

Teri F. Belmont, Ph.D.

Disclosure Document for Psychologists

Licensed Psychologist - Doctoral (Vermont, 048.0135063)

Birth Name: Teri Jean Forrest

Welcome to my practice! This document will provide you with some background information about my professional qualifications and experience, and resources for you in the event you would like to make a complaint or a consumer inquiry to the Director of the State of Vermont Office of Professional Regulation.

My Qualifications and Special Areas of Practice

I have been an independently licensed psychologist in the state of Nevada since 2008, in Iowa since 2022, and in Vermont since 2024. My practice emphasizes psychoeducational assessments and consultations for candidates for assisted reproductive procedures, including gestational carriers, gamete and embryo donors, and intended parents. I have been providing these services for fertility clinics and agencies across the country since 2011. I am a doctoral member of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM) and the ASRM Mental Health Professionals Group.

I have also worked in the field of forensic psychology for more than 20 years, during which time my professional activities have emphasized the evaluation of psychological and neuropsychological complaints in the context of personal injury litigation. I have been retained as an expert in many cases involving claims of orthopedic and psychological injury as a result of violence or negligence (e.g., motor vehicle and slip-and-fall accidents), and I have substantial experience with the assessment of malingering and other forms of symptom magnification; somatic symptom and related disorders; personality disorders; Post-traumatic Stress Disorder; mood and anxiety disorders; and traumatic brain injury/post-concussion syndrome.

Since 1999, when I first sought out applied experience in private psychological practice, I have conducted thousands of clinical and forensic assessments at various sites in Southern Nevada and central Texas, where I completed my pre-doctoral internship. In December 2005, I had the distinction of receiving one of the first four doctorates conferred in psychology (clinical emphasis) from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where my predominant focus of study and interest was in the detection of malingering and other forms of suboptimal effort within the context of the civil forensic neuropsychological evaluation.

Graduate Programs Attended

2001 –2005	Doctor of Philosophy, Psychology (Clinical Emphasis; University of Nevada, Las Vegas) <i>Dissertation: The Influence of Instruction Set and Test Format on the Detection of Malingering</i>
1998 –2001	Master of Arts, Psychology (University of Nevada, Las Vegas) <i>Thesis: The Integration of Facial and Auditory Affect: An Emotional McGurk Effect?</i>

Certifications

2024-present	Licensed Psychologist, Vermont (048.0135063)
2022-present	Licensed Psychologist, Iowa (112562)
2020-present	Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology (APIT); Mobility Number 4865 <i>Issued by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) PSYPACT Commission</i>
2008-present	Licensed Psychologist, Nevada (PY0551)

Professional Memberships

2024-present	Vermont Psychological Association (Full Member)
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2022-present	Iowa Psychological Association (Out of State Licensee)
2020-present	Society for Ethics in Egg Donation and Surrogacy (Member, Industry Professional)
2017-present	American Society for Reproductive Medicine LGBTQ Special Interest Group
2014-present	American Psychological Association Division 44 (Society for the Psychology of Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity)
2013-present	American Society for Reproductive Medicine (Doctoral Member)
2013-present	American Society for Reproductive Medicine Mental Health Professionals Group
2008-present	National Academy of Neuropsychology (Professional Member)
2006-present	American Psychological Association (Member)
2006-present	Nevada Psychological Association (Full Member)

Post-doctoral Clinical Experience

2010-present	Private Practice (Teri F. Belmont, Ph.D., PLLC; Henderson/Las Vegas, Nevada) (Full-time independent practice; Do not receive supervision; do receive periodic/as-needed peer consultation)
2004-2010	Associate Psychologist/Civil Forensic Practice Coordinator (Lewis M. Etkoff, Ph.D. & Associates; Las Vegas, NV) (Full-time; Did receive ongoing/daily supervision/peer consultation) Preparation of record reviews, case summaries, and evaluation reports; coordination of case timelines and requirements with attorneys, case managers, and other referral sources; client evaluation (interview and administration of various psychological and neuropsychological tests to children, adolescents, and adults); preparation of various materials for legal, psychoeducational seminars, etc. presented to community and private agencies.

