It’s my honor to serve as the 3rd ABPPSP president. I was fortunate that much of the critical infrastructure for our specialty board was completed under the leadership of my predecessors, Dave Corey and Michael Cuttlar, along with the ABPPSP Board of Directors.

Their hard work has afforded me the opportunity to identify additional priorities and directions for the future. It’s been a rewarding several years to witness the emergence and professionalization of our specialty, with the recognition of police and public safety psychology by APA and ABPP. Everyone reading this article contributed to this effort; the pioneering few who got us started, the Board of Directors who have crafted the bylaws and managed the Board’s operations, the Academy presenters who have offered workshops, the practice sample and oral examiners who have conducted the examinations, the exam coordinators and NCE, and those who supported the Board by making the effort to go through the process to become board certified. I’m thankful to all of you.

Before I identify my priorities, I want to recognize two of our colleagues who were founding ABPPSP board members and served us with distinction. Sadly, we lost one of our leaders to illness in February. We plan to honor Lorraine Greene with a formal tribute when the Board meets this fall. Raised in a family of civil rights advocates, 13-year-old Lorraine was one of the 200,000 people in 1963 for the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom when Martin Luther King gave his “I Have a Dream” speech. As a founding board member and in the first group of board certified police and public safety psychologists, Lorraine was a persuasive and impactful difference-maker in every discussion and decision that formed the body and spirit of ABPPSP until her death. Susan Saxe-Clifford completed her 4-year board term in 2015 as a founding ABPPSP board member and the first ABPPSP Treasurer. Susan is a pioneering police psychologist whose service to law enforcement and the profession of police psychology began when she was hired by Marty Reiser at LAPD in 1970. She maintains her professional practice today, while continuously providing service to the profession. Susan has made significant contributions to virtually every important developmental milestone in the evolution of our specialty. Her guidance and input has been invaluable and we hope she will continue to contribute to ABPPSP in the future.

Board certification examination procedures have largely remained intact, from the very first examinations in 2011 to the scheduled examinations in San Diego in October. Some modifications have been instituted each year as we have found improved ways to align our procedures with our aspirations, continuing to require a substantial effort by our candidates while maintaining collegiality and improving the likelihood of success for the competent police and public safety psychologist candidate.

Our biggest challenge, not unlike other smaller ABPP specialty boards, is maintaining a sustainable flow of new candidates. While there remains a steady but small stream of applicants from colleagues who are members of the three national groups of police and public safety psychologists (IACP-PPSS, SPCP, APA Div. 18 PPSS), ABPPSP also welcomes colleagues who perform police and public safety functions in other milieus such as the military, national security, and corrections. In 2015, our first board certified police and public safety psychologist from the military joined our ranks but we have to become more active in soliciting applications from qualified psychologists in these other milieus and ensuring these colleagues are aware that ABPPSP welcomes their application. The Board’s Advocacy Coordinator is charged with leading this effort, an effort I hope to better organize later this year.

I’m particularly interested in advancing our academy, the American Academy of Police and Public Safety Psychology (AAPPSP). To ensure the future of the specialty, we need doctoral-level programs in police and public safety psychology that meet all the established qualifications for...
licensure and board certification. AAPPSP is the education and training arm of ABPPSP and with other members of the Council of Organizations in Police Psychology (COPP), AAPPSP helped develop formal education and training guidelines that have been accepted for publication in the APA journal, *Training and Education in Professional Psychology*. These guidelines should help to ensure standardized training in police and public safety graduate programs.

In addition, the Academy is exploring various options to offer continuing education in the specialty. Each year, AAPPSP has offered workshops; in the first few years, the offerings were designed primarily to help prepare candidates for board certification. This year in February, we expanded our offerings; in collaboration with the American Academy of Forensic Psychology, we offered five days of workshops that included psychological consultation for hostage negotiations, the role of a psychologist in officer-involved shootings, psychological consultation on homicides, testifying in police and public safety adjudications, and campus and school threat assessment and management. The Academy hopes to continue to offer regular continuing education workshops to current specialists and interested others outside the specialty. If possible, we’d also like these workshops to become an income source for the academy and the specialty board.

