



[External] PA Child Abuse Recognition Training

From ASL-Club <cofcinfo@gmail.com>

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To ST, RegulatoryCounsel <RA-STRegulatoryCounsel@pa.gov>

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Dear Board,

Regarding the mandated reporter training for LMTs: we already are required to receive 3 hour initial training and 2 hours for renewal of licenses. It mentions the reporter is obliged to report even if they've already told their superior in said 'institution, school, facility or agency,' which I imagine the law is geared towards. Unfortunately, I wasn't able to find any statistics on how many massage therapists actually work on children so I can't speak to that, though the number must be fairly low if it doesn't register in the surveys; or how many massage therapists work in such institutions, schools, facilities or agencies. If you have any data on that, I'd be interested in learning.

Personally, I work strictly with seniors, do not wish to work on *any* underaged clients, and do not know where this training would be applicable in my circles. It seems an added expense and time that could be spent on training in my specific area(s). Perhaps, working with minors is a specialized field (ex. infants). My research showed that many chains refuse to work on clients under 18 (or at least 16) as well.

That said, the information is good for *everyone* to have at least once, to be aware of. And I could see therapists, physical therapists, teachers, nurses, etc., - those working in clinical/hospital settings - have this mandatory training. Is it simply because we're under the 'health care' umbrella that we're required to have it or is it 'in demand'?

Since you are in a better position to see the big picture, I defer to the Board's decision and appreciate your representation.

Best regards,

L. Shaw
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"The things which you teach cannot have any weight unless you will be the first to practice them." ~ Lactantius, early Christian AD 304-313