

# The Compass

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## Ethics Workshop – part 2 – Gail Olson, PhD

### What is the number one ethical violation?

The workshop **Ethical Pitfalls** contained a wealth of information, thus Part 2! The number one ethics violation: confidentiality breaches (both unintentional and intentional). One example: Jane Doe, a private practitioner, receives a drug/alcohol evaluation from Agency A on her client John Smith. John has an appointment with a psychiatrist and Jane Doe sends a copy of this evaluation to the psychiatrist. Isn't it okay to send this information to the psychiatrist without obtaining a release since it's already in your records about John?

1. Can information received in confidence by one agency be forwarded to another

agency so that we can coordinate care? No, not unless information from agency A has a release signed by the client to the psychiatrist. You cannot forward information received in confidence.

### What is the second most common violation?

Incidents involving therapeutic boundaries is the second most common violation. Example:

A current supervisee or student from a class you are teaching wants to be in counseling with you.



You say yes because this potential client really wants YOU to be his/her therapist. Is this ethical?

2. Is it okay to have a current supervisee, student, or employee as your client? This presents an unequal balance of power affecting their other role with you. Even if they “insist” it won't be a problem for them, it is an ethical violation.

[Click here for the rest of the article – online in PDF format](#)

## A Note from Shari Conner, PhD, APPT president

*“new officers will be elected this fall and we encourage every member to consider a leadership position”*

Nothing says “spring” like getting 17 email alerts from APPT about the upcoming Spring Conference! It ranks right up there with the budding fruit trees and the re-emergence of your seasonal allergies.

Because I don’t want to test your patience, I will refrain from hyping the Casey Truffo conference in this Presidential letter. However, if we don’t get a whole bunch of you to sign up, you can bet that the NEXT Presidential letter will be all about how you let me down. I’m just sayin’.

So, in addition to planning a certain event that happens on May 13, we on the

Board have also been working hard to respond to members’ requests regarding the luncheon mini-series. No longer will you find out about them the night before! No longer will you have to strain to hear the presenter amidst the sounds of businessmen and women slurping spaghetti! Simply go to our organization’s website ([www.PrivatePractice.org](http://www.PrivatePractice.org)), click on “Calendar,” and find out *months in advance* about upcoming topics. Plus, both Lincoln and Omaha are now offering a mini-series *every month*, and both cities’ meetings now take place in facilities that

are conducive to learning and networking.

So keep those suggestions coming! We strive to improve APPT in every way possible. Keep in mind that new officers will be elected this fall and we encourage every member to consider a leadership position. Contact any of the current board members if you have an interest in learning more. In the meantime, go ~~register for the Spring Conference~~, er, I mean, go sign up for whatever event on May 13 that strikes your fancy. I hear the one at Arbor Hall in Omaha is going to be phenomenal.....

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## From our friends at NASW

Third Thursday Statewide In-Person or Video Teleconference Course

April 21st Presentation is "The Affordable Care Act-Facts and Myths," presented by Jon Bailey, Center for Rural Affairs. Please [visit the chapter's website](#) for more information and registration.

**2011 Annual Conference ALL PROFESSIONS WELCOME!!!** September 16, 2011 Keynote Speaker, Ronald D. Siegel, PsyD, is Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychology at Harvard Medical School, where he has taught for over 25 years. He is a long-time student of mindfulness meditation and serves on

the board of directors and faculty of the Institute for Meditation and Psychotherapy. Multiple high quality breakout sessions, CEUs, networking and more. You will not want to miss this event!

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## APPT/Lincoln – events & meetings

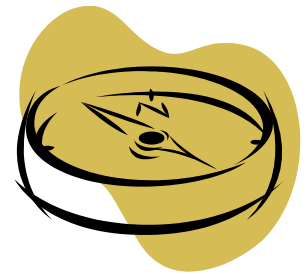
### Lincoln News – Kathy Dombrowski

The Lincoln APPT Mini-series continues to meet on the last Friday of the month at The Lighthouse, 2601 N St. in Lincoln. On April 28 Dave Miers, PhD, director of Mental Health Services and Sara Draus, LICSW, Manager of Therapy Services at Bryan LGH West...will present:

“Going to The Hospital” How to Access, Facilitate, and Coordinate Services for Patients Needing Hospitalization. There will be no mini-series in May, members are encouraged to attend The APPT State Conference on May 13.