In closing, it regularly occurs to me what a magnificent achievement has occurred in the last 10 years with the development and recognition of police and public safety as an APA specialty and as one of the 15 ABPP specialty boards. As our client agencies and the public become more aware of the benefits of services from a board certified specialist, we should reasonably expect more applications from colleagues who haven’t yet seen the practical value of board certification. I believe we’ll soon see an increased call for all providers of psychological services to be specialists, which will include a preference, if not a requirement, for board certification in that specialty. I recently testified about officer-involved shootings in a criminal trial in a jurisdiction that allowed the jury to ask questions of the witness. Two of the eight questions I was asked by jurors were follow-ups from the voir dire that had happened hours earlier. The two questions were to help them better understand how board certification was different from licensing. Their questions helped punctuate the importance decision makers place on board certification. It’s up to each of us to show our chiefs and sheriffs what those jurors learned, an effort each of us must share to have the maximum impact.

**NCE and President-Elect Notes by Dr. Jeni McCutcheon**

We are at a slower but steady pace of encouraging and processing people through the various steps of the candidacy processes. Currently, we have several new candidates, and multiple candidates at the Oral Examination stage of the specialization application process. I continue to be grateful to many of our board certified specialist psychologists; to Dr. Gary Fischler who is diligently behind the scenes planning oral examinations; to Dr. Jaime Brower for her work as our new Mentoring Coordinator; and to our many helpful specialists that serve our board throughout our processes. Thank you all for your dedicated volunteerism and service to our Board. You are all greatly appreciated.

As you are likely aware, we have a newly revised Examination Manual, available on the ABPPSP website, effective June 1, 2016. Among the improvements are clearer language about the Operations domain, different categorizations to better capture PSRP findings, and we have changed the movement through the process with the oral examination no longer contingent on successful (Acceptable) completion of the practice sample. If you have not yet checked out the new Manual, I encourage you to do so.

Have you thought about how you can advance our specialty strength? Please consider seeking out a colleague or two and encouraging them to apply. Send them my way, Dr. Brower’s way or point them toward our ABPPSP website at www.abppsp.org.

All the best,
Jeni McCutcheon, Psy.D., M.S.C.P., ABPP
Oral Examination Coordinator's Column by Dr. Gary Fischler

Although the number of candidates seeking board certification has moderated as our specialty matures, there continue to be candidates who successfully complete the final stage – the oral examination – to become board certified. In the past year, we have two new board certified specialists join the ranks – Dr. Robin Kroll and Dr. Carrie Kennedy. We are also scheduling oral examinations in San Diego in conjunction with the IACP conference in October. Of course, the exams would not be possible were it not for the substantial contributions of our examiner volunteers. We’d like to thank Drs. Herbert Gupton, David Corey, Phil Trompetter, Jaimie Brower, Steve Sultan, Paul Detrick, Linda Forsberg, Shauna Laughna, Richard Wihera, Heather McElroy, Casey Stewart, Jay Supnick, Ray Turner, Michael Cuttler, Jon Moss, and John Nicoletti who have served admirably over the past year. Of course, we also deeply miss Dr. Lorraine Greene who gave so generously of her time and expertise as a member of the Board of Directors and frequent oral examiner.

Secretary & Treasurer Update by Dr. Jocelyn Roland

Any new endeavor has a learning curve, and as the newly elected Treasurer, both I and the ABPPSP are on the uphill climb. When the ABPPSP first got underway, we were under the strong and sturdy leadership of Dr. Susan Saxe-Clifford as the inaugural Treasurer. We had a great deal of interest and action as the Board was in its infancy and police psychologists clamored for board certification. Over the last few years, the number of psychologists applying to become board certified has slowed down, and this, of course, reduces the income that helps support the Board’s functioning.

While ABPP supports our functioning to a degree, we are reliant on the applications of candidates and continuing education endeavors to keep us viable and growing. The slowdown of applications has therefore impacted us financially. Fortunately, we just finished our second successful foray into providing continuing education in a partnership with the American Academy of Forensic Psychology that will help us stay solvent. We look to the active stewardship of the American Academy of PPSP to offer more training in the near future, and opportunities to keep us financially growing.

We have however, had some issues with controlling costs at the front end of exams, a problem that had to be addressed. In order to help improve this process, we will be instituting specific reimbursement protocols in the near future. We, of course, want to make it financially reasonable for those of you who are gracious volunteers for oral exams (and those attending required meetings, like the annual Board of Directors), while remaining mindful of, and watching, costs.

