

# Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists

Board Meeting Agenda for January 23, 2026, 1 p.m.

The January 23, 2026 meeting of the Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists will be held by videoconference call, as authorized under Texas Government Code section 551.127. One or more board members may appear at the scheduled meeting in-person or via videoconference call, and the presiding officer will be physically present at Southern Methodist University's (SMU's) Moody Hall, Auditorium, First floor, Room 114, 6404 Airline Road, Dallas, TX 75205. Seating is limited to first come, first served. Members of the public may pay for parking at meters or pay for parking in Binkley Parking Center.

In lieu of attending in person, members of the public are encouraged to access and participate virtually in this meeting by entering the **URL address** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85198833986> into their web browser. Telephone access numbers and additional videoconference call access information can be found in the attached addendum. An electronic copy of the agenda and meeting materials will be made available at [www.bhec.texas.gov](http://www.bhec.texas.gov) prior to the meeting. A recording of the meeting will be made available on the Council's YouTube channel after the meeting is adjourned. To obtain a copy of the recording, please contact the Council's public information officer at [Open.Records@bhec.texas.gov](mailto:Open.Records@bhec.texas.gov).

For members of the public wishing to give public comment, once the public comment item is reached on the agenda after the meeting convenes, the presiding officer will allow those who are attending in person to give public comment first and then ask those joining by computer to use the "raise hand" feature to indicate who would like to make a public comment. Those individuals who raise their hand will then be unmuted to give public comment. Once all of the individuals with raised hands have been given an opportunity to make public comment, the individuals appearing by telephone will be unmuted and asked whether they would like to make a public comment. Please note that public comment is not intended for a discussion or a question-and-answer session with the Board. Additionally, when making a public comment, please identify yourself and whether you are speaking individually or on behalf of an organization. All public comments will be limited to 3 minutes, unless otherwise directed by the presiding officer. In lieu of providing public comment during the meeting, you may submit written public comments by clicking here: <https://forms.office.com/r/95YtrfcMWx>. Only those written public comments received by 5pm on the last business day before the meeting will be submitted to the board members for their consideration. No written comments received will be read aloud during the meeting.

Please note that the board may request input during the meeting from any interested parties or members of the public during its discussion of an agenda item.

If you are planning to attend this meeting and need auxiliary aids, services or materials in an alternate format, please contact the Council at least 5 working days before the meeting date. PHONE: (512) 305-7700, TTY/RELAY TEXAS: 711 or 1-800-RELAY TX.

The board may go into Executive Session to deliberate any item listed on this agenda if authorized under Texas Open Meetings Act, Government Code, Ch. 551.

The board may discuss and take action concerning any matter on the agenda and in a different order from what it appears herein.

## **MFT BOARD MEETING AGENDA FOR JANUARY 23, 2026, 1 p.m.**

1. Call meeting to order. *Includes roll call and excusal of absences if necessary.*
2. Welcome and announcements. *Includes items of public interest and concern.*
3. Public Comment. *Comments will be received from individuals attending in person, by virtual meeting, and by phone.*

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – NO ACTIONS WILL BE TAKEN.

4. Reports on general matters.
  - a. Report from the Board Chair. *May include discussion of current challenges and accomplishments; lawsuits; interaction with stakeholders, state officials, and staff; committee appointments and functions; workload of Board members; conferences; and general information regarding the routine functioning of the Board.*
  - b. Report from the Board's Delegates to the Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council. *May include discussion regarding the activities of the Executive Council, including recently proposed or adopted rules.*
  - c. Report from the Board Administrator and other staff. *May include discussion of operations, organization, and staffing; workload processing and statistical information; customer service accomplishments, inquiries, and challenges; media, legislative, and stakeholder contacts and concerns; special projects; and general information regarding the routine functioning of the program.*
  - d. Reports from Committees.
    1. Report from Ethics Committee Chair Dr. Elder.
    2. Report from Licensing Standards Committee Chair Dr. Merchant.
    3. Report from Outreach Committee Chair Dr. Merchant.
    4. Report from Professional Development Committee Chair Dr. Bartee.
    5. Report from Rules Committee Chair Ms. Richardson.

#### MATTERS FOR POTENTIAL BOARD ACTION

5. Discussion and possible action to re-elect or replace professional member delegate to the Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council per Title 3 of the Texas Occupations Code (3 TOC) §507.051 *Executive Council Membership*, Lisa V. Merchant, PhD, LMFT, whose term as delegate expires February 1, 2026, per 22 TAC §881.4, *Council Member Terms*.
6. Licensing matters. *May include discussion of licensing regulations and operations as they pertain to application processing.*
7. Examination matters. *May include reports from the Board's jurisprudence exam vendor and discussion of exam content and format.*
  - a. Board review and possible action related to changes in the Board's jurisprudence exam.
8. Enforcement matters. *May include discussion of quarterly enforcement activities, as well as discussion of agreed orders executed or cases dismissed by the Council's Executive Director.*
  - a. Board review and possible action regarding contested cases from State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH), including proposal for decision and final order in the matter of Christopher O'Neal Jones, docket #510-25-21412.
  - b. Board review and possible action regarding agreed orders to be executed by the Board.
9. Rulemaking. *May include discussion and referral of potential rule changes to the Rules Committee, as well as discussion of the status of rule proposals sent to the Executive Council.*
  - a. Adoption of Rules: Discussion and possible action to recommend adoption of new rules, amendments, or repeal of rules in Title 22 of the Texas Administrative Code:
    - 1) [§801.2](#) *Definitions*
    - 2) [§801.57](#) *Child Custody Evaluations*
    - 3) [§801.112](#) *General Academic Requirements*
    - 4) [§801.113](#) *Academic Requirements*
    - 5) [§801.204](#) *Licensing of Military Service Members, Military Veterans, and Military Spouse*
  - b. Proposal of Rules: Discussion and possible action to recommend proposal of new rules, amendments, or repeal of rules in Title 22 of the Texas Administrative Code:

10. Discussion and possible action concerning review of supervisee survey results.

11. Recommendations for agenda items for the next meeting

12. Adjournment.

This meeting is open to the public. No reservations are required and there is no cost to attend this meeting.

CONTACT: Sarah Faszholz, Board Administrator  
Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists  
Visit BHEC's Contact Us webpage at <https://bhec.texas.gov/contact-us/> and select "Administration and Executive Leadership" from the drop-down menu to send an email.

**Addendum: Additional Videoconference and Telephone Conference Call Information**

When: Jan 23, 2026 01:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists' January 23, 2026 meeting

Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85198833986>

Phone one-tap:

+13462487799,,85198833986# US (Houston)

+17193594580,,85198833986# US

Join via audio:

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 719 359 4580 US

+1 253 205 0468 US

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 669 444 9171 US

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 689 278 1000 US

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 305 224 1968 US

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 360 209 5623 US

+1 386 347 5053 US

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