



LSBEP members Dr. Michelle Moore (L), Dr. Amy Henke, (C), and executive director Jaime Monic at a meeting in their new Baton Rouge offices before Covid.

## LSBEP Pushes Their Legislation Despite Opposition from La Psychological Assn

The Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (LSBEP) continues their planning to introduce comprehensive legislation in the upcoming April session, according to sources. This despite a recent vote by the Executive Council of the Louisiana Psychological Association to oppose the bill.

According to sources, LPA President Dr. Erin Reuther made an announcement to members last month that the LPA Executive Council had decided not to support the LSBEP introducing the measure.

In January the LSBEP voted unanimously to begin the search for a legislator to sponsor their changes to the Psychology Practice Act for the 2021 legislative session.

LSBEP's legislation will make sweeping changes to the psychology law. These changes include the registering assistants, expanding the board's charter, expanding legal authority of employees, adding fees, changing the scope of practice, modifying board composition, and exempting hearings from Open Meetings Laws. The new law also gives

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## Governor Edwards Expands COVID Vaccine Eligibility

On February 22, Gov. Edwards expanded vaccine eligibility to an additional group of Louisianans ... K-12 teachers, school support staff, day care staff, those who are pregnant and Louisianans aged 55 to 64 with certain health conditions ... are eligible to get the COVID-19 vaccine. This group represents around 475,000 Louisianans and will bring the total population eligible in Louisiana to nearly 1.65 million people. Louisiana is currently vaccinating people in Priority Group 1B-Tier One.

According to the press release, Louisiana's COVID vaccination strategy relies on making vaccine doses available across the state through community clinics,

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## Judge Barbier Denies Hesson \$2255 Appeal

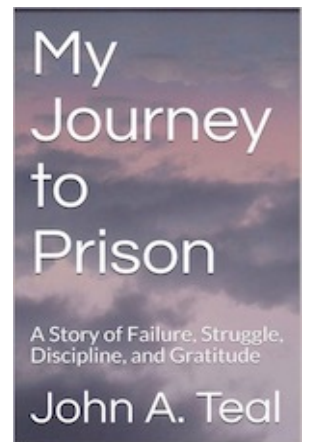
On February 24, United States District Judge Carl J. Barbier denied Dr. Rodney Hesson's \$2255 request to vacate his sentence in the high profile 2015 Medicare fraud case. The \$2255 appeal is based on the right to have adequate representation.

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## Dr. Joslyn's New Baby Girl! – Pg 9



## Dr. Teal in Bookshelf – Pg 14



## Dr. Burstein Reviews Two of Us – Pg 15



## Ψ We Remember Dr. Tom Hannie

Thomas Joseph Hannie Jr., PhD, passed away unexpectedly on February 12, 2021. He had been dealing with a heart condition over the last year. Dr. Hannie was 83.

Dr. Hannie had a profound influence on the psychology profession in Louisiana and over the last half century was a cornerstone of change for many pivotal milestones in the profession.

He was a forensic psychologist and a true applied scientist who was also a fascinating person. He possessed a depth of experience that, coupled with his exceptional analytical thinking, gave him a keen ability to critique any point of law, psychology, or philosophy.

Tom's abilities were complemented by his sense of humor and a contagious enjoyment of life and living. He was just as likely to invite you over for an LSU football party as to correct your flawed logic on some matter, and his colleagues counted themselves lucky either way.

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# Editorial Page – Opinions



## Tom Hannie – Goodbye My Friend

by Julie Nelson

I met Tom Hannie in 1978 when I was a graduate student and he led the legislative efforts in Louisiana to remove the requirement that psychologists must consult with physicians.

Some years later, I picked up the phone and found Tom on the other end, reading me the riot act about some delinquency he caught in one of my reports. I listened (of course he was right—Tom was always right), admitted my mistake, and pledged never to sin again.

"I'm satisfied with how you've handled this," he said (I think he expected me to be defensive), and from that moment on we were friends.

It would have been easy to be intimidated by Tom Hannie. He was big and tall, with a baritone voice, and he exuded confidence. Clearly a dominant male, who seemed fearless, he was also gregarious, tolerant, and fun-loving. His lack of pretense was evident in his dress—he would wear baggy, leisure shirts and sandals. Tom was oddly free of narcissism.

Tom's intellectual ability was off the chart. He had a razor-sharp, analytical mind, and more than likely a photographic memory. (He gambled and was so good at it he was barred from casinos.) Suzie Andrews said that Tom had forgotten more psychology than the rest of us have known, and she is right. Tom gravitated to forensic psychology because it gave him some small challenge and because he enjoyed the crucible of facts debated and condensed down until all that was left was the essence of the truth.

His politics were abstract. Tom was a card carrying member of the Americans United for the Separation of Church and State and the Baton Rouge Freethinkers.

So, it was in 2009, during the political fragmenting of our profession, that Tom and I found ourselves, together, in the rarefied air of The First Amendment.

He took a particular interest in the *Times*. He sometimes helped me report on news, and actually wore "a wire" to a government meeting. He insisted that I read H.L. Mencken, the 1930s journalist whose pyrotechnic use of language and irreverent style outraged hypocrites and politicians of that day. Tom laughed with me when I had to add "opinion" to the editorial page banner so readers would understand it wasn't "news." He applauded my efforts in unbiased reporting and entered all our contests. And, he said once—"There is nothing like the *Psychology Times*," high praise from someone like Tom.

Tom understood the process—that free speech and debate lead to truth, and that the tensions caused must be tolerated in order to burn away biases, irrelevancies, and false beliefs. He knew that free speech leads to freedom of thought, and free thought, to speech.

Tom also knew, as Thomas Paine said, "When men yield up the privilege of thinking, the last shadow of liberty quits the horizon."

Tom Hannie supplied me with an oxygen hose when the lack of clean air became suffocating. Always with Tom I could take a deep breath of liberty. He cannot be replaced – not ever – and I don't know what I'm going to do without him.

*[Julie Nelson is a licensed psychologist, journalist, consultant, and publisher of the Times. She also holds other positions in the community. However, her opinions here are those of her own, and do not represent any group or association. She and the Times receive no compensation other than paid advertising. Email her at [drj@drjulienelson.com](mailto:drj@drjulienelson.com). —she welcomes feedback.]*

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## Corrections & Clarifications

Dr. Burstein and Ms. Brown found several typos for us.  
Send your corrections to:  
[psychologytimes@drjulienelson.com](mailto:psychologytimes@drjulienelson.com)

## Moody's Revises Outlook from Stable to Positive for State of Louisiana

On February 12, Moody's Investors Service revised Louisiana's outlook from stable to positive, noting that the state has made "significant" progress in restoring financial reserves and generating budgetary surpluses.

Gov. Edwards said, "Since taking office my administration has prioritized fixing the state's dark financial outlook and that work is paying off for the people of Louisiana. Through better fiscal management, including increasing revenues and making necessary budget cuts, we have turned deficits into surpluses and we are positioned to continue our economic recovery from this COVID pandemic. We are better placed to bounce back from our current challenges because of our fiscally responsible approach to budgeting."

According to Moody's analysis: "Louisiana's positive outlook reflects the significant progress the state has made restoring its financial reserves and liquidity in recent years by aligning revenue and spending in a postenergy boom era, rebuilding borrowable funds and generating budgetary surpluses in consecutive years. We expect that the state, through careful fiscal management and with the help of federal stimulus aid, will be able to sustain its progress despite the impacts of the coronavirus."

## Third Round of Payroll Protection Program Open to Small Business Owners

There is a new round of the Payroll Protection Program (PPP). A 14-day period, beginning February 24, was ordered by the Biden administration, during which only businesses with fewer than 20 employees can apply for a PPP loan.