The new process (once ratified by the Board of Directors) will occur shortly after a specialist agrees to examine a candidate or attend a required meeting. Guidelines will be presented in a timely manner so that volunteers know what costs will be reimbursed, and have an opportunity to make sure they can comply with the directives. Ultimately, the goal is management in the front end to avoid surprises in the back end. Smart business begins with controlling outgoing expenditures, and this new process will help the ABPPSP in this endeavor while keeping psychologists informed and fairly compensated for the very important role they play in growing our Board and assisting colleagues join us as specialists.

If you have questions about the process, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to serving the ABPPSP as your Treasurer, and thank you ahead of time for your assistance in completing my duties, as well as your volunteer time as an examiner or in your service to the Board.

Dr. Rachel Rosenblatt Birth Announcement

Rachel Rosenblatt, Psy.D., ABPP, and her husband Jason Young, welcomed a healthy baby girl, Jillian Marlee, on May 2, 2016. Congratulations and well wishes to the family on their new addition.
Obtaining specialty certification in Police and Public Safety Psychology has become an ever-growing accomplishment for those working within this particular field. However, the process for obtaining certification can seem overwhelming and daunting. In fact, the process itself and other questions/concerns regarding qualifications could have deterred some from progressing forward. The ABPPSP Board, with considerable input from Doctors Roland and McCutcheon, have worked diligently to streamline the process and develop a mentoring program to aid applicants toward their goal of achieving specialty certification.

Those interested in specialty certification can use the mentoring program to answer questions regarding the application process, personal qualifications and how best to present those in the practice sample and other questions regarding their practice sample content. Some may simply want to work with a mentor in order to receive encouragement or discuss frustrations. Once the practice sample is submitted, the mentoring relationship will end and the applicant will proceed through the process.

As the new Candidate Mentorship Coordinator, I look forward to offering as much support and encouragement as possible. We’re particularly excited about welcoming those who work in both corrections and the public safety domain. Please don’t hesitate to contact me directly for any assistance I may offer. You can also refer those that you know who may benefit from mentoring to reach out to me. I can be most easily reached via email, at drjaimebrower@aol.com. It is my mission to create a professionally collaborative mentoring experience to encourage the future growth of our specialty and I look forward to working with you.

A memorial scholarship fund in honor of the late Dr. Eileen Gupton was established in November 2012 through the ABPP Foundation to support specialty certification in Police & Public Safety Psychology, particularly by early career psychologists (psychologists within 10 years of obtaining a doctoral degree).

Early career psychologists are eligible for an award from the Fund in the amount of $500 upon written notice from ABPP of satisfactorily passing all requirements for certification as a specialist in police and public safety psychology by the American Board of Police & Public Safety Psychology. Submit a letter to the ABPP Foundation along with the ABPP notification letter requesting the monetary award from the Dr. Eileen Gupton Memorial Scholarship Fund. Email both letters to hgupton@aol.com for approval by the ABPP Foundation.

Board certified specialists are encouraged to support the fund by making a tax deductible donation at the ABPP website: www.abpp.org.
First, I would like to say that the idea of walking someone else through a typical day makes me feel for the reader. I can't say that I find my own day particularly intriguing so it is unlikely that you might! But this is my mission, and I chose to accept it.

Second, I would like to say that military psychologists work in a truly wide array of jobs and locales. This column written by another would be every bit as idiosyncratic.

With that said, the day begins at 0320. While people in the military are stereotypical early risers, most try to not to get up this early. However, I'm stationed in Bahrain, a predominantly Muslim country, and the mosque's loud-speaker is highly efficient. The first prayer call is at 0320 and then the sky starts to brighten up about an hour later. As we like to say in the military, this is my current normal.

Bahrain is a small island chain, nestled in between Saudi Arabia and Qatar and across the Arabian Gulf from Iran. If you know anything about current wars and politics, then you've already figured it out that it's a happening place.

I live in a 2 bedroom flat in Juffair, a short walk from the Navy base. I don't have a car. It's not that I can't have one; I just don't. The workweek in Bahrain runs from Sunday to Thursday with Friday and Saturday constituting the weekend.

If it is a cool day, it will only be about 100 degrees for the walk into base. The workday officially starts at 0715 but everyone shows up earlier to get organized and changed into camouflage utilities and combat boots. Make any jokes you want...

I currently serve as the Department Head for Mental Health, a small department consisting of 3 providers, 3 technicians and 1 substance abuse counselor. We are the only game in town so we see everything, from anywhere, for any reason and at any time of the day or night. Patients that can't be managed in our small outpatient clinic are either medically evacuated (for emergencies) or placed on limited duty and transferred to a location which has adequate medical resources (for those who can be maintained safely for a short period of time on Bahrain).