The Monthly Peer Support Group Meeting is held the second Thursday of each month. Meetings are held

at 4535 Normal Blvd. Suite 232 (Long Professional Building). Groups are coordinated by Nancy Marshall, LIMHP [NancyMail](#) and Marcia Malone, LIMHP [MarshaMail](#) Either of them would be glad to answer your questions about the group.



## NABHO Update

### NABHO NOTES

The Nebraska Association of Behavioral Health Organizations (NABHO) exists to actively promote sound, responsive, efficient, and effective substance abuse and mental health services for the people of Nebraska. NABHO is comprised of representatives from various behavioral health organizations throughout the state. APPT is an active member of NABHO.

Each year the member organizations identify priorities for our lobbyist to address. This year our major issues are Rate Cuts for Behavioral Health Services and Child Welfare Reform. Each week the Unicam is in session we receive an update on the status of all bills that could potentially effect Behavioral Health Services in Nebraska.

These updates are posted on the APPT web site. In addition a representative of APPT attends monthly NABHO meetings in Lincoln.

Kathy Dombrowski is currently representing APPT at those meetings. If you are interested in getting more involved in this area please contact Kathy at [kadombr@aol.com](mailto:kadombr@aol.com) about Participating on APPTs Legislative Committee.

*“This year our major issues are Rate Cuts for Behavioral Health Services and Child Welfare Reform”*

## Looking for CEU’s or Business Training?

NAMFT is pleased to announce that Jerome Price, M.A. will be the featured presenter at our **Spring Conference** in Omaha on May 6, 2011. Mr. Price will be presenting on strategies to

work with parents and teens who are caught in difficult divorces.

To register or for more information: [nebraskamft.org](http://nebraskamft.org).

APPT Conference – May 13 – Casey Truffo

Tips for practice building, multiple income streams, and making your practice more successful and fun! [All the details here](#)

### LINKS

[CASEY TRUFFO](#)  
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**We're on the Web!**

[www.privatepractice.org](http://www.privatepractice.org)

**About the Association**

The Association of Private Practice Therapists (APPT) is a multi-disciplinary group of mental health professionals in Nebraska. The organization provides a forum for the exchange of practice management information and the development of advocacy plans for mental health practitioners and consumers.

APPT is the result of grassroots meetings of private practice professionals who were interested in impacting the regulation and legislation of mental health services. At the time the meetings were held in the fall of 1993, 45 participants established the initial organizational structure of APPT. The organization now has more than 185 members. It would also be useful to include a contact name for readers who want more information about the organization.

Administrative support for APPT is from Kristan Kiger, LMHP. Contact her, using the information at left, with question, ideas, She can also help you with your membership renewals. Details at [www.privatepractice.org](http://www.privatepractice.org)

**Personal Message from Kristan**

I was introduced to APPT by Shari Conner, who happened to be my supervising practitioner at the time, and the now president of APPT. My colleague at Family Strategies also informed me of what a great organization APPT is and how important it would be for me to join. At the time I had just had a baby, who is now 3, and was having a difficult time organizing my time so the last thing on my mind was an organization that I could possibly join. 3 years later and another baby, who is 9 months now, I started to realize that I hadn't attended any continuing education classes and I felt out of

the loop in the counseling community. I expressed this to Shari and she informed me of a great opportunity to work from home, be a part of the counseling community, and be involved in continuing education classes by becoming the new admin for APPT.

Since starting in January of this year I have been challenged to have even better time management to include APPT in my already established full time job of mom and part time job of therapist. I have had to find time in between naps and clients to learn the system, learn new computer skills, send mailings, answer phone

and email messages, and getting to know all the members' names. I am looking forward to meeting all of you. I have enjoyed meeting other therapists and those in the helping community. APPT has reinforced my love of helping others, my need for learning, and my compassion for others in need. I enjoyed attending the first Omaha mini-series and look forward to those to come, including the spring conference in May.