Round 3 funding of \$284 billion expands on the original PPP goals of providing loans to businesses for payroll and other costs to help those businesses remain viable and allow their workers to pay their bills.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (CAA), signed into law by President Trump on Dec. 27, 2020, includes new funding for the PPP, but expired Aug. 8, 2020.

The PPP originally included \$349 billion in funding. Those funds were used within two weeks, resulting in another round of funding totaling \$320 billion. After Round 2 loans ended in August, there has been no additional funding until now.

## LSBEP Pushes Their Legislation Despite Opposition, continued

the board the authority to conduct and sell continuing education.

According to a draft copy of the new proposed law psychologists would be required to seek the board's approval for any assistant who is helping the psychologist provide services to patients or clients. This would include any clinical, family, or organizational setting, including government. The yearly fee is up to \$75 per assistant.

Included is the requirement that the assistant initiate a criminal background report from the Louisiana Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information.

The board would approve the assistant's training, qualifications, and services to be provided. The board can deny or revoke the registration of the assistant at any time that it receives reliable information that the assistant is causing harm to clients or patients, or likely to, or is unethical or unprofessional.

The new law also gives the board authority to collect an array of new fees. These include up to \$250 for preapproval of continuing education courses. Also they can charge up to \$200 for authorization to conduct tele-supervision, to authorize an inactive status or renewal, or to authorize emeritus status and renewal. The board appears to be intending to provide continuing professional development with a charge of up to \$200 per continuing unit.

According to the draft of proposed legislation, the board will be creating new committees that may operate with full authority of the board for complaints procedures and disciplinary

actions, to perform tasks such as creating subpoenas and summary suspension authority.

The board will add the ability to restrict a license along with the current law for suspension are revoking. Also added in new language, the board is to communicate violations to the District Attorney.

Under scope of practice the board is adding language for:

- psychological test development;
- provision of direct services to individuals or groups for the purpose of enhancing individual and organizational effectiveness;
- using psychological principles, methods and procedures to assess and evaluate individuals for the purpose of rendering an expert opinion or diagnosis in a legal setting; and
- supervision and consultation related to any of the services described in the current law.

The new language affirms that psychological services may be rendered to persons throughout their life time including families, groups, institutions, organizations, and the public. The board is also creating new language that removes transparency having to do with investigations. "All proceedings in connection with any investigation by the board shall be conducted in closed session, and are exempt from the provisions of the Public Meetings Law [...]"



## Gov. Edwards Expands Vaccine Eligibility, continued

pharmacies, hospitals and other health care providers. So far 812,962 total vaccine doses have been administered in Louisiana, with 271,216 Louisianans receiving both doses.

As dose allocations of the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines from the federal government have increased week over week through direct allocations to the states and to a federal pharmacy program Louisiana opted in to, the Governor decided to expand the population that is eligible for the vaccine.

"Teachers, school support staff and daycare employees have played a critical role throughout this pandemic and their safety is important to our continued recovery. We also know that those people with certain underlying health issues are more likely to have severe or devastating outcomes from COVID, which is why we are expanding vaccine access to people ages 55 to 64 with certain health conditions as outlined by the CDC," Gov. Edwards said.

"Thanks to continued increases in the availability of vaccine doses to the state of Louisiana from our federal partners, I am confident that now is the right time to continue to expand eligibility. People will still have to be patient and the vaccine doses are still limited, but this is a positive step forward for our state. It is my hope that soon even more people will be able to get these safe and effective vaccines in Louisiana."

The Louisiana Dept. of Health has published the list of participating providers on its website: [covidvaccine.la.gov](https://covidvaccine.la.gov). In addition, residents can call 211 to find a vaccine provider near them.

Priority Group 1-A: Ongoing (around 249,000 eligible people)

Health care workers at Tier 1 and Tier 2 hospitals

Staff and residents of nursing homes and long-term care facilities

First responders to serve as vaccinators (Emergency Medical Services, fire personnel, law enforcement)

Priority Group 1-B, Tier One: As of Monday, February 22, 2021 (around 1,391,000 eligible people)

Dialysis providers and patients

Ambulatory and outpatient providers and staff

Behavioral health providers and staff

Urgent care clinic providers and staff

Community care providers and staff

Dental providers and staff

Nonemergency Medical

Transportation staff

Professional home care providers (including hospice workers) and home care recipients (including older and younger people with disabilities over the age of 16 who receive community or home-based care, as well as clients of home health agencies)

American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters and Support Service Providers (SSPs) working in community and clinic-based settings, and clients who are both deaf and blind

Health-related support personnel (lab staff, mortuary staff who have contact with corpses, pharmacy staff)

Schools of allied health students, residents and staff

Law enforcement and other first responders

Persons 65 years old and older

Louisiana Unified Command Group

State and local essential COVID emergency response personnel

Some elections staff ahead of March and April elections

Teachers and any other support staff working onsite in K-12 or daycare

Individuals aged 55-64 with at least one of the conditions listed by the CDC as placing them at an "increased risk" --

These include:

Cancer  
Chronic kidney disease  
COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)  
Down Syndrome  
Heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease or cardiomyopathies  
Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from solid organ transplant  
Obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 30kg/m<sup>2</sup> or higher but < 40kg/m<sup>2</sup>)  
Severe obesity (BMIC >40kg/m<sup>2</sup>)  
Pregnancy  
Sickle Cell Disease  
Smoking  
Type 2 diabetes mellitus  
All pregnant persons, regardless of age.



## Judge Barbier Denies Hesson \$2255 Appeal, continued

Mr. William Kent, Federal Criminal Appeal Lawyer from Florida, who has argued before the US Supreme Court, filed a response on behalf of Dr. Rodney Hesson, and his mother, Gertrude Parker, in the US District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, on February 16.

Kent said that Hesson's conduct could not be considered criminal because he made a "reasonable interpretation" of Medicare statutes. Kent demonstrated that charts produced by the government at the trial were false and highly misleading to the jury but were not challenged by the defense attorneys.

Judge Barbier found that the arguments did not matter, writing, "... the Court is convinced that no jury would find Defendant's conduct complied with any reasonable interpretation of the statute. Further, Defendant merely speculates that there is a qualified expert that would have testified to the effect that his conduct was a reasonable interpretation of Medicare. Given the egregious conduct of Defendant, the Court has serious doubts as to whether such a qualified expert exists."

In the appeal, Kent argued that the two main charts used by the government were inaccurate, but the defendants' attorneys did not question or contradict these errors. "The Government throughout the trial implied that billing of units under Medicare code 96101 equated to face-to-face hours spent by the psychologist with the patient. This was false," argued Kent.

Hesson, who is from Mississippi, and his mother, Ms. Parker, owned and operated two regional companies, and marketed to nursing homes in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida.

A respected member of the Louisiana psychology community and past member of the state psychology board, Dr. Beverly Stubblefield, had worked at the firm and was pulled into the legal problems. Unable to mount a defense she entered a plea agreement of guilty. Dr. John Teal, a Louisiana medical psychologist, was also charged and pleaded guilty.

In this latest response, Mr. Kent writes: "The law is well settled in this and other circuits, that in a criminal fraud case based on legally false statements, such as that charged in this indictment, the Government has the burden of proving beyond a reasonable doubt that the *defendant's interpretation* of the governing regulation was not simply wrong, but entirely *unreasonable*."

It was incumbent on the defense, wrote Kent, to brief the Court on the Government's burden to show that Hesson was unreasonable in his interpretation. "That was not done. Instead, the Government closed the case with no argument to the jury that Dr. Hesson's and Parker's interpretations of the governing regulations were *unreasonable*, simply that they were wrong.