If I am not the duty provider, a typical day consists of one or two new evaluations (depending on how backed up we are), examples of which might be individuals with flight status who have been downed for a mental health concern or Masters-at-Arms (the Navy's version of military police) whose ability to retain weapons handling privileges has been questioned. The remainder of the day consists of follow ups of existing patients, departmental duties and writing a seemingly endless stream of patient notes.

The duty provider stands 24/7 mental health watch for a week at a time (giving each of the three providers duty once every three weeks). The duty provider sees all emergent walk-ins, medevacs from ships, and acts as the licensed independent practitioner for technician run groups and substance abuse patients. On duty weeks, providers see no regularly scheduled new patients and minimize follow ups in order to efficiently manage walk-ins. The number of walk-ins varies widely, from 0-7 a day during my tenure in Bahrain. The day ends when the last patient leaves and the enlisted staff have gone home. Tonight I am not on duty so I will sleep soundly...until 0320.

Reflections on Board Certification by Dr. Jay A. Supnick Ph.D.,ABPP

It is coming up on five years since I submitted my Practice Sample to the American Board of Police and Public Safety Psychology (ABPPSP) as part of my application for board certification, and so, when asked to write about what becoming board certified in PPSP means to me, how it's changed or influenced my practice or relations and relationships with agencies, I find myself reflecting back on this time with many positive feelings. Perhaps, guiltily, I can admit that my first feeling is one of pride for having been able to receive acknowledgment from my colleagues, who greatly respect, that my work, which I dedicate so much of my life to, is respected, in turn, by them.

The way that wearing a uniform serves to inform others of one's position, it also serves as a reminder to the wearer of his/her position towards others. Therefore, more than a personal sense of pride, being an ABPP brings with it a sense of responsibility to continue to work towards further development and excellence in our field. It also reminds me of how I need to present myself to others as an ambassador of our group of dedicated, responsible, ethical, professionals who strive to improve conditions in society as a whole.

Finally, although there is no substitute for competence, having the ABPPSSP board certification does help distinguish me as an expert in the specialty of police and public safety to my client agencies, attorneys, civil service boards and courts where I provide consultation and testimony on matters related to my work and the work of others in the field. In closing, having this time to reflect has allowed me to feel more gratitude than pride for the people who have worked so hard to make board certification possible for those of us wishing to pursue it.
Reflections on Board Certification by Dr. Rick Wilhera

My career path took a turn in later years that nearly pulled me away from the specialty of police and public safety psychology. I started in the early 1980’s mentored by Mike Roberts, one of the fathers of police psychology (dare we call him one of the grandfathers now?), which provided the opportunity to work with over 150 police agencies from coast to coast. Then in 2009, after more than 25 years in full-time police psychology, I took a full-time position as a Supervisory Psychologist with a Veterans Administration Medical Center. My duties had little to do with law enforcement personnel and I kept only a modest private practice with local agencies when ABPPSP was being introduced. I admittedly had difficulty seeing the value of ABPPSP for me, but I had to do something to get Mike Cuttler and Dave Corey off my back so I pursued certification. I haven’t regretted it for a minute and now thank them both for the friendly persuasion.

There is no doubt that being a Board Certified Specialist has elevated my game. In my professional work I now consciously consider what is the law, what is the science, and what are the ethics of the situation. As an ABPPP examiner, I have had the opportunity to learn about the exciting and marvelous ways that our peers in this field are providing services to public safety agencies and personnel. And when I have the opportunity to view the work of other ABPPSP specialists, I see the work of consummate professionals.

In an unexpected way, there has been a marriage of my career in police psychology with my work at the VA. The Veterans Administration has police officers at every facility across the nation, and if all locations were combined, the VA Police Department would be 7th largest police department in the U.S. However, the multitude of providers and settings along with some outdated policies has led to inconsistent practices across facilities. As the only ABPPSP specialist n the VA, I was asked to serve as a subject matter expert for a national work group which is in the process of updating and revising policy and procedures for the psychological assessments of police officer applicants and officers. In this capacity I was able to guide the VA to referencing current professional guidelines such as those from IACP PSS and California POST. I am confident that my input into this work group will affect the practice of police psychology in the VA for years to come. Good friend Dave Corey framed it in the nicest way. He said that he does not think of me as leaving police psychology, but instead sees me as “police psychology’s ambassador to the VA.”

