

SUBJECT: Consideration of Review for Francine Akins-Arbuckle, Case No. C-2013-001-R

SUBMITTED BY: Charles Easaw, Chief Investigator, Investigative Unit, State Board of Education

MANAGEMENT TEAM REVIEW: May 2, 2013

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Francine Akins-Arbuckle applied for a Substitute Certificate on December 17, 2012.

Ms. Akins-Arbuckle answered “yes” to having received disciplinary action involving a professional certification or license. Her Arizona Licensed Professional Counselor License was placed on probationary status on July 29, 2011. The Arizona Board of Behavior Health Examiners (“ABBHE”) alleged that Ms. Akins-Arbuckle provided non-counseling services to a patient including transportation of the patient, research of placement facilities, placement of phone calls on behalf of patient per his request, and visitation of patient in the hospital. The ABBHE further alleged that Ms. Akins-Arbuckle failed to adequately document the steps she took to address the patient’s substance abuse and failed to adequately document her communication with the patient’s case manager.

Ms. Akins-Arbuckle was advised that her application required a review by the Professional Practices Advisory Committee (“PPAC”) of the State Board of Education (“State Board”).

On April 9, 2013, the PPAC conducted a review of Ms. Akins-Arbuckle’s application. Ms. Akins-Arbuckle advised the committee that she attended the hearing with the Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners and attempted to provide them with documents disproving the allegations against her, but the board chose not to accept the documents.

The PPAC found that the following conduct occurred:

On July 29, 2011, Ms. Akins-Arbuckle was placed on probation by the Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners, pending completion of specified continuing education and submission to clinical supervision. She completed the terms and conditions and has been released.

The PPAC found the following mitigating factors:

Ms. Akins-Arbuckle completed the terms and conditions early.

The PPAC found no aggravating factors.

By a vote of 4 to 0, the PPAC recommended that the State Board **grant Francine Akins-Arbuckle’s** application for certification.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: [] INFORMATION [X] ACTION/DESCRIBED BELOW:

That the Board accept(s) the findings of facts, conclusions of law, and the recommendation of the PPAC to **grant Francine Akins-Arbuckle’s** application for certification.

ATTACHMENTS: YES [X] NO []