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To Whom it May Concern

I am a Licensed Psychological Associate (LPA) Licensed by the NC Psychology board since 2009. I have been level three status for about five years. My current employment is the first time my supervisor has been onsite. My first job was as an adjunct professor, then at the community mental health working as a court psychologist, and my current position in public safety continues my work with performing psychological assessments, evaluations and therapy with severe mental and behavior health patients.

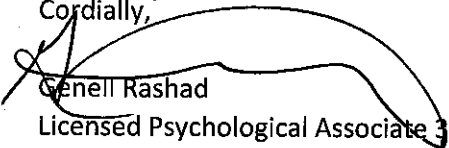
The employment sites that I have had called for highly independent functioning. Most issues or concerns were addressed without the help of my supervisor. I was usually the only psychologist at my work location. I was always a resource for other disciplines. My supervision with the PH.D. Psychologist mainly involved going over solved scenarios.

My only regret as an LPA is the supervision requirement. LPC's, LCSW, and LMFTs all can practice independently, but do not have the stringent supervision requirement as LPAs. The ability to perform psychological assessments separates LPAs from other disciplines. I have missed many job opportunities, particularly calling for psychological assessment and evaluation, not only because of the supervision requirement and cost of supervision, but because insurance panels exclude those with who cannot practice independently.

Psychological assessment, evaluations, and therapy are resources that hold voids in many communities that the LPA could fill if independently licensed. Additionally, the supervision requirement does not send a good message, LPA's are known to hold their own against similar disciplines who can practice independently at the master's level.

I am writing this letter in support of the NC psychology board proposed rule change to address to need to end career long supervision (21 NCAC 54.2008).

Cordially,

  
Genell Rashad  
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