Summer 2016 Academy News by Dr. Shauna Laughna, Education Chair

We Have an Academy?

At a gathering of police and public safety psychologists in New Orleans a few months ago, more than one psychologist asked: **Who is this Academy?** The answer: **Every person who is board certified by ABPPSP as a Police & Public Safety Psychologist is part of our Academy**—the American Academy of Police & Public Safety Psychology (or AAPPSP for short). At this time, there is no membership fee; you are automatically a member by virtue of your board certification status.

What does our Academy do? Its primary function is to serve our Board by providing educational opportunities to enhance the skills of those practicing in our specialty – regardless of whether they are currently board certified or not. Through these educational opportunities, we are also responsible for providing income to fund Board activities, such as the board certification and examination process.

What have we done so far? Last fall, our Academy surveyed the educational needs of psychologists who practice in the area of police and public safety psychology. We will use that information in formulating future educational activities. Our Academy was privileged to join forces with the American Academy of Forensic Psychology (whom we consider masters in providing continuing education) for a series of workshops this past February in New Orleans. Members of our team handled promotions for the event, including the video that announced the workshops, the “NOLA” stickers we all wore at IACP, and the emails highlighting different aspects of the event and our speakers. Five members of our Academy presented day-long workshops that week. All AAPPSP workshops were well-attended, pleasing both our Board and that of AAFFP. During the actual event, members of our team shadowed the leaders in AAPP in order to write a manual for providing a high quality continuing education program on our own. Finally, in New Orleans, we surveyed attendees and presenters in order to gather information that would allow us to plan future workshops that meet the needs of our members and others practicing in our specialty field. More recently, we have entered the world of social media with a Facebook page. You can find it by entering “American Academy of Police and Public Safety Psychology” into the search box of your Facebook page. We plan to use it to present items of interest related to our specialty field, as well as announce future educational opportunities. As we learn to navigate social media, we may expand our presence to other platforms.

What are our future plans? We are already planning future continuing education opportunities. We are using the information gathered from shadowing the leaders in AAPP as well as the results of our surveys in determining the finer details of the upcoming trainings.

Can I get involved? Yes! Again, by virtue of your board certification status, you are a member of the Academy and, therefore, fully eligible to volunteer. And, volunteering is necessary to sustain our Academy. As we develop our activities, we will post requests for help when the need arises. We rely on your contributions and look forward to your support through service.
In Memoriam of Dr. Lorraine Greene

Lorraine Williams Greene, Ph.D., ABPP
May 18, 1950 to February 25, 2016

Born in Elizabeth, New Jersey to Grace Watson Williams Lowery and Vasco Delin Williams, Lorraine Williams grew up listening to her grandmother offer help in problem solving with neighbors and strangers who came to her door in the evenings and on the weekends. Reared in a family of civil rights advocates, she learned the fine points of advocacy and principled negotiation from her family connections. As a young teenager she attended the 1963 March on Washington with family and church elders where she was imbued with a sense of service to others and social justice. After high school she attended college at the University of Detroit and joined the Delta Sigma Theta sorority, a national service organization with which she would stay actively involved as a leader for the rest of her life. She graduated with majors in psychology and social work and then moved to Atlanta where she earned her Masters in Educational Psychology at Atlanta University and simultaneously completed her School Psychology Certification at the University of Georgia at Athens. Lorraine started her professional career as a school psychologist for the Atlanta Public Schools.

Lorraine dreamed of developing a community mental health center and knew that to do so she would have to pursue the doctoral degree. Even though she had married Henry Greene, she would not be deterred. During her first year of doctoral study at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, Henry lived and worked in Atlanta and they commuted to see one another. As she finished her doctoral studies she decided that research and program development would be her first focus, never giving up the idea of practice but wanting to ground herself in science. She left Vanderbilt to work with Dr. Henry Foster at Meharry College of Medicine and became Deputy Director of Meharry’s ‘I Have A Future’ program for African American youth. Largely because of her grant writing and research design skills, the program achieved national prominence and was named one of President George H. W. Bush’s Thousand Points of Light. Dr. Foster went on to become President Bill Clinton’s nominee for Surgeon General and Lorraine credits his losing nomination battle, which she went to Washington to observe, with showing her how important it is to “know the politics and watch the partisanship”. It was then that she decided to deliberately broaden her community base. For the rest of her life, she would be involved in her community through her church, her sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Incorporated, The Nashville Prevention Partnership and the Coalition of One Hundred Black Women, and other national and local service organizations. To these organizations she brought creative and resourceful talent to every project she undertook. Having had a year of internship at the Psychological Services Unit of the Atlanta Department of Public Safety with Dr. Guy Seymour and Dr. Russell Boxley, she won a contract to offer services to the Nashville Police Peer Support program where she worked for nine years. Her work was so effective and well received that when Emmett Turner became Nashville Davidson County Police Chief in 1996, one of his first actions was to appoint her as the first Director of the Behavioral Health Service Division of the Department. As a member of the Nashville Police command staff, Lorraine continued to write grants for community organizations working with city government, expanding on the reach and influence of the department on the community and vice versa. She worked in this role until retiring in 2012, maintaining a focus on the behavioral health of police officers and their families and on the police response to domestic violence in the community.

