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MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Dr. David Brown  
Director  
Virginia Department of Health Professions

**FROM:** James E. Rutkowski  
Assistant Attorney General

**DATE:** March 1, 2016

**SUBJECT:** *Regulations Governing the Practice of Professional Counseling  
Regulations Governing the Certification of Substance Abuse Counselors  
and Substance Abuse Counseling Assistants  
Regulations Governing the Certification of Rehabilitation Providers  
Regulations Governing the Practice of Marriage and Family Therapy  
Regulations Governing the Practice of Licensed Substance Abuse  
Treatment Practitioners  
18VAC115-20; 18VAC115-30; 18VAC115-40; 18VAC115-50;  
18VAC115-60*

I have reviewed the amendments to the Regulations Governing the Practice of Professional Counseling, 18VAC115-20, the Regulations Governing the Certification of Substance Abuse Counselors and Substance Abuse Counseling Assistants, 18VAC115-30, the Regulations Governing the Certification of Rehabilitation Providers, 18VAC115-40, the Regulations Governing the Practice of Marriage and Family Therapy, 18VAC115-50, and the Regulations Governing the Practice of Licensed Substance Abuse Treatment Practitioners, 18VAC115-60, as adopted by the Board of Counseling on February 12, 2016. The Board has the statutory authority to adopt these Regulations under Virginia Code §§ 54.1-113 and 54.1-2400. The proposed amendments are constitutional and do not conflict with existing federal or state laws or regulations.