

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF COUNSELING
SPECIAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE (VIRTUAL)
INFORMAL CONFERENCES – FEBRUARY 19, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER: Consistent with Amendment 28 to HB29 and the applicable provisions of § 2.2-3708.2 of the Freedom of Information Act, the Committee convened a virtual meeting of a Special Conference Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Counseling (“Board”) on February 19, 2021 at 10:07 a.m. via WebEx.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Danielle Hunt, LPC, Chairperson
Maria Stransky, LPC, CSAC, CSOTP

STAFF PRESENT: Jennifer Lang, Deputy Executive Director, Board of Counseling
Christy Evans, Discipline and Compliance Case Manager, Board of Counseling
Emily Tatum, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division

RESPONDENT: Anthony VanNess, QMHP-C Applicant
Case No.: 196833

DISCUSSION: Mr. VanNess appeared via video before the Committee, without legal counsel, and fully discussed the allegations contained in the Notice dated February 25, 2020 and the Amended Notices dated June 12, 2020 and January 6, 2021.

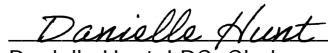
CLOSED MEETING: Upon a motion by Ms. Stransky, and duly seconded by Ms. Hunt, the Committee voted to convene in a closed meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3711(A)(27) of the *Code of Virginia* for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Anthony VanNess, QMHP-C Applicant. Additionally, she moved that Jennifer Lang and Christy Evans attend the closed meeting because their presence 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 of Virginia*, the Committee reconvened in open session and announced its decision.

DECISION: Upon a motion by Ms. Stransky, and duly seconded by Ms. Hunt, the Committee made certain findings of facts and conclusions of law and voted to deny Mr. VanNess' application for registration as a QMHP-C. The motion carried.

ADJOURN: With all business concluded, the Committee adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

As provided by law this decision shall become a Final Order thirty (30) days after service of such Order on the respondent, unless the respondent makes a written request to the Board within such time for a formal hearing on the allegations made. If service of the Order is made by mail, three (3) additional days shall be added to that period. Upon such timely request for a formal hearing, the decision of the Special Conference Committee shall be vacated.



Danielle Hunt, LPC, Chairperson
Special Conference Committee of the Board of Counseling

2/22/2021

Date



Jennifer Lang, Deputy Executive Director
Virginia Board of Counseling

03/02/2021

Date

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF COUNSELING
SPECIAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE (VIRTUAL)
INFORMAL CONFERENCES – FEBRUARY 19, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER: Consistent with Amendment 28 to HB29 and the applicable provisions of § 2.2-3708.2 of the Freedom of Information Act, the Committee convened a virtual meeting of a Special Conference Committee ("Committee") of the Board of Counseling ("Board") on February 19, 2021 at 10:41 a.m. via WebEx.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Danielle Hunt, LPC, Chairperson
Maria Stransky, LPC, CSAC, CSOTP

STAFF PRESENT: Jennifer Lang, Deputy Executive Director, Board of Counseling
Christy Evans, Discipline and Compliance Case Manager, Board of Counseling
Emily Tatum, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division

RESPONDENT: **Kelly Nieman, Applicant for Licensure as a Resident in Counseling**
Case No.: 199674
Witness(es): Dr. Grace Guerrero

DISCUSSION: Ms. Nieman appeared via video before the Committee, without legal counsel, and fully discussed the allegations contained in the Notice dated February 25, 2020 and the Amended Notices dated June 12, 2020 and January 11, 2021.

CLOSED MEETING: Upon a motion by Ms. Stransky, and duly seconded by Ms. Hunt, the Committee voted to convene in 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 of Kelly Nieman, Applicant for Licensure as a Resident in Counseling. Additionally, she moved that Jennifer Lang and Christy Evans attend the closed meeting because their presence 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 of Virginia*, the Committee reconvened in open session and announced its decision.

DECISION: Upon a motion by Ms. Stransky, and duly seconded by Ms. Hunt, the Committee made certain findings of facts and conclusions of law and voted to approve Ms. Nieman's application for Licensure as a Resident in Counseling. The motion carried.

ADJOURN: With all business concluded, the Committee adjourned at 11:56 a.m.


As provided by law this decision shall become a Final Order thirty (30) days after service of such Order on the respondent, unless the respondent makes a written request to the Board within such time for a formal hearing on the allegations made. If service of the Order is made by mail, three (3) additional days shall be added to that period. Upon such timely request for a formal hearing, the decision of the Special Conference Committee shall be vacated.