In conjunction with Dr. Bertha Holliday of Washington, DC and Dr. Ellen Kirschman of California, she also wrote grants to establish a national program to provide accessible on-line support for police families and to provide mental health service support to officers from initial police academy training to in-service recertification. She has worked tirelessly to enhance psychology’s offerings in the service of competent, fair, thoughtful and bias-free policing, and to reduce domestic violence. Lorraine was relentless in pursuit of her goal to combat efforts to suppress voting in local and national elections. Civil rights concerns and professional integrity were always at the core of her civic, social and professional activities.

In organized psychology Lorraine has been a powerhouse and an agent of change. She has served the American Psychological Association’s Division of Psychologists In Public Service (18) first as Chair of the Police and Public Safety Section, then as the Division’s representative to APA Council, and was President-Elect of the Division at the time of her death. In 2014 she was given a Presidential Citation by APA President Nadine Kaslow for her dedicated service to law enforcement. Just this past August, she was honored with the highest award the Division can make as the 2015 Harold Hildreth Awardee for Distinguished Public Service. She has also served on the board of directors of the American Board of Police and Public Safety Psychology and the Council of Organizations in Police Psychology. She has for years been involved with, and held leadership positions in, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the Association of Black Psychologists and the American Red Cross. More significant than even the variety of her service has been the fact that across all her organizational service, she was repeatedly described as “passionate”, “insightful”, “principled” and “courageous” and “balanced in her advocacy”. Her psychologist colleagues and her police contacts remember her as a mentor and adviser and praise her willingness to take time and devote substantial effort to activities and projects which were important to them, even if not so important to her. Several colleagues praised her as “smart”, “kind”, “insightful”, and “committed and generous, with her time, friendship and support”. Her legacy is indeed “rich and deserving” of enduring recognition. In her career she has fundamentally improved the lot for police officers and their families and for communities, especially communities of color, which they serve.

Dr. Greene cherished her mother Grace, her grandmother, her husband Henry and her son Omari, the rest of her family and friends. She reaffirmed her love and dedication through meaningful engagements and the most thoughtful acts of kindness imaginable. With all of her professional activities, she was also very deliberate in maintaining the balance between work and family. At Unity Church she preferred to serve as a Greeter because she loved talking with the people. It was at Unity that she became aware of the ‘Master Mind Principle’ and how to use the tools of self-discovery, growth and transformation to embrace each day of life with efficiency and clarity of purpose. She formed a Red Hats Society Chapter and served as the ‘Queen Mum’. She attended the Ebony Jazz Festival each year with family and friends and cruised with Tom Joyner. A few days before transitioning, she joined her sisters of the Nashville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta in honoring the Founders of that organization. Now we honor her

Guy Seymour, Ph.D. & Adrienne Bradford, Ph.D.
This is the year that the Police Psychological Services Section of the IACP is scheduled to have the opportunity to consider and vote for a revision of the Consulting Police Psychologist Guidelines. The PPSS committee tasked to produce the draft proposal of that revision was composed of eleven section members, all ABPPSP board certified specialists. The members of that committee were Scott Allen, Ph.D., ABPP, Gary Aumiller, Ph.D., ABPP, Robert Cipriano Jr., Psy.D., ABPP, Douglas Gentz, Ph.D., ABPP, Sherri Harden, Psy.D., ABPP, Kris Mohandie, Ph.D., ABPP, Jon Moss, Ph.D., ABPP, John Nicoletti, Ph.D., ABPP, Steve Sultan, Ph.D., ABPP, Jay Supnick, Ph.D. ABPP, and Phil Trompetter, Ph.D., ABPP. In addition to being board certified specialists, each member of the committee brought years of practical experience in the Operational Support domain of police and public safety psychology to the project.

