Name of jurisdiction: California

Name of board: Board of Behavioral Sciences

Number of board members: 13: seven public members and six licensees. Licensee membership includes two Licensed Clinical Social Worker, two Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, one Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, and one Licensed Educational Psychologist.

Licensure categories offered: All are master-level licenses.
- Licensed Clinical Social Worker
- Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist
- Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor
- Licensed Educational Psychologist

The following registrations are issued to individuals seeking licensure who must be registered with the board to gain their supervised work experience hours. Completion of the supervised experience work hours qualifies the individual to take the written clinical examination in the appropriate profession.
- Associate Social Worker
- Marriage and Family Therapist Intern
- Professional Clinical Counselor Intern

Number of licensed social workers: Totals are as of August 2015.
- Associate Clinical Social Worker (ASW) 14,878
- Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW) 22,882

Biggest achievement in the past 12 months:
The board received approval to hire additional staff for its licensing program in fiscal year 2014/2015. As a result of the additional staff, temporary staff, and process improvements, the board was able to eliminate its severe application backlog.

Additionally, the board developed a video tutorial for the Associate Social Worker application process, which is currently available on the board’s website. This video tutorial won a Gold Award in this year’s State Useless tidbits about California from the editors:
- Each year, 17 million gallons of wine are produced in California.
- The second largest tree in the world grows in King’s Canyon National Park. Named the General Grant tree in 1867 after Ulysses S. Grant, it was also dubbed the “Nation’s Christmas Tree” by President Calvin Coolidge in 1926.
- California is the only state to host both the summer and winter Olympics.
- The first patent for blue jeans was granted on May 20, 1873, to Jacob Davis and Levi Strauss & Company of San Francisco.
- The first Artichoke Queen of Castroville, Norma Jean Mortenson, went on to become the actress Marilyn Monroe.
- California has a larger population than all of Canada.
- Summer temperatures can exceed 120 F in Death Valley, the hottest and driest place in the United States.
Information Officers Council Awards. This yearly award program recognizes the best of the best in state service in the arena of communications.

**Biggest lesson learned in the past 12 months:**
The board continues to appreciate and value its collaborative work with its stakeholders. These collaborations are important to the board’s success as a regulatory agency. Providing ongoing opportunities to engage all stakeholders in meaningful policy discussions demonstrates that, together, we can develop a proposed change that is beneficial to both licensees and consumers.

**Biggest challenge facing the board:**
The biggest challenge for the board will be the implementation of the examination restructure. This change will require all California registrants to take a California law and ethics examination. In the first year, the board estimates it will receive more than 60,000 initial and reexamination applications from registrants. The board is working diligently to ensure a smooth transition to this new examination process.

*(complete the sentence)* “I would really love to hear about how other jurisdictions... are addressing the issue of providing psychotherapy through electronic means in both in-state or out-of-state situations.

**Completed by:**
Kim Madsen, Executive Officer, Board of Behavioral Sciences