

Purpose

The mission of the Board of Behavioral Health and Therapy (BBHT) is to protect the public through effective licensure and enforcement of the statutes and rules governing its licensees to ensure a standard of competent and ethical practice.

Jurisdiction

BBHT has the authority to investigate complaints received against:

- BBHT licensees and temporary permit holders
 - Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors (LPCCs), Licensed Professional Counselors (LPCs), Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors (LADCs), and temporary permit holders (ADC-Ts)
- Applicants for licensure
- Persons practicing with a privilege to practice through the Counseling Compact
- Persons practicing without a license or representing to the public that they are licensed by BBHT

How do I know if my counselor is licensed?

Use BBHT's [License Lookup](#) tool to find out if:

- Your counselor is licensed by BBHT
- If their license is active
- If there is any public action on their license

If your counselor is not licensed with BBHT, they may be licensed with the Board of Marriage and Family Therapy, the Board of Psychology, or the Board of Social Work.

Who can file a Complaint?

A complaint may be filed by anyone, including clients, client family members, employers, supervisors, colleagues, or other interested persons.

The identity of a person who files a complaint remains confidential.

Complaint Process

- Complete and submit the [BBHT Complaint Form](#)
- A complaint must be made in writing. The completed Complaint Form can be mailed, emailed, or faxed to the BBHT office. You may include any additional documents that are relevant to your complaint.
- Each complaint is reviewed on a case-by-case basis by BBHT's Complaint Resolution Committee.
- The Committee may:
 - Investigate the allegations
 - Ask licensee to respond to the allegations
 - Refer licensee to HPSP
 - Hold a disciplinary or educational conference with the licensee
 - Close the complaint
 - Propose disciplinary or corrective action

Outcome

After the Committee completes its review of a complaint, they will determine if there is evidence of a violation of law, and if disciplinary or corrective action is needed to protect the public. If the Committee finds that there has not been a violation of law, or disciplinary or corrective action is not needed to protect the public, the complaint will be closed. Please note that submission of the Complaint Form does not automatically result in disciplinary or corrective action taken against the individual.

Disciplinary and Corrective Action

Most often, disciplinary action is in the form of a “Stipulation and Consent Order.” This is a settlement document adopted by the full Board. The facts and remedy are different in each Order. The Board has the ability to impose other forms of disciplinary action, if necessary.

An “Agreement for Corrective Action” is a non-disciplinary settlement. This is an agreement between the licensee and Committee. Typically, this involves additional education related to the complaint.

Statutes and Rules

It is the duty of the Board to enforce statutes and rules related to professional conduct. This includes:

- Minnesota Statutes Chapter 148F (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/148F>)
- Minnesota Statutes Chapter 148B (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/148B>)
- Minnesota Administrative Rules Chapter 2150 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/2150/>)

Health Professional Services Program (HPSP)

HPSP protects the public by providing monitoring services to regulated health care professionals whose illness (physical illness, mental illness, or substance use) may impact their ability to practice safely.

- Any eligible health practitioner licensed or regulated in Minnesota can receive referral and monitoring services through HPSP.
- Licensees can self-refer to HPSP or be referred by a third party (client, colleague, supervisor, family, etc.). The Board may also refer licensees or applicants to HPSP.

More information: <https://mn.gov/boards/hpsp/>

Minnesota Government Data Practices Act

Minnesota Statutes Chapter 13 classifies the data that is collected and maintained by BBHT and other agencies. Please note the following, as it pertains to complaints, investigations, and discipline:

- Active complaints and investigative data are classified as confidential data.
- Closed complaints are classified as private data. Information is not accessible to the public, and only some information is available to the subject of the data.
- Disciplinary action is classified as public data and is published on BBHT’s website.
- Information regarding who filed a complaint is classified as confidential.