The committee’s work began in February, 2016. Over the next four months, approximately 300 emails were exchanged between committee members that led to a progression of five versions of the guideline that ultimately resulted in the final draft proposal. The proposed revision re-focused the description of the purpose of the guideline, added a section outlining limitations of the guideline, refined the descriptions of the section on Roles and Boundaries, the section on Integrity, and expanded the section regarding Methods and Procedures. The proposed revision also adds lists of selected references regarding operations support consultation, officer-involved shootings, case law relevant to SWAT consultations, references regarding training police in de-escalation with the mentally ill, and case law relevant to training police in de-escalation with the mentally ill.

That draft of the proposed revision was submitted to the IACP PPSS Executive Committee in June, and will be considered for ratification by the section in October at the conference.

Get to know an ABPP Psychologist—Dr. Monica Pilarc

Dr. Pilarc attained licensure in 1998 after completing an APA-accredited doctoral program from Texas Woman’s University and an APA-accredited internship through the New York State hospital system. She started her assessment work in forensics and soon after was asked to develop trainings in police stress/suicide and suicide-by-cop for a local criminal justice academy. She’s spent time on both sides of the psychological examination process. As part of her relocation to Seattle to work in corrections, she successfully underwent a mandatory pre-employment polygraph and psychological examination. She later accepted a position working with a local police psychologist. For the past 14 years, she’s committed her practice to police and public safety psychology, with an emphasis on assessment and short-term treatment interventions for a variety of public-safety positions and personnel.

Q. What motivated you to seek board certification? Board certification represents proficiency. Given the emphasis on integrity within the public safety professions, I figured I should exemplify the same virtue and pursue board certification as an expression of due diligence to the agencies I serve, and as an expression of my commitment to the profession. Board certification is increasingly recognized as representing confirmation of competence of those in our line of work. I also want to inform public safety agencies that we do indeed embody the highest professional standards in order to foster trust, professionalism, and collegiality among those we serve.

Q. What did you learn about yourself and your practice while pursuing board certification? I learned that I had a good foundation clinically but that a number of my professional practices were out of date, including consent forms, interview format, and report format. The process has been very humbling but also empowering. I developed a stronger connection to my work, both personally and professionally, as a result of seeking board certification.

Q. What advice would you give to a candidate for board certification in Police and Public Safety Psychology? Know your stuff, and be prepared to learn more. Our field is dynamic in that we respond to changing regulations and case law, and states have differing expectations regarding the work that we do. Know your state’s expectations, and be aware of, and maybe adapt to, standards that involve a higher degree of professionalism. And definitely attend conferences relevant to our unique line of work in order to stay current with emerging practices. Police and public safety psychologists assume a huge level of responsibility and are frequently expected to advise departments and agencies we serve, so we need to be proficient, or at least conversant, in broad areas of the specialty. Be patient but committed.

Q. What have you found most valuable or rewarding about board certification? I’m an out-of-house psychologist, and several agencies that I serve have asked if I’m board certified. Board certification has increasingly become a desired standard. But I didn’t expect the sense of personal and professional pride that I experience upon being asked if I’m board certified. My practice is much tighter and in line with professional and legal expectations. And I feel more connected to those of us who are committed to this line of work.
Dr. Cipriano has been a licensed psychologist in Florida for 14 years and is Board Certified in Police and Public Safety Psychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP). He attended Florida State University as an undergraduate and the APA accredited Psy.D. program at Carlos Albizu University for his graduate studies, specializing in clinical psychology with a tract in forensic psychology. He completed his APA doctoral internship in clinical psychology through a consortium at Central Louisiana State Hospital and Pinecrest Developmental Center in Pineville, Louisiana. His areas of interest are trauma and resiliency, threat assessment and management, and operational psychology.

Q. What motivated you to seek board certification? My rationale for seeking board certification was to challenge myself as a service provider within the specialized field of police and public safety psychology. A significant goal of mine is to reduce the level of stigma among police officers and other first responders when personal and professional problems arise. Attaining board certification demonstrates credibility, competence, and proficiency as a provider of psychological services to police and public safety, which I believe will aid that process.

Q. What did you learn about yourself and your practice while doing board certification? I learned that I was still capable of commitment to an important professional goal, a crucial element to this attainment. I also improved the depth and breadth of my psychology practice overall, enhanced my professional relationship with esteemed colleagues, reassessed and revitalized my future goals as a mid-level career psychologist, and renewed my interest in a specialty practice in which I have invested valuable time and resources.

