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## State of Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners

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Executive Director

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David S. Shapiro Investigator

Shari S. Courmay Administrative Assistant

January 18, 2005

John Kent, Ph.D. ASPC-Eyman Cook Unit, P. O. Box 3500 Florence, AZ 85232

Re:

ARNOLD/Kent RFI No. 05-02

Dear Dr. Kent:

The Board of Psychologist Examiners has received your letter requesting an investigation regarding Susanne Arnold, Ph.D. The Board does not have jurisdiction over the conduct you describe in "Part I" of your December 29, 2004 letter, but we have opened an investigation regarding Dr. Arnold for the conduct you describe in "Part II" of your letter. A copy of your letter has been sent to the psychologist who will be required to respond to the Board, in writing. The psychologist's response is confidential by law and will not be provided to you.

Please note that if you provide supplemental complaint information or documents at this time, the Board will be required to provide copies to the psychologist for a response and this may delay the resolution of this case. Audiotapes, video tapes or compact discs submitted as part of your complaint must be accompanied by a certified transcript of the entire (not excerpted) proceeding or conversation.

Please be advised of the following information regarding the Board's investigative procedures: All investigative materials are reviewed by the Board's investigator who may then contact the psychologist, the complainant and others to obtain additional information or clarify specific issues. The investigator then writes a report and provides the report and documentation to the Complaint Screening Committee (CSC) at a regularly scheduled meeting. This is the CSC's initial review of the case and is not a hearing. Please note that witness testimony is not taken unless the case proceeds to a formal hearing. Each and every time that a case appears on the CSC's agenda, the complainant and the licensee (or their representative) who are **present at the CSC meeting**, and who wish to address the CSC regarding the complaint may do so by filling out a "Request to Speak" form (which is available at the CSC meeting) and providing it to Board staff. Presentations are limited to five minutes. An audiotape or CD of the Board's discussion of the case may be purchased for a charge of \$10.00 per audiotape/CD. Copies of the CSC Minutes may also be purchased at \$0.25 per page; however, the Minutes often do not contain the details of the audio recordings.

The CSC can vote to dismiss the case if it determines that the complaint is without merit, or refer the complaint to the full Board for further review and action. You will be notified in writing of the CSC's decision.

The Board's mission is to protect the public, however, the Board can only take action against a licensee when it has been determined that there is a violation of the Board's statutes or rules. The Board cannot remove a psychologist from a particular case, overturn opinions or decisions made by a psychologist, or influence a court of law or a judge to disregard the opinion of a psychologist who has been appointed by the court.

If you have any questions, please contact the Board's Investigator, David Shapiro at (602) 542-3018.

Sincerely,

Maxine McCarthy Executive Director

RFI/CSC complaint ltr bollerplate