

## CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST

- APA Approved Graduate Program and Internship
- Licensed in September 2005 – PSY20439
- Expert Witness in California Superior Court, Alameda, Contra Costa, and Solano Counties
- Qualified Medical Examiner (QME)
- Office location in El Cerrito, CA

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## AREAS OF EXPERTISE

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### FORENSIC ASSESSMENT

- **Child Custody Evaluations:** Conduct Full Child Custody Evaluations and Brief Focused Assessments for parents involved in custody disputes, Testify in Court regarding the evaluation process, results and recommendations.
- **Court Ordered Forensic Evaluations:** Conduct Court Order forensic evaluation including competency evaluations, confidential psychological evaluations for attorneys and Judges, and sex offender risk assessments.
- **Qualified Medical Examiner (QME):** Knowledge of the California Labor Code and AMA Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment, Fifth Edition. Conduct medical-legal evaluations for individuals who experienced a psychiatric injury during the course of employment. Provide a five Axis diagnosis based on evaluation findings. Assess how chronic pain impacts depression and anxiety. Assess adequacy of current treatment. Assess need for further mental health treatment.

### MENTAL HEALTH CASE MANAGEMENT

- **Parent Coordinator (Special Master):** Assist parents with a high-conflict co-parenting relationship with the implementation of current court ordered parenting plans, manage communication, resolve time conflicts and focus on the best interest of the child(ren)
- **Private Recommending Mediation:** Assist parents with developing a parenting plan focuses on the best interest of the child(ren). Provide the parents with recommendations that consider their schedule, location of their respective homes and the child(ren)'s needs.
- **Crisis Intervention:** Assess individuals for acute psychotic symptoms, suicidal ideation, homicidal ideation, and/or substance-induced psychosis. Determine the most appropriate level of care for the client based on assessment findings.
- **Case Management:** Maintain a caseload of up to 140 clients. Provide case management services including, assessment of current mental health needs, and assignment to group therapy if indicated, assess frequency of individual treatment required, and interface with Psychiatrist to help maintain medication compliance, work closely with interdisciplinary treatment team to ensure that there is a comprehensive treatment plan in place.

- **Individual Treatment:** Work with clients individually to address mental health needs. Work with clients to develop treatment goals. Use Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and Solution Focused Therapy to help clients meet their treatment goals. Use Mindfulness techniques to reduce symptoms of depression and anxiety.
- **Interdisciplinary Collaboration:** Work closely with Social Workers, Psychiatrist, Medical Doctors, Nurses, and if indicated, family members and Custody Officers to ensure that clients receive maximum benefit from clinical interventions.
- **Group Treatment:** Facilitated mental health groups for mentally ill clients ranging from clients with acute mental illness to clients who have mental illness that are in remission. Developed and co-led a six-part series on parenting and communication. Developed and led a six-week parenting class for mothers that were transitioning from a residential drug treatment program and in the process of reunifying with their children. Led the following groups in a locked facility: Parenting from Prison, Anger Management, Social Justice and Creative Writing, Managing Depression through Mindfulness, and Relapse Prevention.
- **Testing and Assessment:** Conduct Psychological Assessment for both Axis I and Axis II disorders, Conduct Educational Assessments, Use brief self-report inventories to assess treatment progress, conduct risk assessments for violence or sexual violence.
- **Treatment Planning:** Work with clients, interdisciplinary treatment team and, if indicated, family members to develop a treatment plan that may include individual treatment, group treatment, family therapy and/or medication management. Help clients identify and overcome barriers to treatment.

#### COORDINATOR/SUPERVISOR

- **Clinical Supervisor:** Supervised unlicensed clinicians providing clinical treatment to mandated sex offenders, individuals transitioning from prison into the community and adolescents in a community and school based setting. Reviewed ethical boundaries, appropriate clinical interventions, transference and counter transference issues, and reviewed documentation and progress notes for clinical sessions; provided oversight for EPSDT documentation and billing.
- **Coordinator:** Managed mental health referrals for a team of eight clinicians. Assess the urgency of referral, assigned 10 to 25 mental health referral per day, logged incoming referrals, tracked the progress of the referral from submission to mental health department to completion of the clinical contact, and assess clients' need based on information listed in the referral.
- **Trainings:** Provided clinical trainings to unlicensed clinicians working with adolescents, rapport building in the therapeutic relationships and depression, parenting education classes for prospective Foster Parents.

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#### EMPLOYMENT

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Private Practice - Three Bridges Psychology and Mediation, Inc.

10/2005 – Present

#### Practice Description

Provide a wide variety of Family Court related psychological services. Conduct a number of forensic evaluations for the Courts. Provide individual therapy for adolescents and adults. Conduct medical-legal evaluations as a Qualified Medical Examiner.

