

Scope of License / Child Abuse Reporting / Signed Authorization to Release Confidential Information

written by Richard Leslie | July 15, 2019

In the May 2019 issue of this Bulletin, I asked whether the reader (presumably, a licensed mental health practitioner) was permitted to hire a physician to practice medicine as an employee of the reader's practice. I suspect that in your state of practice it would be unlawful, for example, for a licensed marriage and family therapist in private practice to hire a physician to perform medical services. The practitioner who hires the employee would be paid by patients who were receiving care from the physician-employee, and would thus be receiving money for medical services performed – which is typically unlawful and a crime. The same analysis would likely apply if an LMFT, LCSW, or LPCC were to hire or partner with (pursuant to a formal partnership agreement) a psychologist to perform psychological services (that is, practice psychology).