"The Government throughout the trial implied that billing of units under Medicare code 96101 equated to face-to-face hours spent by the psychologist with the patient. This was false." The the chart's numbers and totals "... are meaningless and the implications that they conveyed to the jury significantly prejudiced Hesson and Parker when their attorneys failed to object to the chart or bring out its failings on cross-examination."

# Gov. Announces Appointments to Various Boards & Commissions

On February 26, Gov. Edwards announced his appointments to several Louisiana boards and commissions.

**Patient's Compensation Fund Oversight Board:** Robert R. Newsome M.D. of LaPlace has been appointed to the Patient's Compensation Fund Oversight Board. Newsome is a radiologist at the Baton Rouge Radiology Group. Newsome will represent the class of health care providers contributing the greatest percentage of the fund's aggregate surcharges.

The Patient's Compensation Fund is an off-budget unit of the state which is 100 percent self-funded and not pooled in the general fund. The Fund was created in 1975 to provide an affordable and guaranteed medical malpractice coverage system for the private healthcare providers in the state. It basically plays the role of an "excess insurer" of private healthcare providers. The law allows a provider to have financial responsibility for the first \$100,000 of exposure per claim whether through insurance or security deposit and enroll in the Fund for the excess coverage and be under an umbrella of the cap on damages. The vast majority of health care providers are enrolled in the Patient's Compensation Fund and pay surcharges for the coverage and protection provided. The Patient's Compensation Fund provides protection for the healthcare system, keeping costs down, and providing a guaranteed pool of funds to pay those citizens injured from medical malpractice of private health care providers.

On February 12, Gov. Edwards announced his appointments. He announced that Ada M. Bell, Conrad C. Carriere Sr., Jason E. Cobb, Charles R. "Chuck" Henderson Jr. of Lake Charles, Sandra Thompson Herman, Gina C. Jones of Sulphur, and Kirk P. LaCour have been appointed to the Louisiana Workforce Investment Council. The Council serves to develop a strategic plan to coordinate and integrate a workforce development delivery system to assure efficiency and cooperation between public and private entities by advising the governor on the needs of Louisiana's employers and its workforce.

**Governor's Advisory Council on Disability Affairs:** James E. Mitchell Ph.D. of Baton Rouge has been appointed to the Governor's Advisory Council on Disability Affairs. Mitchell is the IT statewide program officer for the State of Louisiana Division of Administration and will serve at-large. Mark C. Raymond Jr. of New Orleans has also been appointed. Raymond is the executive director of the Split Second Foundation and will serve at-large.

The Governor's Advisory Council on Disability Affairs was established by the Governor's Office to adequately educate, address and resolve issues relative to the disability community. The mission of the office is to promote, encourage and support citizens with disabilities so that they may have an equal opportunity to actively participate in all aspects of life.

On February 5, Gov. Edwards announced his appointment to the Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). Stephen C. Dwight of Lake Charles has been appointed to the Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). Dwight is the district attorney

for the 14th Judicial District and will serve as a district attorney.

The Council is responsible for developing and evaluating the curriculum of mandatory basic training courses for municipal officers, deputy sheriffs, state police, wildlife agents and all other persons commissioned as peace officers, defined by state law. Additionally, POST prescribes firearms training standards for individuals who hold law enforcement positions at the state, parish and municipal levels of government.

**Louisiana Health Works Commission:** Meg Bankston of Baton Rouge has been appointed to the Louisiana Health Works Commission. Bankston is the governor's deputy director of legislative affairs and will represent the Office of the Governor.

The purpose of the Louisiana Health Works Commission is to serve as a collaborative working group to integrate and coordinate resources relative to health care workforce development within various state departments and key organizations.

## Gov. Seeking Public Input for Reducing Greenhouse Gas

On Feb. 25 Gov. John Bel Edwards' Climate Initiatives Task Force published its "action proposal template" to solicit ideas from the public on ways Louisiana can reduce greenhouse gas emissions statewide. All members of the public are invited to submit action ideas that apply to individual emissions sources, entire segments of the economy, or to cross-cutting or society-wide aspects of mitigating the greenhouse gas emissions contributing to climate change.

Action ideas submitted by experts and stakeholders affiliated with the Climate Initiatives Task Force, Sector Committees, Advisory Groups, or members of the public will be reviewed and evaluated for possible inclusion in the State's Final Climate Report due in February 2022. The solicitation window will be open from February 24 through April 30, 2021.

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services for high school students, college students and adults of all ages.

## Legislature to Convene April 12 Governor's \$36.6B Budget Favorable to Education

The 2021 legislative session will convene on Monday, April 12 and end no later than June 10. Bills are currently being pre-filed.

Governor Edwards is recommending a \$36.6 billion budget with extra money being allocated to public schools and higher education.

According to the *Advocate*, colleges would get an increase of \$80 million which includes pay raises of approximately 4% for faculty members.

The Associated Press reported that Higher Education Commissioner Kim Hunter Reed said the move "sends a clear message: education is critical to our success and now is the time to make strategic investments in our people." She said this would be the first statewide faculty pay raise in 13 years.

The increases will fund health and retirement cost and faculty salary increases. There will be financial aid for students and more money for TOPS programs, according to reports.

Department of Corrections is set to receive \$35.6 million to fund raises, to slow turnover of prison guards and probation personnel.

The budget includes \$40 million to provide for school teacher raises of \$400 per year. Teacher aides, bus drivers, cafeteria workers and others are said to be increased by \$200 per year.

Louisiana's Medicaid program accounts for 40% of the operating budget or \$16 billion.

According to the associated press the budget proposal is more positive than expected. "Louisiana's tax collections are rebounding, though not enough to match pre-pandemic levels."

## Rep. Miller's HB 27 Removes Complaint Notice Currently Required on Boards Websites

HB 27, authored by Gregory Miller, removes provisions that require Title 37 licensing boards and commissions to give notice that complaints about actions or procedures of the board or commission may be submitted to the board or commission or to the House and Senate governmental affairs committees and that require quarterly reports regarding those types of complaints to specified legislative committees.

Present law requires a board or commission authorized to issue a license, permit, or certificate pursuant to present law provisions in Title 37 of the La. Revised Statutes of 1950 to notify licensees and applicants for licenses that complaints about actions or procedures of the board or commission may be submitted to the board or commission or to the House and Senate governmental affairs committees.

The present law further requires each such board or commission to submit to the House and Senate governmental affairs committees and to the appropriate legislative oversight committees quarterly reports containing specified information regarding complaints.

The present law additionally requires legislative committees, members, and employees having access to confidential, personally identifiable, or otherwise sensitive information in those reports to protect the information from unauthorized use and disclosure.

Rep. Miller's proposed law repeals present law effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

## Rep. Harris Proposes Liability for Restricting Online Content or Accounts

HB 14 by Rep. Lance Harris sets forth civil liability of interactive computer services that restrict a user's account or content based on race, gender, political ideology, or religious beliefs.

"Any owner, operator, or provider of an interactive computer service shall not restrict, either directly, manually, or through the use of an algorithm, a user's account or content based on race, gender, political ideology, or religious beliefs."

The proposed law states that the interactive computer service shall be liable to a user whose account or content was restricted and a user who reasonably would have received or viewed another user's content but for the restriction.

The new law would provide for a prescription of two years from when the violation was discovered or reasonably should have been discovered, provides for a jury trial, and provides for damages including actual damages, statutory

damages of \$50,000 per violation, and court costs, fees, and reasonable attorney fees.

The proposed law is only applicable to interactive computer services with more than 10,000,000 users, and authorizes the attorney general to investigate alleged violations.

Rep. Harris includes the following definitions:

"Religious beliefs" include opinions on religion, faith, spirituality, faith-based practices, and religious texts.

"Political ideology" includes a set of opinions related to politics, economics, government, social movements, and ethics.

"Restrict" includes suspending or canceling a user's account, deleting a user's content, or limiting or partially limiting access to a user's account or content regardless of whether the limitation is readily apparent to the user.

