



1 NOW THEREFORE, after considering the Board’s file relating to this matter, the Board  
2 enters the following Order.

3 2.

4 FINDINGS OF FACT

5 The evidence of record establishes the following findings of fact:

6 2.1 The Board opened an investigation in 2011 in regard to allegations that  
7 Respondent was engaged in the unlicensed practice of psychology in Oregon. Respondent  
8 received a letter from the Board in July 2011 requesting that he cease and desist from the  
9 unlicensed practice of psychology. Respondent failed to either respond or comply with the  
10 Board’s request.

11 2.2 Respondent has placed advertisements online on several websites stating that he  
12 provided services for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), anxiety and depression. Respondent  
13 offered “depth psychology” services to the public and described himself as a “psycho-therapist.”  
14 On a website captioned as “Values Based Counseling,” Respondent stated that depth psychology  
15 follows the “innovative work of Sigmund Freud, Carl Jung, Alfred Alder, Erich Fromm, Heinz  
16 Kohut and many others, methods based on depth psychology plumb the deeper patterns and  
17 structures of the human mind and the human heart.”

18 2.3 Another website (captioned as “Portland Hypnotherapy with Kelly Gerling  
19 Ph.D.”) stated that Respondent’s work for his clients “is supported by applying the ideas,  
20 insights and latest advances of cognitive science, psychology, NLP, social science, and other  
21 emerging fields.”

22 2.4 On the website “Portland Hypnotherapy with Kelly Gerling Ph.D.,” Respondent  
23 purported to utilize “psycho-neuro immunology to relieve clients of allergy symptoms and to  
24 provide treatment for phobias.”

25 2.5 Respondent placed an advertisement in Willamette Week that was published on  
26 February 1, 2011, stating that he has a “counseling practice” which helps people solve particular

1 problems, to include PTSD, “psychosomatic symptoms (involuntary feelings or compulsive  
2 actions),” chronic pain, and anxiety or stress.

3 3.

4 CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

5 The acts and conduct of Respondent described above constituted the unlicensed practice  
6 of psychology, in violation of ORS 675.020(1)(a) and (b).

7 4.

8 **ORDER**

9 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT Kelly P. Gerling, Respondent, pay a civil penalty of  
10 \$5,000 within 30 days from the date this order is signed by the Executive Director.

11  
12 DATED this 26<sup>th</sup> day of November 2012.

13 BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS  
14 State of Oregon

15 Redacted

16 Becky Eklund  
17 Interim Executive Director





1 Revised Statutes 183.310 to 183.497. At the hearing, Respondent may be represented by an  
2 attorney and subpoena and cross-examine witnesses.

3 6.

4 If Respondent requests a hearing, the request must be made in writing to the Board,  
5 must be received by the Board within thirty (30) days from the mailing of this notice, and  
6 must be accompanied by a written answer to the charges contained in this notice. Before  
7 commencement of the hearing, Respondent will be given information on the procedures, right  
8 of representation and other rights of parties relating to the conduct of the hearing as required  
9 under ORS 183.413-415.

10 7.

11 If Respondent fails to request a hearing within 30 days, or fails to appear at the hearing as  
12 scheduled, the Board may issue a final order by default and impose the above sanctions against  
13 Respondent. Respondent's submissions to the Board to-date regarding the subject of this disciplinary  
14 case and all information in the Board's files relevant to the subject of this case automatically become  
15 part of the evidentiary record of this disciplinary action upon default for the purpose of proving a  
16 *prima facie* case. ORS 183.417(4).

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18 DATED this 22 day of August, 2012.

19 BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS  
20 State of Oregon

21 Redacted

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Randy Everitt  
Interim Executive Director

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