*Responsibilities:*

- Child Custody Evaluations – with a specialty in cultural issues, move-away cases, including international move-away, allegations of sexual abuse and substance abuse issues. I am on the panel to conduct Child Custody Cases in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco and Solano Counties
- Private Recommending Mediation – help parents develop a shared parenting time schedule that is in the best interest of the child(ren)
- Parenting Coordination – assist parents in a high conflict relationship maintain their court order and resolve custody related issues that develop over time
- Co-Parenting Therapy – Assist parents with improving their communication and decrease the tension in their relationship to allow them to co-parenting effectively
- Supervision – Provided supervision for unlicensed individual who have completed their doctoral training
- Juvenile Court Evaluations – With an emphasis on diagnosing substance abuse and identifying family of origin and social factors impacting the minor

California Superior Courts, Alameda County Family Court Services – Hayward, CA

9/2013 – 5/2016

Child Custody Recommending Counselor

Agency Description

Alameda County Family Court Services provides mandated mediation services for parents contesting custody in the Alameda Family Courts. Mediation sessions are held day of court or scheduled prior to the parents' Court date. All Child Custody Recommending Counselors prepare reports for the Court that provide information about the parents, children and if deemed necessary collateral contacts. The reports also include the requests of the parents and offers recommendation for custody and visitation for the Court to consider.

*Responsibilities of Child Custody Recommending Counselor:*

- Provide mediation services for clients who file in the Alameda County Family Court
- Provide Day-of-Court services for parents prior to a domestic violence hearing after a temporary restraining order has been granted
- Review available records provided to the Court
- Contact related professionals such as therapist, teachers, and childcare providers if necessary
- Testify in Court if requested

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation- San Quentin Prison San Quentin, CA 8/2010 – 9/2013

Referral Coordinator (8/2010 to 2/2012), Primary Clinician for Condemned Inmates (2/2012 – Present)

Agency Description

The California Department Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) California State Prison –San Quentin (SQ) is located in Marin County, CA. This institution houses inmates of various security levels. Within this population there are individuals that have been diagnosed with one or more Axis I and/or Axis II disorders. CDCR created three levels of care for those individuals. Correctional Clinical Case Manage System (CCCMS), Enhanced Outpatient Program (EOP) and care within the Department of Mental Health.

*Responsibilities Primary Clinician:*

- Provide case management services for caseload of 35 clients on condemned row

- Develop treatment plan for all clients on caseload
- Develop behavioral plans for clients with severe behavioral problems
- Provide individual treatment for clients based on their therapeutic need
- Assign clients' group therapy as needed
- Conduct weekly groups for clients' housed on condemned row
- Work with interdisciplinary treatment team including Psychiatry, Social Workers, and Medical Staff

*Responsibilities Referral Coordinator:*

- Respond to mental health crisis within the institution
- Assess for suicidal ideation, substance abuse, psychotic symptoms
- Determine the level of care needed for the client while he is housed in the on-site emergency room
- Conduct weekly groups for clients housed on inpatient unit
- Conduct intake interview and assessment of newly committed clients
- Triage mental health referrals
- Oversee follow-up care for clients released from the on-site inpatient mental health facility
- Work with clients' Interdisciplinary Treatment Team (IDTT) to ensure continuity of care
- Use computer-based records to review clients' medical charts
- Use computer-based system to add progress note and document case consultation to clients' medical records
- Educate clients about conflict resolution skills they can use on their living units

Coalinga State Hospital, Coalinga, CA  
Contracting Psychologist

08/2009 – 08/2010

Agency Description

The Coalinga State Hospital (CSH) is located in Coalinga, CA. This institution primarily houses individuals who have been civilly committed as Sexually Violent Predators (SVP). More recently, CSH has been housing inmates from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) who have met the criteria for Mentally Disordered Offenders (MDOs).

My sole responsibility at CSH is to conduct Court ordered Annual SVP Evaluations. This task consists of the following:

- Reviewing current and prior mental health charts
- Reviewing current and prior medical charts
- Conduct a Clinical Interview with the patient
- Scoring/Interpreting STATIC 99 and STATIC 2002
- Writing a report and Court Declaration
- Peer Reviewing reports prepared by colleagues

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation- California Prison-Solano, Vacaville, CA  
Staff Psychologist

2/2009 – 8/2009

### Agency Description

The California Department Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) California State Prison –Solano (CSP- SOL) is located in Vacaville, CA. This institution houses inmates of various security levels. Within this population there are individuals that have been diagnosed with one or more Axis I and/or Axis II disorders.