## The Fisher Project Suicide Prevention Program

The Mental Health Association for Greater Baton Rouge is operating a COVID-19 Emergency Response for Suicide Prevention Project in Louisiana funded by SAMHSA. In partnership with the Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Behavioral Health and other agencies, we are offering comprehensive suicide follow-up and recovery support services. Mental health concerns have increased considerably during the COVID-19 pandemic. Louisiana has been affected by high rates of infection and deaths, and many of our communities are more vulnerable to trauma and increased risk for mental health problems. The services we provide are culturally affirming and trauma-informed. We invite you to utilize our services to better serve your patients. There is no cost to participate.

- Clients enrolled will receive 6 months of care:
- Screening for suicide risk at every appointment
    - Safety planning and means restriction
    - Discharge planning
  - Warm hand off(s) to treatment or community organizations

Services are available via telephone and video telehealth.

To Enroll or Refer a Patient

Call the Fisher Project 225.960.6800  
or email [sblauvelt@mhagbr.com](mailto:sblauvelt@mhagbr.com)

Eligible participants are: Age 25 and over and · Have an increased risk for suicide in past 3 months

All services are provided by a certified peer specialist and supervised by a licensed clinical psychologist.

## State & National News

### Rep. Freeman Proposes Changes in Restraining Orders in Abuse Cases

HB 55 by Rep. Aimee Freeman would authorize use of a written affirmation to support a petition for an ex parte temporary restraining order in domestic abuse cases.

Present law provides that a petition requesting the issuance of an ex parte temporary restraining order pursuant to the Domestic Abuse Assistance Act shall contain an affidavit signed by each petitioner that the facts and circumstances contained in the petition are true and correct to the best knowledge, information, and belief of the petitioner.

Present law further provides that any false statement under oath contained in the affidavit shall constitute perjury and shall be punishable by a fine of not more than \$1000 or by imprisonment with or without hard labor for not more than five years, or both.

The proposed law provides that the petition shall contain a written affirmation, rather than an affidavit, signed by the petitioner.

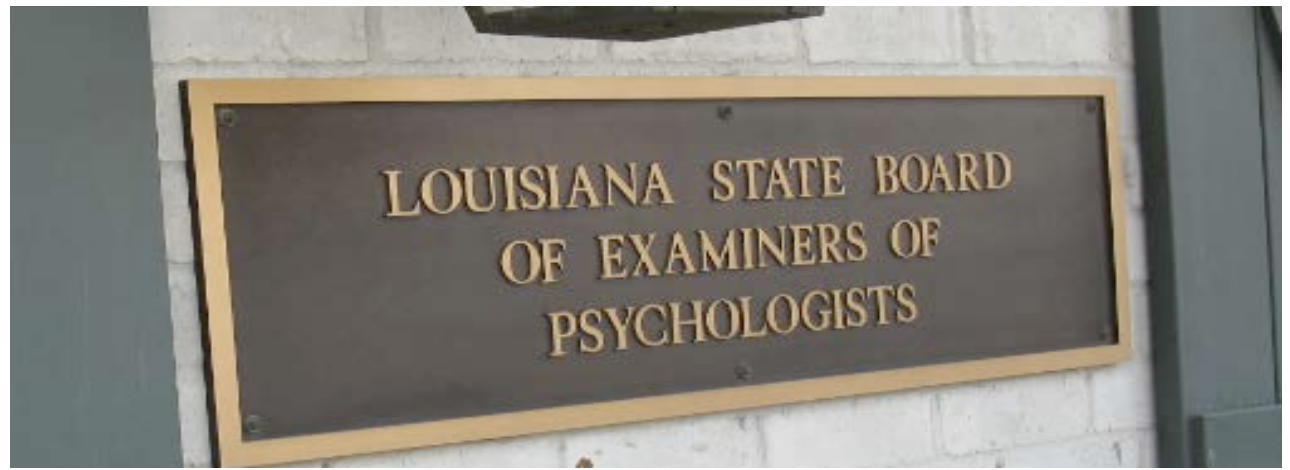
Also, the proposed law further explicitly provides the same for a complainant seeking protection from domestic abuse, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault.

Present law provides that a temporary restraining order shall be granted without notice when:

(1) It clearly appears from specific facts shown by a verified petition or by supporting affidavit that immediate and irreparable injury, loss, or damage will result to the applicant before the adverse party or his attorney can be heard in opposition.

(2) The applicant's attorney certifies to the court in writing the efforts which have been made to give the notice or the reasons supporting his claim that notice should not be required.

Representative Freeman's proposed law retains the present law and provides that a temporary restraining order shall also be granted when an affirmation as provided in proposed law shows the specific facts required by present law.



## *From the Minutes*

### Selected Items from December 2020 Minutes of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (LSBEP)

#### Finance Committee –

- a. The Board reviewed and discussed their current financial position based on the Financial Statements prepared by Valeria Dominique, CPA for September 2020 and October 2020. Dr. Gormanous moved to accept the Financial Statements for September 2020 and October 2020. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (6) Henke, Gormanous, Gibson, Moore, McNeely, Harness; Against: (0); Abstained: (0); Absent: (0).
- b. The Board received, reviewed and discussed the Audit Report for FYE June 20, 2020 prepared by Mr. William Mercer, CPA and filed with the Office of the Legislative Auditor. Dr. Gormanous moved to accept and affirm the findings and response, and to further thank Ms. Dominique, Ms. Monic and Dr. Henke for their role in ensuring a smooth audit. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (6) Henke, Gormanous, Gibson, Moore, McNeely, Harness; Against: (0); Abstained: (0); Absent: (0).

Legislative Oversight Committee – Dr. Gormanous reported that the Ad Hoc Legislative Collaborative Committee (ALCC) met on December 4, 2020 and had a very productive meeting due to the clear agenda of discussion topics outlined by LPA. Dr. Gormanous reported that the next meeting date for the ALCC was scheduled for January 8, 2021. Mr. McNeely reported that the deadline to prefile was March 31, 2021. The Board discussed this timeline. Dr. Gormanous moved that the Board request that the ALCC finalize its draft recommendations for consideration at the Long Range Planning Meeting scheduled for January 28-29, 2021. The Board discussed the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (6) Henke, Gormanous, Gibson, Moore, McNeely, Harness; Against: (0); Abstained: (0); Absent: (0)

Public and Professional Outreach Committee – Dr. Henke reported that the 3rd Edition, December 2020 Newsletter was published and distributed on December 10, 2020. Dr. Henke requested Board Members submit articles in time to publish another newsletter prior to the LRP Meeting in January. Dr. Moore reported that she was working on a FAQ page. Dr. Gibson agreed to complete the second part of her series on the complaint adjudication process and Dr. Gormanous reported he would work on interviewing Dr. Harness for a “Meet the Board” segment.