Pre-doctoral Clinical Experience

2003-2004	Pre-doctoral Intern (The Taylor Clinic; Brownwood, TX) (Full-time; Did receive ongoing/daily supervision and/or peer consultation) Adult and child psychological and neuropsychological assessment; group and individual classroom observation and evaluation; group presentations on various mental health issues; adult individual psychotherapy and biofeedback therapy; and crisis intervention.
2002-2003	Intern Therapist (Community Counseling Center; Las Vegas, NV) (Part-time; Did receive ongoing/daily supervision and/or peer consultation) Individual and group therapy (client issues included HIV / AIDS, anxiety, depression, and relationship concerns); court-mandated group therapy for individuals recovering from alcohol / drug abuse and typically after an arrest for DUI (driving under the influence); group therapy for one group of men (primarily homosexual) and one group of men and women (primarily heterosexual) concerning issues of living with HIV / AIDS.
1999-2002	Intern/Assistant (Lewis M. Etkoff, Ph.D. & Associates; Las Vegas, NV) (Part-time; Did receive ongoing/daily supervision and/or peer consultation) Child, adolescent, and adult psychological and neuropsychological assessment; compilation of records reviews in preparation for forensic evaluations; and preparation of various materials for seminars presented to community and private agencies by Dr. Etkoff and Michelle Carro, Ph.D.
2001	Intern Therapist (Center for Individual, Couple, and Family Counseling; Las Vegas, NV) (Part-time; Did receive ongoing/daily supervision and/or peer consultation)

Individual and family therapy (client issues included anxiety, depression, relationship concerns, parent-child relational problems, communication problems, parenting skills, and decision-making and coping skills).

2000-2001

Intern Therapist (UNLV Student Counseling and Psychological Services; Las Vegas, NV)

(Part-time; Did receive ongoing/daily supervision and/or peer consultation)

Individual therapy (client issues included anxiety, depression, relationship concerns, parent-child relational problems, communication problems, and decision-making and coping skills).

1999

Intern (Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services; Las Vegas, NV)

(Part-time; Did receive ongoing/daily supervision and/or peer consultation)

Participation in intake examinations, assessments, and treatment teams for adult clients with chronic major mental disorders of varying severity.

1998-1999

Intern (Desert Willow Treatment Center; Las Vegas, NV)

(Part-time; Did receive ongoing/daily supervision and/or peer consultation)

Assessment and treatment of adolescent sexual offenders (ages 12-17) and children and adolescents with various major mental disorders (ages 6-17); oversight of the creation and implementation of an age-specific knowledge learning module and competency exam (completion of which was to be required of all mental health technicians); and production of a client-oriented monthly newsletter.

Client's Disclosure Confirmation

My signature acknowledges that I have been given this disclosure document regarding the professional qualifications and experience of Teri F. Belmont, Ph.D.; a listing of actions that constitute unprofessional conduct according to Vermont statutes; and the method for making a consumer inquiry or filing a complaint with the Office of Professional Regulation. This information was given to me no later than my third office visit.

Client's Signature

Date

Client's Name (Please Print)

Psychologist's Signature

Date

Psychologist's Name

Office of Professional Regulation Notice

The Office of Professional Regulation provides Vermont licenses, certifications, and registrations for over 56,000 practitioners and businesses. Forty-six professions and occupations are supported and managed by this office. A list of professions regulated is found below.

Each profession or occupation is governed by laws defining professional conduct. Consumers who have inquiries or wish to obtain a form to register a complaint may do so by calling (802) 828-1505, or by writing to the Director of the Office, Secretary of State's Office, 89 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Montpelier, VT 05620-3402.

Upon receipt of a complaint, an administrative review determines if the issues raised are covered by the applicable professional conduct statute. If so, a committee is assigned to investigate, collect information, and recommend action or closure to the appropriate governing body.

All complaint investigations are confidential. Should the investigation conclude with a decision for disciplinary action against a professional's license and ability to practice, the name of the license holder will then be made public.

Complaint investigations focus on licensure and fitness of the licensee to practice. Disciplinary action, when warranted, ranges from warning to revocation of license, based on the circumstances. You should not expect a return of fees paid or additional unpaid services as part of the results of this process. If you seek restitution of this nature, consider consulting with the Consumer Protection Division of the Office of the Attorney General, retaining an attorney, or filing a case in Small Claims Court.

