



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

FROM: Sarah S. Benson *Sarah S. Benson*

SUBJECT: Appointment to the Position of Executive Secretary to the State Board for Social Work and the State Board for Mental Health Practitioners

DATE: April 12, 2022

AUTHORIZATION(S): *[Signature]*

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision

Should the Board of Regents approve the appointment of Evan Seiden, L.C.S.W. to the position of Executive Secretary to the State Board for Social Work and the State Board for Mental Health Practitioners?

Reason(s) for Consideration

The New York State Education Department oversees the licensing and practice of approximately 30,131 Licensed Clinical Social Workers, 31,555 Licensed Master Social Workers, 9,727 Mental Health Counselors, 1,461 Marriage and Family Therapists, 745 Psychoanalysts and 1,939 Creative Arts Therapists. The primary oversight of those functions falls under the direction of the Executive Secretary to the State Board for Social Work and the State Board for Mental Health Practitioners. Filling of this position is required by State statute.

Mr. Seiden has been a licensed clinical social worker since 2014 and has practiced across a variety of clinical settings in New York State. He holds a Master of Social Work degree from the State University of New York, at Albany, and a Master of Business Administration degree from Dowling College. For the past four years, Mr. Seiden has served as a social worker in the Department's Office of Professions, Professional Assistance Program (PAP), which provides assistance to professionals who are in treatment for substance abuse problems. His education, social work experience in a variety of clinical settings, and experience with the Department's PAP

program will enable him to build on the Board of Regents' record of success in overseeing the work of the State Boards for Social Work and Mental Health Practitioners and of the board office serving those State boards.

Proposed Handling

This issue will come before the Board of Regents for action at its April 2022 meeting.

Procedural History

Education Law section 6508(7) requires the Board of Regents to appoint an Executive Secretary to each state board on recommendation of the Commissioner. Education Law 7703 requires that the executive secretary shall be licensed as a social worker. The State professional boards advise and assist the Regents and the Department on matters of professional licensing and professional practice.

Related Regents Items

Not Applicable.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents take the following action:

VOTED, that the Board of Regents approve the appointment of Evan Seiden to the position of Executive Secretary to the State Board for Social Work and the State Board for Mental Health Practitioners.

Timetable for Implementation

If the Board of Regents approves the recommendation, the appointment will be effective April 28, 2022.