#### Liaison to Professional Organizations

- a. The Board reviewed the draft presentation of the LSSP Committee. Dr. Gormanous moved to approve the presentation to be at the LSPA Annual Conference on January 29, 2020 at 9:00a.m.
- b. Dr. Henke reported she would participate in ASPPB’s Meeting of Board/College Chairs on January 14, 2021.
- c. Ms. Monic reported that the ASPPB Midyear Meeting is scheduled for April 2021 to be held in New Orleans

#### **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

*2020-21 Budget Review - Public Protection and Safety, Time sensitive, required to ensure financial solvency -*  
The board reviewed the budget line by line, considered and once again thoroughly discussed the final draft of the 2020-21 Budget. Following discussion and further consideration of the comments received at the November 20, 2020 meeting the Board approved a 2020-21 Budget adopted by formal resolution as follows:  
The resolution having been submitted to a vote of the majority of the LSBEP, the vote thereon was as follows: 5 – Yeas - Amy Henke, Gina Gibson, Gregory Gormanous, Michelle Moore, Shannae Harness; 1 – Nays - Chance McNeely

#### Rulemaking Assignments and Timelines -

The Board discussed rulemaking initiatives. In consideration of the Budget review, Mr. McNeely moved in favor of proceeding immediately with rulemaking to propose amendments to increase the annual licensing renewal fees for licensed psychologists; license reinstatement fee; paper processing fee for paper renewals; and applications for temporary practice. Further to promulgate application fees for psychologists seeking approval to provide supervision via electronic platform (telepsychology). The Board discussed the motion and affirmed the following changes: [...] The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: In favor: (6) Henke, Gormanous, Gibson, Moore, McNeely, Harness; Against: (0); Abstained: (0); Absent: (0)

The Board tabled discussion of the additional rulemaking items (Continuing Professional Development, Inactive License Status, Emeritus Status, Summary Suspension Procedures, La. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 49:953.C. - Procedure for an interested person to petition the agency for rulemaking, Telepsychology) for workgroup discussion and consideration at the Long Range Planning meeting on January 28 – 29, 2021.



**SUNSHINE WEEK**  
*Open government is good government.*

**MARCH 14-20, 2021**

## Science & Education

# LSU's Buckner Lab Student Earns APA Dissertation Award

Katherine Walukevich-Dienst, a clinical psychology graduate student in Dr. Julia Buckner's laboratory—the Anxiety and Addictive Behaviors Laboratory & Clinic—has been awarded a 2020 American Psychological Association (APA) Dissertation Research Award, according to LSU.

The title of Ms. Walukevich-Dienst's project is, "Development and psychometric properties of the cannabidiol effect expectancies questionnaire (CBD-EEQ)."

Dr. Julia Buckner, Professor and Director of Clinical Training in the Department of Psychology at Louisiana State University and the Director of the lab, promotes a comprehensive research platform. Her program of research primarily focuses on: (1) delineation of causal and maintaining factors implicated in substance use disorders, especially the role of affect-related vulnerability factors; and (2) development and evaluation of empirically-informed treatment and prevention protocols for substance use disorders, including treatment for co-occurring anxiety-substance use disorders.

Last year, Dr. Buckner was named the G. Alan Marlatt Mid-Career Research Award winner for 2020, announced at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (ABCT) Addictive Behaviors & Anxiety Disorders Special Interest Group.

The awards committee said, "Among the multiple renown and highly-productive researchers who were nominated this year, you were the unanimous choice of the award selection committee. The praised her "pioneering work on the role of anxiety in substance use and related problems as well as her commitment to the development of innovative treatments for addictive behaviors, her research with historically underrepresented groups, her work to disseminate evidence-based practice to Baton Rouge (a high need area), and her outstanding mentorship and commitment to teaching..."

Dr. Buckner has had over 150 publications and has been involved in several NIH grants. She is currently Primary Investigator on a graduate education training grant from the US Department of Health & Human Services' HRSA to integrate clinical graduate students into Our Lady of the Lake Hospital in Baton Rouge to bring evidence-based psychotherapy for substance use disorders, with a particular focus on treatment for opioid misuse.

She has also received awards from organizations such as the American Psychological Association, College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Anxiety Disorders Association of America.

## Stress Solutions

by Susan Andrews, PhD

### Healing the Healers: Stress Among Psychotherapists

Surely, there is no real argument that mental health providers have job stress. This topic has been explored in numerous countries, including Great Britain, India, Spain, and Japan, to name a few. The Japanese Occupational Health department even developed a Brief Job Stress Questionnaire. Unfortunately, it is only available in Japanese.

The British studies by the British Psychological Society (BPS) did a study by survey in 2015. The findings were that 46 percent of psychologists surveyed reported that they experienced a depressed mood and 70 percent said that they found their jobs stressful. Many listed over-work as a primary factor in their burnout.

A study from a state in midwestern USA published by Deutsch, CJ in *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice* (1984) surveyed 264 therapists about the amount and sources of their stress. The therapists completed a questionnaire on background information, their beliefs, and a 36-item stress scale. What they found was that irrational beliefs and attitudes held by mental health providers lie at the center of their reported job stress.

The irrational beliefs uncovered are very interesting and can provide a basis for all psychologists and/or mental health providers to explore their own systems of beliefs. So, to that end, I list a few irrational beliefs for further contemplation.

1. One should operate at peak efficiency and peak competence with all clients and at all times.
2. If a client does not get better or terminates prematurely, it is the therapist's fault for not doing a better job of engaging the client.
3. A good psychotherapist is not likely to get "burnout" because a good therapist is emotionally well-balanced and can manage their own emotions and stress. So, if the therapist becomes "burned out," it must mean that that person is not a good therapist and is not well adjusted after all.
4. It is an embarrassment for a therapist to seek therapy for themselves.

As a mini-self-test, do you agree with any of the above beliefs? And, if you do agree with any of the beliefs, what are you going to do about it? Food for thought.



Dr. Susan Andrews is a Clinical Neuropsychologist, an award-winning writer/author (her book *Stress Solutions for Pregnant Moms*, published in 2013, has been translated into Chinese,) and 2016 Distinguished Psychologist of the Louisiana Psychological Association.



## People



### ***Please Welcome:***

***Cecilia Louise Joslyn,  
named after two of her  
great-grandmothers.***

***She arrived at 1:45AM  
on February 20,  
weighing 7lb 2 oz, 19.5  
inches long.***

***"She's doing great so  
far, and Sam is slowly  
warming to his new  
sister!" Brittany said.***

*(Courtesy photo)*

### ***Dr. Brittany Joslyn and Husband, Dr. Peter Joslyn, Welcome Cecilia Louise Joslyn on February 20***

Dr. Brittany Joslyn and husband, Dr. Peter Joslyn, have welcomed Cecilia Louise Joslyn into their family. Cecilia is named after two of her great-grandmothers. She arrived at 1:45 AM on February 20, weighing 7lb 2 oz, 19.5 inches long.

"She's doing great so far, and Sam is slowly warming to his new sister!," Brittany said.

Dr. Joslyn is a Consulting Psychologist and Executive Coach, with office in New Orleans. She owns Joslyn & Co. and focuses on leadership assessment, development, and coaching, and has a diverse background in HR consulting, counseling psychology, leadership development, and career development. She has served as an executive coach in leadership development programs for Fortune 500 companies.

She is a member of the Louisiana Psychological Association's IO Committee and is on the Leadership Council for the Society of Consulting Psychology, Division 13 of the American Psychological Association.

# Ψ *We Remember* Dr. Tom Hannie



*Dr. Tommy Stigall (L) speaking with Dr. Tom Hannie and Connie Stigall about politics and professional psychology.*

*The year is 2010 and the three are enjoying a meal at Serop's, a Greek and Lebanese restaurant where Dr. Hannie loved to celebrate his Lebanese heritage.*

*Continued from Page 1*

"Very few psychologists have ever had anything close to the impact he had on psychology in our state, and over a very long time period," said colleague Dr. John Fanning.

Dr. Kim VanGeffen said, "Tom was a powerful figure in the history of psychology in Louisiana. We owe a lot to him."

As an LSU psychology undergraduate in the 1960s, Tom helped in the successful effort to pass the original Louisiana licensing law. In 1978, he served as president of the Louisiana Psychological Association and was proud that his year saw the start of the successful drive to remove, from the licensing law, the clause requiring psychologists to diagnose and treat only "...in consultation and collaboration with a physician."

Gregarious and energetic, he engaged in many professional organizations and activities throughout his lengthy career. Tom served on the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists and was Chair in 1982. Along with serving as president of the Louisiana Psychological Association, he also served as the president of the Orleans Psychological Society and as president of the New Orleans Society of Clinical Hypnosis.