Accountancy	Naturopaths
Acupuncture	Nursing
Architects	Nursing Home Administrators
Athletic Trainers	Occupational Therapists
Auctioneers	Opticians
Audiologists	Optometry
Barbers & Cosmetologists	Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons
Boxing Control	Pharmacy
Chiropractic	Physical Therapists
Dental Examiners	Private Investigative & Security Services
Dietitians	Property Inspectors
Drug and Alcohol Counselor	Psychoanalyst
Electrolysis	Psychology
Professional Engineering	Psychotherapist, Non-licensed
Funeral Service	Radiologic Technology
Hearing Aid Dispensers	Real Estate Appraisers
Land Surveyors	Real Estate
Landscape Architects	Respiratory Care
Marriage & Family Therapists	Social Workers, Clinical
Clinical Mental Health Counselors	Tattooists
Midwives, Licensed	Veterinary
Motor Vehicle Racing	

Chapter 78: Roster of Psychotherapists Who Are Nonlicensed

§ 4090. Disclosure of Information

The board shall adopt rules requiring persons entered on the roster to disclose to each client the psychotherapist's professional qualifications and experience, those actions that constitute unprofessional conduct, and the method for filing a complaint or making a consumer inquiry, and provisions relating to the manner in which the information shall be displayed and signed by both the rostered psychotherapist and the client. The rules may include provisions for applying or modifying these requirements in cases involving institutionalized clients, minors and adults under the supervision of a guardian.

Title 3: Executive

Chapter 5: SECRETARY OF STATE

Sub-Chapter 3: Professional Regulation

3 V.S.A. § 129a. Unprofessional conduct

(a) In addition to any other provision of law, the following conduct by a licensee constitutes unprofessional conduct. When that conduct is by an applicant or person who later becomes an applicant, it may constitute grounds for denial of a license or other disciplinary action. Any one of the following items or any combination of items, whether the conduct at issue was committed within or outside the State, shall constitute unprofessional conduct:

- (1) Fraudulent or deceptive procurement or use of a license.
- (2) Advertising that is intended or has a tendency to deceive.
- (3) Failing to comply with provisions of federal or State statutes or rules governing the practice of the profession.
- (4) Failing to comply with an order of the board or violating any term or condition of a license restricted by the board.
- (5) Practicing the profession when medically or psychologically unfit to do so.
- (6) Delegating professional responsibilities to a person whom the licensed professional knows, or has reason to know, is not qualified by training, experience, education, or licensing credentials to perform them, or knowingly providing professional supervision or serving as a preceptor to a person who has not been licensed or registered as required by the laws of that person's profession.
- (7) Willfully making or filing false reports or records in the practice of the profession, willfully impeding or obstructing the proper making or filing of reports or records, or willfully failing to file the proper reports or records.
- (8) Failing to make available promptly to a person using professional health care services, that person's representative, or succeeding health care professionals or institutions, upon written request and direction of the person using professional health care services, copies of that person's records in the possession or under the control of the licensed practitioner, or failing to notify patients or clients how to obtain their records when a practice closes.
- (9) Failing to retain client records for a period of seven years, unless laws specific to the profession allow for a shorter retention period. When other laws or agency rules require retention for a longer period of time, the longer retention period shall apply.
- (10) Conviction of a crime related to the practice of the profession or conviction of a felony, whether or not related to the practice of the profession.
- (11) Failing to report to the Office a conviction of any felony or misdemeanor offense in a Vermont District Court, a Vermont Superior Court, a federal court, or a court outside Vermont within 30 days.
- (12) Exercising undue influence on or taking improper advantage of a person using professional services, or promoting the sale of services or goods in a manner that exploits a person for the financial gain of the practitioner or a third party.
- (13) Performing treatments or providing services that the licensee is not qualified to perform or that are beyond the scope of the licensee's education, training, capabilities, experience, or scope of practice.
- (14) Failing to report to the Office within 30 days a change of name, e-mail, or mailing address.
- (15) Failing to exercise independent professional judgment in the performance of licensed activities when that judgment is necessary to avoid action repugnant to the obligations of the profession.
- (16)(A) Impeding an investigation under this chapter or unreasonably failing to reply, cooperate, or produce lawfully requested records in relation to such investigation.

(B) The patient privilege set forth in 12 V.S.A. § 1612 shall not bar the licensee's obligations under this subsection (a) and a confidentiality agreement entered into in concluding a settlement of a civil claim shall not exempt the licensee from fulfilling his or her obligations under this subdivision (16).

(17) Advertising, promoting, or recommending a therapy or treatment in a manner tending to deceive the public or to suggest a degree of reliability or efficacy unsupported by competent evidence and professional judgment.

(18) Promotion by a treatment provider of the sale of drugs, devices, appliances, or goods provided for a patient or client in such a manner as to exploit the patient or client for the financial gain of the treatment provider, or selling, prescribing, giving away, or administering drugs for other than legal and legitimate therapeutic purposes.

