## HEALTHY NEVADANS 2020

## **Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders**

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October 10, 2021

## **ADDRESS HERE**

RE: NEVADA APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS BOARD LICENSING AND REGISTRY

To Whom It May Concern:

With the passing of SB217, The Nevada Applied Behavior Analyst Board (NVABAB) become an independent board. The NVABAB has focused on completing the numerous steps necessary for a successful transition over the last several months. Despite their best efforts, they have come across a barrier that will greatly impact access to services.

The following is the status update from the NVABAB website as of today:

"FBI Background Clearance Update (23 September 2021)

As of October 1, 2021, there will be an extended delay in processing and receiving background clearances. This is due to a delay in approval from the FBI.

The organizational changes occurring with NVABAB require approval before prints can be processed under the new structure. NVABAB will continue to accept applications for RBT, LaBA and LBA registration and licenses, but the fingerprint processing component will delay the approval of these applications. Once FBI approval is received, NVABAB will be authorized to once again process background checks for applicants. Approval is expected to be received by December 1, 2021. When prints can be processed again by NVABAB, please note it can take an additional 3-6 weeks from the time prints are submitted to the Nevada Department of Public Safety before results are received. We apologize for this inconvenience."

In the state of Nevada, a nationally certified provider of Applied Behavior Analysis also requires state licensure/registry to provide any services. Due to the interruption in the process, there is a complete halt in growth for the workforce in our field. Per the NVABA statement, the estimated time is at least 3-4 months, which means that there will be no new staff until 2022. The delay in developing staff will be devasting for children and young adults that currently receive ABA services as well as those that are on waitlists. We are asking that the state assist in resolving this problem due to its' drastic impact on the entire community.



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Trisha Lozano, Madam Chair – CASD