Over the years, Tom was a clinical fellow in the Behavior Therapy & Research Society, and a member of many organizations, including the Association for the Advancement of Behavior Therapy, the New Orleans Behavior Therapy Society, the Southeastern Association for Behavior Therapy, and the American Institute of Stress.

He was also a member of the American Psychology-Law Society, the International Association for the Study of Pain, and the Society for a Science of Clinical Psychology.

He was a member of the American Psychological Association, the Southeastern Psychological Association, and the Southwestern Psychological Association. He was also a member of Psi Chi Honorary Society in Psychology.

Before retiring he was licensed/certified in Louisiana and Texas, and held the Diplomat from the American Board of Vocational Experts. He was a certified School Psychologist from the Louisiana State Department of Education.

Dr. Hannie was known for his analytical accuracy and precision. "Tom's advice was always the best," said Dr. Susan Andrews. "He forgot more psychology than most of us ever knew."

Dr. Bill McCown first met Tom Hannie at the 1978 state convention, where Hans Eysenck presented, "While most of us were thunderstruck with Eysenck's legitimate genius, Tom, always interested in professional issues, took the opportunity to grill Eysenck on why the status of British psychologists was 'not equivalent to their IQs,'" said McCown.

"Tom knew his literature well. Eysenck had been responsible for setting up the clinical psychology profession in Britain in 1950. Tom wanted to know why so many years later most very bright British psychologists were getting paid very little and whether we in Louisiana could learn anything from this."

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# Ψ *We Remember*

## *Dr. Tom Hannie*

Dr. Tom Hannie's career path was that of an applied psychological scientist and he developed expertise and excellence in many areas. These included evaluation and treatment of victims of psychological and physical trauma, evaluation and treatment of chronic pain patients, including vocational aspects, and evaluation and intervention of children with school, behavior and emotion problems.

He also worked in pre-employment assessments, vocational evaluations and counseling, disability determination evaluations, labor market surveys, and neuropsychological evaluations.

"I wanted to see some of everything before I went into private practice," Tom told the *Times* in 2010. Coming out of the comprehensive doctoral training program at the University of Georgia with a degree in clinical psychology, a minor in industrial-organizational, a minor in sociology, and a sub-specialty in behavior therapy, Tom began his career by gaining experience in a variety of settings and with a variety of clients.

He explained that he originally worked with executives, with school systems, with preschool children, with alcohol and drug cases, with inpatients, and with outpatient clinical cases. He performed a variety of assessments and also worked as an instructor, trainer, and supervisor in a wide range of settings.

His primary professional position was as a consulting psychologist in private practice, in

Metairie from 1973 to 2005 and in Baton Rouge from 1989 to 2007.

But over time Tom found that he was very well suited to, and took real pleasure in, the work of the forensic psychologist—forensic evaluation and testimony. This role became the "most enjoyable" aspect of his long and distinguished career.

"Every case is like going back to graduate school," Tom said. "You have to be up on the latest research. You have to prepare as if they can bring in the top expert in the nation. It's having to be at the top of what you do," he said. "You're investigating and working the puzzle. The basis of the work is that you don't rely on what you're told—you dig it out for yourself. You have to find the inconsistencies in the data."

During his long career, Tom consulted in over 2000 criminal cases, and several thousand civil/worker's compensation cases. "Nothing will make you learn how to express yourself like forensics," he said. "If you get out of line, you can get hit—hard." He explained, "You learn how to use few words. They'll rip you up if you don't have things in line."

Dr. Hannie consulted to Feliciana Forensic Facility in Jackson where he evaluated clients for competency to stand trial and provided court testimony related to competency. He consulted to the Jefferson Parish Juvenile Detention & Probation division regarding evaluations and

Cont next pg

*Another meal at Serop's to discuss political issues, this time with Dr. Charles Burchell on the right.*



# Ψ *We Remember* Dr. Tom Hannie

*Dr. John Fanning (L)  
and Dr. Susan  
Glanville with Dr.  
Hannie.*

*The three were  
meeting with others to  
help guide  
professional efforts in  
the state.*



program development, interventions, and training of the probation staff.

Tom consulted extensively to assist in the care of disabled individuals to improve their quality of life. He consulted to numerous group homes and rehabilitation services where he combined his efforts with evidenced-based treatment, accurate evaluations, staff training, and treatment planning for clients.

Also during his career, Tom worked in business and industry, particularly in areas that required the interface between clinical and vocational. He was also an instructor at Louisiana State Extension Service at Pineville, Northwestern State University Continuing Education program, and LSU's courses at England Air Force Base, Keesler Air Force Base, and others.

In 2007, Tom retired, and this allowed him more time to enjoy his considerable range of hobbies. He greatly enjoyed professional level gambling, he was a sports car enthusiast, and he loved sports, most especially LSU football. He owned a Mini Cooper, decorated it in purple and gold with the LSU emblems, which he drove and displayed in LSU activities.

Friend and colleague Dr. Gail Gillespie said, "Tom was quite the character. I recall his discussing with me how he used to win at casino poker games, and he once let me take a spin in his sporty sports car! We shall miss him and his larger-than-life personality."

In 2010, Tom explained, "Since retiring, I have returned to my childhood. In my previous life I made my living playing poker," referring to how he supplemented his income as an engineering student, math wiz, and U.S. Army vet, who went to school and worked on the oil rigs.

"If it weren't for the travel required, I'd play more often," he said. Tom was a personal friend with many of the people portrayed in the popular movie *21*, the story about how MIT mathematicians beat the Las Vegas systems. Tom said, "...the most effective system for blackjack was developed by a clinical psychologist!"

"The people I have met through blackjack are some of the brightest, most creative people I know. Most are educated, PhDs in many scientific areas, JDs, MDs. Imagine guys who can walk in a casino, figure out how to make a profit, and do it."

Also during retirement, Tom had more time for volunteer civic activities. He was a member of Baton Rouge Freethinkers and strongly involved with Americans United for Separation of Church and State, a group committed to the protection of First Amendment freedoms.

In 2010, Dr. Hannie moderated a forum about the social, legal, and philosophical issues of same sex marriage, titled: "Same Sex Marriage: Is It a Church-State Issue?" The forum was sponsored by the Louisiana Chapter of Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

In 2011 he was instrumental in opposing a bill that would have created a Ten Commandments monument on the Capitol grounds. Legislators dropped HB 277 after receiving Hannie's detailed letter with legal references. Dr. Hannie pointed out that the Commandments are a religious text and the posting would be "constitutionally suspect and an affront to religious liberty and diversity in Louisiana."

In 2013, his Letter to the Editor was published in the Baton Rouge Advocate, where he pointed to

# Ψ *We Remember*

## *Dr. Tom Hannie*

differences between science and religion. "Science is science, religion is religion," he wrote.

"Again, many have missed the point. We must teach science to our children. Science includes building theories to explain the data. In science class, different theories should be taught based on the evidence for each." And, "If a school is private and thus may teach religion, teaching creationism and intelligent design is acceptable. Hopefully science and religion are not confused there. We are concerned about our public schools, which are prohibited from teaching religion by our Constitution."

"Evolution is within science. Creationism and intelligent design are within religion."

"Maybe more important than teaching our children biology is teaching them the difference between science and religion, as it is obvious that too many of our citizens haven't learned the difference."

He expressed ongoing support for the freedom of information efforts of the *Times*. He often helped report on and analyze news, including secretly taping a government meeting. In 2015, he won the *The Psychology Times'* Sunshine Meets Psychology Contest with Thomas Jefferson's quote, "*Where the press is free and every man able to read, all is safe.*"

He had no trouble asserting his views and asking for explanations. In 2014, Dr. Hannie asked the board members

to reconcile apparent problems due to sections of the law contradicted their public statement. In 2017, he asked "... if the attorneys were committing malpractice by not recusing themselves and if y'all have looked at that?"