(19) Willful misrepresentation in treatments or therapies.

(20) Offering, undertaking, or agreeing to cure or treat a disease or disorder by a secret method, procedure, treatment, or medicine.

(21) Permitting one's name or license to be used by a person, group, or corporation when not actually in charge of or responsible for the professional services provided.

(22) Prescribing, selling, administering, distributing, ordering, or dispensing any drug legally classified as a controlled substance for the licensee's own use or to an immediate family member as defined by rule.

(23) For any professional with prescribing authority, signing a blank or undated prescription form or negligently failing to secure electronic means of prescribing.

(24) For any mental health care provider, use of conversion therapy as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 8351 on a client younger than 18 years of age.

(25) For providers of clinical care to patients, failing to have in place a plan for responsible disposition of patient health records in the event the licensee should become incapacitated or unexpectedly discontinue practice.

(26) Sexually harassing or exploiting a patient, client, or consumer, or doing so to a coworker in a manner that threatens the health, safety, or welfare of patients, clients, or consumers; failing to maintain professional boundaries; or violating a patient, client, or consumer's reasonable expectation of privacy.

(b) Failure to practice competently by reason of any cause on a single occasion or on multiple occasions may constitute unprofessional conduct, whether actual injury to a client, patient, or customer has occurred. Failure to practice competently includes:

(1) performance of unsafe or unacceptable patient or client care; or

(2) failure to conform to the essential standards of acceptable and prevailing practice.

(c) The burden of proof in a disciplinary action shall be on the State to show by a preponderance of the evidence that the person has engaged in unprofessional conduct.

(d)(1) After hearing, and upon a finding of unprofessional conduct, a board or an administrative law officer may take disciplinary action against a licensee or applicant, including imposing an administrative penalty not to exceed \$5,000.00 for each unprofessional conduct violation.

(2)(A) Any money received under this subsection shall be deposited in the Professional Regulatory Fee Fund established in section 124 of this chapter for the purpose of providing education and training for board members and advisor appointees.

(B) The Director shall detail in the annual report receipts and expenses from money received under this subsection.

(e) In the case where a standard of unprofessional conduct as set forth in this section conflicts with a standard set forth in a specific board's statute or rule, the standard that is most protective of the public shall govern. (Added 1997, No. 40, § 5; amended 2001, No. 151 (Adj. Sess.), § 2, eff. June 27, 2002; 2003, No. 60, § 2; 2005, No. 27, § 5; 2005, No. 148 (Adj. Sess.), § 4; 2009, No. 35, § 2; 2011, No. 66, § 3, eff. June 1, 2011; 2011, No. 116 (Adj. Sess.), § 5; 2017, No. 48, § 4; 2017, No. 144 (Adj. Sess.), § 6, eff. July 1, 2019; 2019, No. 30, § 4.)

§ 3016. Unprofessional conduct

Unprofessional conduct means the conduct listed in this section and in 3 V.S.A. § 129a:

(1) Failing to make available, upon written request of a person using psychological services to succeeding health care professionals or institutions, copies of that person's records in the possession or under the control of the licensee.

(2) Failing to use a complete title in professional activity.

(3) Conduct which evidences moral unfitness to practice psychology.

(4) Engaging in any sexual conduct with a client, or with the immediate family member of a client, with whom the licensee has had a professional relationship within the previous two years.

(5) Harassing, intimidating, or abusing a client or patient.

(6) Entering into an additional relationship with a client, supervisee, research participant, or student that might impair the psychologist's objectivity or otherwise interfere with the psychologist's professional obligations.

(7) Practicing outside or beyond a psychologist's area of training or competence without appropriate supervision.

(8) In the course of practice, failure to use and exercise that degree of care, skill, and proficiency which is commonly exercised by the ordinary skillful, careful, and prudent psychologist engaged in similar practice under the same or similar conditions, whether or not actual injury to a client or patient has occurred.

(9) Conduct which violates the "Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct" of the American Psychological Association, effective December 1, 1992, or its successor principles and code.

(10) Conduct which violates the "ASPPB Code of Conduct-1990" of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards, or its successor code. (Added 1975, No. 228 (Adj. Sess.), § 2; amended 1981, No. 241 (Adj. Sess.), § 1; 1993, No. 98, § 7; 1993, No. 222 (Adj. Sess.), § 3; 1997, No. 145 (Adj. Sess.), § 50; 1999, No. 52, § 26; 1999, No. 133 (Adj. Sess.), § 24; 2013, No. 27, § 34.)