Danielle Hunt, LPC, Chairperson
Special Conference Committee of the Board of Counseling

2/22/2021

Date



Jennifer Lang, Deputy Executive Director
Virginia Board of Counseling

03/02/2021

Date

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF COUNSELING
SPECIAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE (VIRTUAL)
INFORMAL CONFERENCES – FEBRUARY 19, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER: Consistent with Amendment 28 to HB29 and the applicable provisions of § 2.2-3708.2 of the Freedom of Information Act, the Committee convened a virtual meeting of a Special Conference Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Counseling (“Board”) on February 19, 2021 at 12:03 p.m. via WebEx.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Danielle Hunt, LPC, Chairperson
Maria Stransky, LPC, CSAC, CSOTP

STAFF PRESENT: Jennifer Lang, Deputy Executive Director, Board of Counseling
Christy Evans, Discipline and Compliance Case Manager, Board of Counseling
Emily Tatum, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division

RESPONDENT: Obiageli Okeke, Applicant for Licensure as a Professional Counselor
Case No.: 201564

DISCUSSION: Ms. Okeke appeared via video before the Committee, without legal counsel, and fully discussed the allegations contained in the Notice dated July 13, 2020 and an Amended Notice dated January 11, 2021.

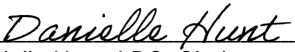
CLOSED MEETING: Upon a motion by Ms. Stransky, and duly seconded by Ms. Hunt, the Committee voted to convene in a closed meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3711(A)(27) of the *Code of Virginia* for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Obiageli Okeke, Applicant for Licensure as a Professional Counselor. Additionally, she moved that Jennifer Lang and Christy Evans attend the closed meeting because their presence 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 of Virginia*, the Committee reconvened in open session and announced its decision.

DECISION: Upon a motion by Ms. Stransky, and duly seconded by Ms. Hunt, the Committee made certain findings of facts and conclusions of law and voted to deny Ms. Okeke’s application for Licensure as a Professional Counselor. The motion carried.

ADJOURN: With all business concluded, the Committee adjourned at 1:11 p.m.

As provided by law this decision shall become a Final Order thirty (30) days after service of such Order on the respondent, unless the respondent makes a written request to the Board within such time for a formal hearing on the allegations made. If service of the Order is made by mail, three (3) additional days shall be added to that period. Upon such timely request for a formal hearing, the decision of the Special Conference Committee shall be vacated.



Danielle Hunt, LPC, Chairperson
Special Conference Committee of the Board of Counseling

2/22/2021

Date



Jennifer Lang, Deputy Executive Director
Virginia Board of Counseling

03/02/2021

Date

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF COUNSELING
SPECIAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE (VIRTUAL)
INFORMAL CONFERENCES – FEBRUARY 19, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER: Consistent with Amendment 28 to HB29 and the applicable provisions of § 2.2-3708.2 of the Freedom of Information Act, the Committee convened a virtual meeting of a Special Conference Committee ("Committee") of the Board of Counseling ("Board") on February 19, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. via WebEx.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Danielle Hunt, LPC, Chairperson
Maria Stransky, LPC, CSAC, CSOTP

STAFF PRESENT: Jennifer Lang, Deputy Executive Director, Board of Counseling
Christy Evans, Discipline and Compliance Case Manager, Board of Counseling
Emily Tatum, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division

RESPONDENT: Lauren Tatro, Applicant for Licensure as a Resident in Counseling
Case No.: 207942
Witness(es): Dr. Jill McNutt

DISCUSSION: Ms. Tatro appeared via video before the Committee, without legal counsel, and fully discussed the allegations contained in the Notice dated January 11, 2021.

CLOSED MEETING: Upon a motion by Ms. Stransky, and duly seconded by Ms. Hunt, the Committee voted to convene in 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 of Lauren Tatro, Applicant for Licensure as a Resident in Counseling. Additionally, she moved that Jennifer Lang and Christy Evans attend the closed meeting because their presence 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 of Virginia*, the Committee reconvened in open session and announced its decision.

DECISION: Upon a motion by Ms. Stransky, and duly seconded by Ms. Hunt, the Committee made certain findings of facts and conclusions of law and voted to deny Ms. Tatro's application for Licensure as a Resident in Counseling. The motion carried.

ADJOURN: With all business concluded, the Committee adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

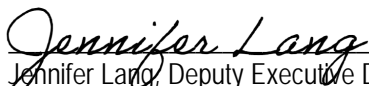
As provided by law this decision shall become a Final Order thirty (30) days after service of such Order on the respondent, unless the respondent makes a written request to the Board within such time for a formal hearing on the allegations made. If service of the Order is made by mail, three (3) additional days shall be added to that period. Upon such timely request for a formal hearing, the decision of the Special Conference Committee shall be vacated.



Danielle Hunt, LPC, Chairperson
Special Conference Committee of the Board of Counseling

2/22/2021

Date



Jennifer Lang, Deputy Executive Director
Virginia Board of Counseling

03/02/2021

Date