Thomas Joseph Hannie Jr., PhD was a brilliant, truth-loving and wise colleague to those in the psychology community. For many he was a constant source of advice, understanding, and insight.

He understood what it meant to be a science-based, applied psychologist and he embraced everything he did in the profession with a sense of excellence.

A natural and skillful leader, Tom had a pivotal role in professional changes and his leadership was essential in the history of Louisiana psychology.

Tom was also a cheerful, fascinating colleague. His enjoyment of life was contagious and he willingly shared his enthusiasm with his friends and colleagues. He had a generous heart and a tolerant spirit.

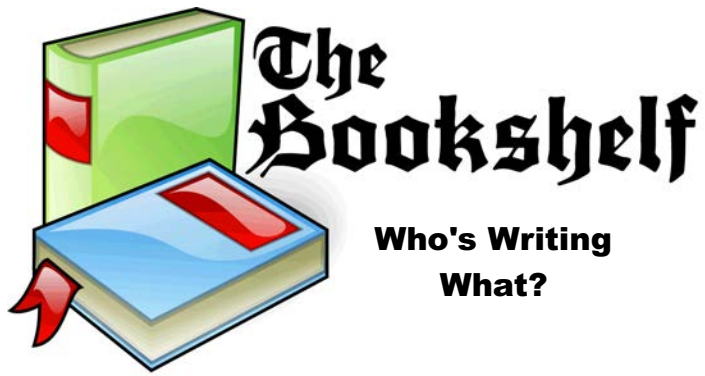
His passing leaves a great void in the community.

Dr. Tom Hannie is survived by his loving wife, Rosemary Parkel Hannie, his two sons Mark and Trey Hannie, and his granddaughter, Ella Caroline Hannie.

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*Dr. Hannie loved sports, and most especially loved LSU football. Here he showed off his Mini Cooper that he decorated in purple and gold with LSU emblems, and that he drove in LSU celebrations.*





## *My Journey to Prison* *A Story of Failure, Struggle, Discipline, and Gratitude*

**John A. Teal**

Caught up in the DOJ net for Medicare fraud, Dr. John Teal, previously licensed as a psychologist in Mississippi and a medical psychologist in Louisiana, shares his journey, challenges, and spiritual strengthening in *My Journey to Prison: A Story of Failure, Struggle, Discipline, and Gratitude*.

The book is about his experiences in prison—his observations about relationships between the inmates and his reflections on his life and faith. Teal's writing has been said to be from the heart and him to be a genuinely caring, humble man. The book includes his journey of faith and a time where his own spiritual discipline brought him to the other side of a traumatic, life changing experience.

In his introduction, Dr. Teal describes how he was hit broadside with the indictment.

"Suddenly I heard the buzz of my phone," he writes. "As I looked down and saw this name on my phone, it occurred to me that he and I had not communicated, other than occasional casual texting, for quite some time. I felt a tingle of anxiety to see the attorney for Company X calling me without having texted first, but I tried to suppress my concerns as I answered the call.

"Hey Mr. Lester," I said.

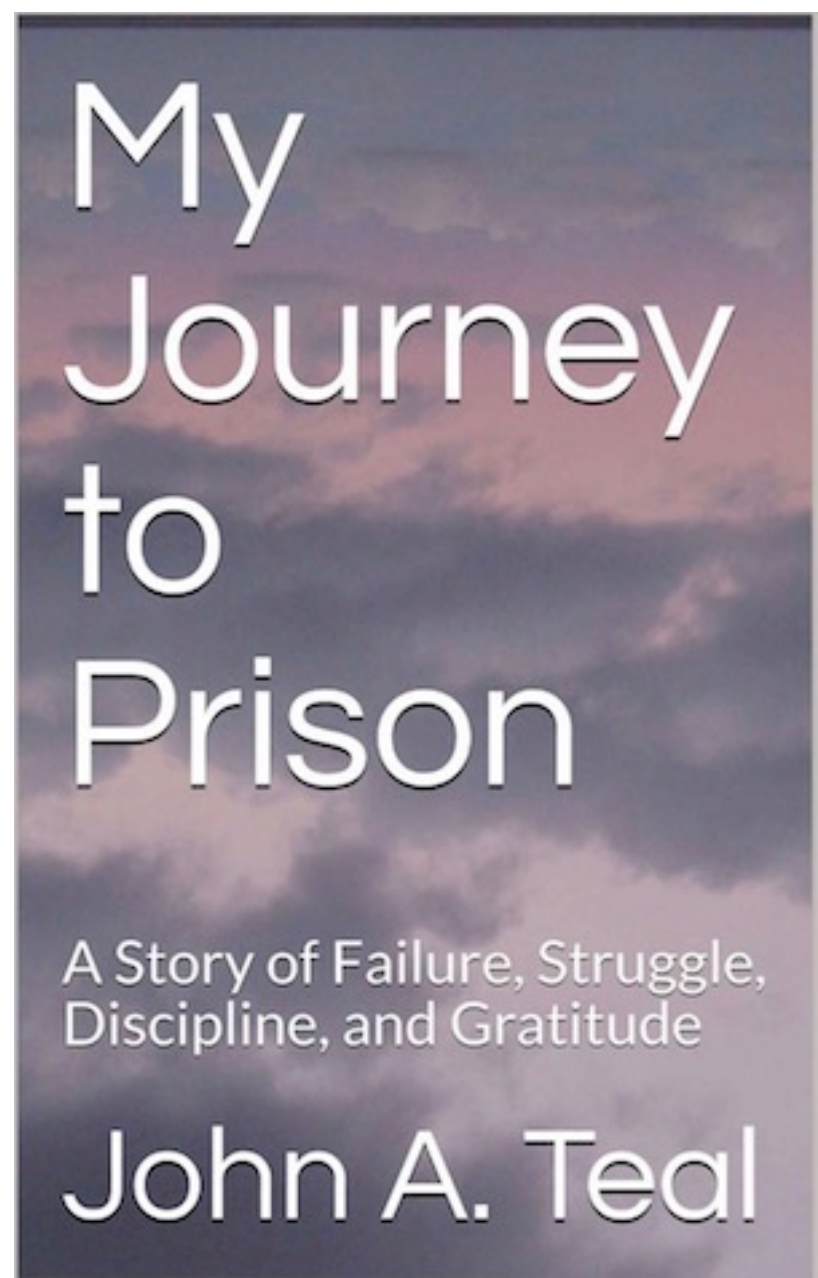
"Hey John. This is Peter Lester" [...] "I'm calling to let you know that you have been indicted."

Dr. Teal writes about how he experienced a deep wave of anxiety and dread. He goes on to explain that he knew nothing of the accounting had company X but begins to see how his own ignorance may have come to be his most important problem.

In a fascinating description of his interactions with DOJ prosecutors, he lets us know how it feels to be targeted. Teal agrees to meet with the federal prosecutor who is willing to show him and his attorney the evidence against Teal.

"On December 16, 2015, an in person meeting at the federal building in New Orleans was scheduled for Mr. Palmer and I. Mr. Simpson [an attorney for the defense] was also present, and I did not say a word. There were several other serious looking FBI agents sitting around the conference table as well, but they rarely spoke either. On the table, there were tall stacks of paper and several ring binder notebooks with 'TEAL' emblazoned in bold on the front and along the side of them.

