formal Hearing dated July 15, 2024. Joao Benzaquen Perosa was not represented by legal counsel.

The Board received evidence and sworn testimony regarding the allegations contained in the Notice.

Closed Session: Upon a motion by Mr. Allison, and duly seconded by Dr. Bernard, the Board voted to convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(27) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter. Additionally, he moved that James Rutkowski, Jennifer Lang, Charlotte Lenart, and Latasha Austin attend the closed meeting because their presence was deemed necessary and would aid the Board in its deliberation.

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

Decision and Vote: Mr. Scott moved that the Board of Counseling approve Joao Benzaquen Perosa's application for licensure as a Resident in Counseling. The basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board Order which will be sent to Joao Benzaquen Perosa at the address of record. The motion was seconded by Dr. Yancey and passed with a unanimous vote.

Adjournment: The Board adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

The decision shall be effective upon the entry of a written board Order containing the findings, conclusions and decisions of this formal hearing panel.

Signed by:

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Terry Tinsley, Ph.D., LPC, LMFT, CSOTP,
Chairperson
Virginia Board of Counseling

10/9/2024

Date

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Jennifer Lang, Deputy Executive Director
Virginia Board of Counseling

10/11/2024

Date