Q. What advice would you give to a candidate for board certification in Police and Public Safety Psychology? Persevere with the board certification process because it builds your knowledge, competence, proficiency, and perhaps most of all cultivates an enhanced sense of self within one’s profession and specialization.

Q. What have you found most valuable or rewarding about board certification? Attaining board certification strengthened my sense of accomplishment that aided me in accepting new challenges within the specialty practice. For example, I have noticed improvement in resiliency skill development, heightened flexibility, enriched meaningfulness of my work, and augmented self-efficacy, all of which have been extremely rewarding.

Robert J. Cipriano Jr., Psy.D, ABPP, Board Certified in Police & Public Safety Psychology

PPSP Upcoming Training Events

This year’s IACP Police Psychological Services Section Conference in San Diego from October 15th – 17th.

Marty Mayer will be presenting the annual Legal Update, including important recent case law and related topics of critical importance to police psychologists. There will be presentations on practical guides and professional models for law enforcement’s response to vicarious trauma, peer support programs, safeguarding officer mental health, crisis intervention team training, and the advantages of using a police psychologist in a CIT academy. There will also be presentations on assessment protocols, procedures, and pass rates; utility of post-shooting interventions; response to domestic violence; and much more!

* For those who have not yet registered for the conference: Remember, if you register for the IACP Conference before August 31st, you pay only $350. After that date will cost $425 for registration (First Time Members $295 before 8/31 or $370 after), so register early at: [https://www.compusystems.com/servlet/ar?evt_uid=464#site-navigation](https://www.compusystems.com/servlet/ar?evt_uid=464#site-navigation)
Don't miss this spectacular conference on August 3rd in Denver.
Less than three weeks away...Register Now!

POLICE & PUBLIC SAFETY SECTION
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Psychological Footprint of Mass Casualty and Intense Traumatic Events on Victims, Responders and the Larger Community: Opportunities and Challenges for Police & Public Safety Psychology

In collaboration with the Network of Multicultural Training Professionals, Inc. and the Center for Professional Development at the University of Denver

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 3, 2016
8am-5pm
Registration opens at 7:30 a.m.
Sturm Hall, University of Denver
Denver, CO 80210

This program is approved for 6.25 hours of continuing education. The University of Denver, Graduate School of Professional Psychology (GSPP) is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. GSPP maintains responsibility for this program and its content

Focusing on issues, available programs, gaps, and future countermeasures:
School and Community Violence Response and Recovery
Impact of Trauma on First Responders and Supporting Psychological Recovery
Psychological and Medical Effects of Trauma: Job Performance and Resiliency
Effects of Trauma and Negative Community Attitudes on Bias Development in Law Enforcement
Ethics Committee Task Force Findings

Come away with a basic understanding of the psychological footprint of trauma as evidenced in different groups, and ways to mitigate the adverse effects of traumatic events on individuals and across the community.

Social Event
Make sure to join the social event/networking opportunity immediately following the conference

Join us!
See you in Denver!  Casey Stewart
Chair, APA, Div 18, Police & Public Safety Section
Twelve Reasons to become Board Certified in Psychology with the American Board of Professional Psychology!

Apply Today!

✓ Board certification in Psychology indicates specialty expertise which distinguishes you from other psychologists who work with patients with health issues.
✓ Board certification in Psychology distinguishes you on the job market!
✓ Uniformed psychologists with board certification who work at the Department of Defense or Public Health Service receive a monthly specialty pay bonus.
✓ Health care providers in other disciplines consider board certification as a minimum standard to document training and expertise for patient care.
✓ Board certification facilitates license mobility in most states.
✓ Many hospitals ask about board certification when applying for privileges.
✓ Some hospitals or medical centers require a board certification for approval of privileges, and others are moving towards this policy.
✓ Some academic and academic medical settings require board certification for promotion and tenure.
✓ Health insurance companies routinely ask about board certification when applying to be part of their networks.
✓ Consumers of health/mental health services will increasingly ask about board certification, and can identify board certified psychologists on line.
✓ Access ABPP online resources for networking and referrals.
✓ Join other leaders in Psychology to define excellence in our field!

Are you a licensed psychologist who provides health related services? Start your board certification in Psychology application process today by going to www.abpp.org for information and application materials. Or contact the ABPP office at 919-537-8031.