"Mr. Palmer laid out the case against me. He covered lots of material in that meeting. Most of it made sense to me. Some of it did not. The overriding point was that while I worked for Company X, I over-billed for services that were provided. 'You were famous!' he said, referring to this overbilling. There were other points, but the main one was over billing and the



subsequent inappropriately high amount of money that was reimbursed as a result. Mr. Palmer's presentation was abrasive and aggressive. He pointed his finger directly at me and repeatedly stated 'Fraud! Fraud! Fraud!' and he continued, 'If you go to trial you will be found guilty of fraud, and you will go to prison!'

"As I listened to Mr. Palmer, I felt defensive, but I found a strange refuge in not being expected to speak. His strategy was clearly to scare the living shit out of me, and to assure me that I had no chance at all of winning the case in court."

Dr. Teal continues to explain the inner turmoil and confusion he experienced in being indicted and prosecuted, and the difficult decisions he had to make to survive emotionally.

According to the publisher's page: "John A. Teal grew up in Jackson, Mississippi. This birthplace was formative for him in that it was a central hub of racial integration in the country. Shortly before he was born, his parents moved to Mississippi from various places northward, with the goal of improving race relations. His father taught Physics at Tougaloo College, a private historically black college, for his entire professional career.

"Because of John's parents' worthy pursuit as well as their cultural backgrounds, he grew up with a mixture of liberal minded social justice and theologically conservative Lutheran Christianity. This interesting mixture served to engender within John a balance between the need for thoughtful consideration and action.

"John is an avid runner and he loves to pick on the acoustic guitar.

"Professionally, John became a clinical psychologist and worked for a few years in a state hospital and private practice."

Dr. Teal's book is available on Amazon.

# A Shrink at the Flicks

## *Two of Us* A Review

by Alvin G. Burstein, PhD

This subtitled French film, available on Amazon Prime, written and directed by Filippo Meneghetti, is a debut effort that packs a jarring punch. Its exploration of a passionate relationship between two women at an age some French would delicately call “certain” shatters any presumption of attenuated sexuality in the elderly, evoking the onlooker’s anxieties about what Freud called the primal scene, the child’s disturbing fantasies about parents’ bedroom activities. The two protagonists, Mado and Nina, don’t just love one another, they urgently, desperately need each other.

The two have had a life-long relationship hidden from the world. We meet them in their seventies when they are struggling to abandon pretense, and move to Rome, leaving Mado’s married children and grandchildren behind, openly to live together.

In a way, the basic plot line is familiar. They are, like Romeo and Juliet, star-crossed lovers. On the verge of this disruptive change, their intense relationship is challenged on multiple levels. Mado is fearful about her offsprings’ reaction, evoking resentment in Nina. Then Mado suffers a stroke, becoming aphasic and partially paralyzed. Their previously private love life becomes invaded by outside

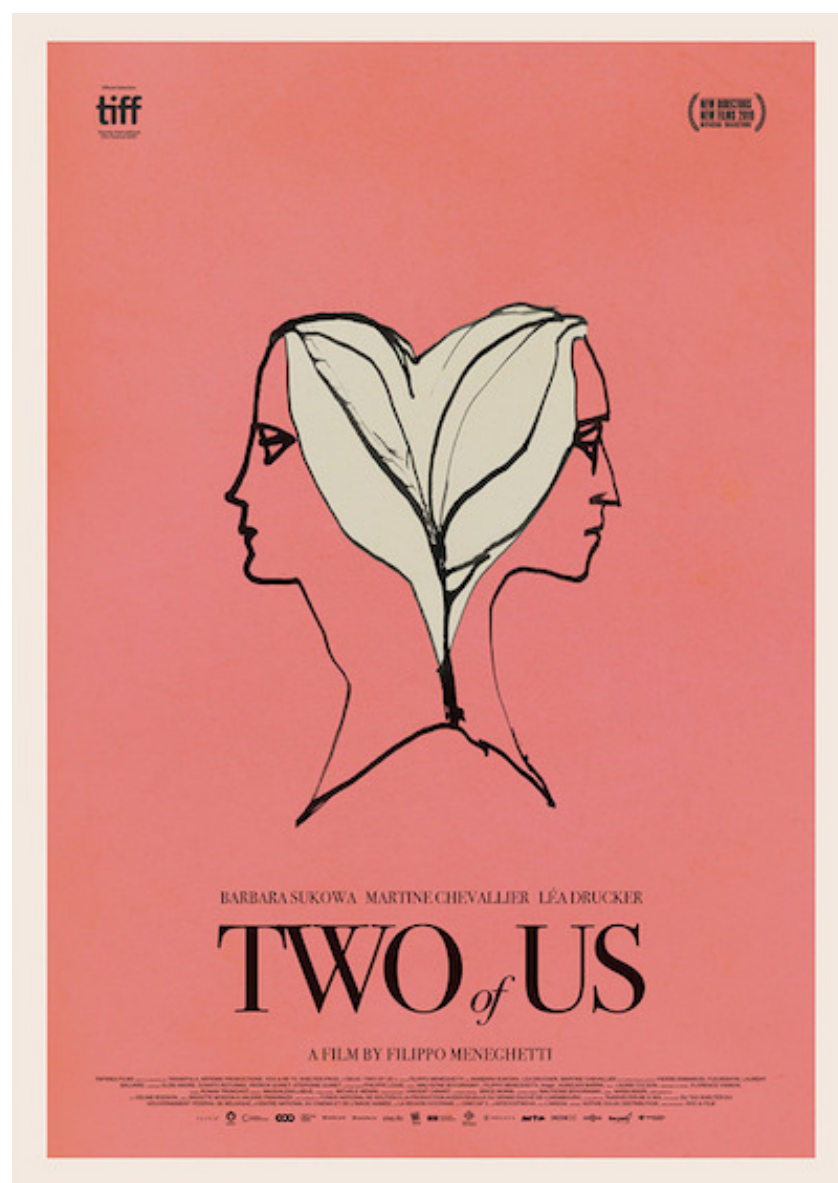
Guest Columnist,  
Dr. Alvin Burstein

Burstein, a psychologist and psychoanalyst, is a professor emeritus at the University of Tennessee and a faculty member of the New Orleans-Birmingham Psychoanalytic Center with numerous scholarly works to his credit. He is also a member of Inklings, a Mandeville critique group that meets weekly to review its members’ imaginative writings. Burstein has published flash fiction and autobiographical pieces in e-zines;



courtesy photo

*The Owl*, his first novelette, is available at Amazon. He is, in addition to being a movie fan, a committed Francophile, unsurprisingly a lover of fine cheese and wine, and an unrepentant cruciverbalist.



actors blind to Mado and Nina’s need for each other: care takers not motivated to care about Mado, but seeing her as a source of income, medical people who work to force Mado into institutional compliance with their drugs and regimens.

The tension generated by our watching the couple’s struggle against these alien elements is intense and unremitting. It would be a spoiler to provide the outcome. To describe it as moving or stirring or powerful are understatements.

However, I can justify a theoretical sidelight. As I watched the film, my thoughts turned not only to Freud’s speculations about the primal scene, but to another, more contemporary psychoanalyst, a Frenchman, Didier Anzieu. Anzieu was impressed with the infant’s need for physical contact, its need to be touched and held, to cling. He made reference to Harry Harlowe’s famous study of infant monkeys raised in an artificial environment in which they had access to a wire model that held a nursing bottle and a terry cloth model to which they could cling. Though the infant monkeys would visit the wire mother for food, they spent more time with the terry cloth mother and turned to it when stressed. Harlowe concluded that the need for contact, for someone to cling to, was an early and urgent need during what Freud famously called the oral stage. Although the study was criticized because the animals raised in these artificial surroundings suffered from later lack of social skills, Anzieu was convinced that the need to be touched and held was early and urgent. And it is clear that Mado and Nina needed to be close, not just socially, but physically, and that their need was all-consuming. I was struck by the aptness of the French title of this film—*Deux*. A single word whose sense is *Both*.

# The Psychology Times

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