### *Responsibilities:*

- Maintained a caseload between 87 and 140 clients diagnosed with Axis I disorders
- Provided brief therapy for clients on my caseload
- Led groups designed to increase coping skills and resolve conflict while incarcerated
- Participated as a member of the ID'TT with all clients housed within assigned section of the prison
- Participated on Quality Assurance Committee with a focus on Staff Credentialing
- Attended monthly Suicide Prevention meetings

### Alameda County Behavioral Health, San Leandro, CA

6/2008 – 2/2009

Alameda County Juvenile Hall –Camp Sweeny Placement  
Staff Psychologist

### Agency Description

Alameda County Juvenile Hall is located in San Leandro, CA. This institution houses minors who have been adjudicated by the law. Some minors were waiting to return home, while others were waiting placements in various residential treatment facilities or being transferred to the California Youth Authority (CYA).

Camp Sweeny was a transitional placement for young men between 14 to 19 years old. In addition to receiving education and vocational training, all residence were provided with the opportunity to have individual and/or group therapy. An 8week psycho-educational group was mandatory for the parents of all residents. Parents were also required to attend three family intervention meetings.

### *Responsibilities:*

- Provide Individual therapy to a caseload of 8 to 10 residence per week
- Led an Anger Management group for residence
- Led the Psycho-educational meeting for parents on a weekly basis
- Provided crisis intervention for residence and staff
- Worked closely with the Probation Officers to ensure that the services being offered would meet the needs of the resident and family

### Youth and Family Services, Fairfield, CA

2/2006 – 8/2007

Clinical Supervisor

### *Responsibilities:*

- Provided Clinical Supervision for two unlicensed clinicians
- Provided oversight for EPSDT documentation and billings paperwork
- Provided supervision for practicum level students in a doctoral program
- Provided group supervision for paraprofessionals
- Maintained a caseload of 12 adolescent clients

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## CLINICAL TRAINING

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California Department of Mental Health, Vacaville, CA

9/2004 – 8/2005

Postdoctoral Fellowship (2000 hours) Acting Staff

Psychologist

Supervisors: Myla Young, Ph.D., A.B.P.N. (primary testing), Julie Wolfert, Psy.D. (secondary testing) Kristina Kurpinsky, Ph.D., (primary individual)

### Agency Description

The California Department of Mental Health (DMH) in Vacaville, CA is located within a Correctional Medical Facility (CMF) that houses inmates of all security levels (i.e., minimum to maximum levels, including condemned inmates) with medical concerns. The DMH has seven units, with five acute units (150 beds) and two sub-acute units (90 beds). The program was created in 1988 to provide mental health services to inmate/patients referred from all of California's 33 state correctional facilities.

### *Postdoctoral Fellowship Duties:*

- Completed 2000 hours of supervised clinical experience
- Acted as staff psychologist on acute unit (with supervision)
- Supervised pre-doctoral intern on neuropsychological, cognitive and personality assessment, including direct observation of test administration, supervision on test scoring, and report writing
- Led Relapse Prevention group (sub-acute) that focused on substance abuse related problems
- Participated as a member of the treatment team with all inmate/patients on the ward

California Department of Mental Health, Vacaville, CA

9/2003 – 8/2004

(Correctional Medical Facility)

Predoctoral Internship (2000 hours)

American Psychological Association (APA) Accredited Internship Program

Supervisors: Myla Young, Ph.D., A.B.P.N. (testing), Carl Viesti, Ph.D. (sub-acute), Mark Shaw, Ph.D. (acute) and (group supervisor)

### Agency Description

See above

### *Intern duties:*

- Completed 2000 hours of supervised clinical experience
- Participated as a member of the treatment team with all inmate/patients on the ward
- Administered neuropsychological test batteries to inmate/patients for research and clinical purposes
- Co-led Relapse Prevention (sub-acute) group
- Co-led Substance Abuse Education (acute) group
- Provided individual consultations to inmate/patients as adjunct to group therapy (sub-acute)

## EDUCATION

CALIFORNIA SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY, ALAMEDA, CA

Doctorate of Psychology (Psy.D.), 2004

- Family Forensic Track
- Teachers Assistants – Introduction to Assessment and Infant Assessment 0-3
- Student Representative – Facility Committee for Student Concerns

MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY BALTIMORE, MD

Bachelor's Science, Psychology, 1993

- Psi Chi Psychology Honor Society

## PRESENTATIONS and TRAININGS:

Alameda County Bar Association – Family Law Boot Camp

- Presenter on Child Custody and Visitation – May 18, 2020

Association of Family Court Conciliation - (AFCC)

- Training Participant – February 7 – 9, 2020

