# Christian Wolff, MA

Psychologist Associate (Oregon) Inactive Healthcare Alliance for Regulatory Board Reform (HARBR) Executive Co-Director & Co-Founder 5726 Coventry Lane I Fort Wayne, Indiana 46804 christianwolff@harbr-usa.org

June 10, 2020

## SENATE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON

#### **RULES AND EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS**

Oregon State Capitol 900 Court Street NE, Room 334, Salem, Oregon 97301 Phone: 503-986-1556 Email: srules.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

**Purpose of this communication:** To comment, ask questions, and testify about appointment candidates.

# **Specific to this letter:**

Agency: Oregon Board of Psychology

Candidate: Janice Schermer

## My Position on Ms. Shermers Appointment: AGAINST

Dear Chair Burdick & Member of the Committee,

In my opinion, Janice Schermer should not be appointed to a second term to the Oregon Board of Psychology (OBOP).

It is nothing against Ms. Schermer personally, but this is because, Ms. Schermer has made herself personally invisible and uncontactable on this board. I am only able to discern a little about her from various documents.

Because she has not stood out from the insular and opaque activity of OBOP, I am assuming her to be complicit in the activity of a board I regard as corrupt.

I have questions for Ms. Schermer about her knowledge of the board. I am interested in whether she knows the answers and if so, am interested in having her explain some things. I will provide what I believe to be the correct answers:

1. How does OBOP protect the public?

Answer: Because of logically flawed procedures, it is impossible for OBOP to provide the public that assurance.

2. If there were allegations against a licensee and the complaint was dismissed by the board, how would the public know that the board didn't just let a dangerous licensee slide?

Answer: There is no way for the public to tell.

3. When there is a contested hearing before an ALJ, do voting board members attend the hearing?

Answer: They do not.

4. How does a board member decide how to vote on the disposition af a licensee against whom there have been allegations? Do the rely on the reports of others? If so, who?

Answer: They are informed by their legal counsel and advised by their legal counsel and/or any board staff who were at the hearing. They are in blind reliance upon the reports of those prosecuting the case.

5. In the end, has OBOP <u>EVER</u> completely lost a case against a licensee? We realize that licensees often appeal and achieve Reverse and Remands, but when remanded to the board, has any licensee ever completely prevailed?

Answer: No. OBOP has NEVER completely lost a case.

6. Who prosecutes a case against a licensee?

Answer: "The board" via the board's legal counsel.

7. Who writes the final order against a licensee? Is it the same body that prosecuted the licensee? Or is it the ALJ acting with authoritative independence. How do you feel about your answer? Do you think that this is fundamentally fair?

Answer: The prosecuting body writes the final order against the licensee AND determines disciplinary action and fines.

8. What is the statutory limit on the amount OBOP is allowed to civilly fine a licensee?

Answer: \$10,000.

9. How many times over the last three years has OBOP leveled civil fines against licensees in EXCESS of \$10,000?

Answer: Many, as posted in board newsletters and on their website under Disciplinary actions. For one, go to Licensee Search and see the most recent document on licensee Larry Christensen. 10. Does OBOP receive legal counsel from Warren Foote, SAAG with the DOJ (on contract)?

Answer: Yes.

10. How often in voting on any matter, is there ANY dissent among board members? That is, how often in voting on any matter is the board vote NON-unanimous? Less than 2% of the time? Less than 5%? Less than 10% Some other estimate? How much weight would you honestly place on your estimate.

Answer: MY estimate, and I have been tracking, is less than 5% and I state this with GREAT confidence.

11. How often do YOU (Janice Schermer), vote in dissent?

Answer: MY guess would be less than 5% (with great confidence).

12. Has the board ever published material on a licensee's disciplinary profile on their site which misleads by omitting court documents favorable to the licensee?

Answer: Yes. My own case. If Ms. Schermer states she doesn't know, this would be VERY concerning no matter how one looks at it. I have clearly sufficient material to back this up and will be happy to do so.

13. How does any member of the public wishing to be in touch with the <u>voting</u> board KNOW that the material has actually reached members of the voting board?

Answer: They don't. There is NO mechanism.

14. Other than one or a few public meetings during this time of COVID, does OBOP have ANY means by wich members of the public mat attend public meetings? A telephone (from home)? Video conferencing? Anything at all? If not, why not?

Answer: They have NOTHING - or rather, refuse to use any technology to make this possible. There is no excuse for this.

15. Can you tell us about Rogelio Daniels? Has OBOP informed licensees or the public about Rogelio Daniels?

Answer: It is a matter of public record that Rogelio Daniels served as an Investigator for OBOP and was arrested and convicted on felony charges of Coercion, Menacing, Strangulation, and Attempt to commit a class B felony.

Despite the repeated petitioning of myself and HARBR-USA, OBOP has refused to send out public notices on this matter (to those on their mailing list as interested parties NOR to licensees whose cases may have hinged on the reports of this felon. In my opinion, licensees disciplined and/or fined whose case were investigated by OBOP Felon Investigator Rogelio Lyn Daniels.

OBOP's failure to take these steps is unconscionable.

16. Are there OBOP members whose SECOND terms expire end THIS month? How many, Wy are they not up for confirmation before this committee today?

Answer: Yes. There are THREE. Chair Clifford Johannsen; Vice-Chair, Peter Grover; Patricia Bjorquist. There are a total of \$, including Janice Shermer, and TWO candidates before this committee today. The public has no idea about what is going on here,

Ms. Schermer MUST be considered actively or passively complicit in innumerable unconscionable wrong-doings by OBOP. Both are equally unconscionable. Not-knowing about these unconscionable acts of OBOP is not acceptable either, Such would be just plain irresponsible.

She should NOT be reappointed. She should be, through transparent process, replaced.

Respectfully submitted,

Christian Wolff