STANDING ORDER

Order on Public Participation in Meetings Under RSA 310:5

The Board of Mental Health Practice ("Board") has the authority to establish the manner in which public spoken and written comment shall be accepted during public meetings[1]. Members of the public shall have the opportunity to provide public spoken or written comment to the Board within the following parameters:

1. The Board shall open the meeting to public spoken comment immediately after the board approves the public minutes at the start of the meeting.

2. Members of the public wishing to provide spoken comment are allocated up to a maximum of three minutes per speaker, not including time used for Board questions.

3. No written or spoken public comment shall pertain to any pending adjudicative, disciplinary, and non-disciplinary matters before the Board, including but not limited to pending applications, open complaints and investigations, adjudicatory proceedings, or matters still within the appeal timeframe or appellate process. Such *ex parte* communication with the Board is prohibited by law[2].

4. Written comment shall be accepted up to ten calendar days after the meeting for placement on the following meeting's agenda. Written comments shall be legible and reasonable in length.

No public comment shall be accepted during emergency hearings conducted pursuant to RSA 541-A:30, III or RSA 310:12, IV; disciplinary and non-disciplinary remedial proceedings conducted pursuant to RSA 310:10; and unlicensed practice hearings conducted pursuant to RSA 310:13.

This Standing Order shall take effect on November 15, 2024, and shall remain in effect until terminated by operation of law or the Board votes to rescind the Order.

By Order of the Board:

Date: 11/15/24

Board Chair: _Deborah Cohn_