

Aram Keshishyan, Psy.D.
Clinical-Forensic Psychologist PSY27107
Qualified Medical Examiner
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Socialpsychservices.com

EDUCATION

Alliant International University: California School of Forensic Studies <i>Doctor of Psychology - Clinical-Forensic Psychology (August 2013)</i>	2009 - 2013 Alhambra, CA
Alliant International University: California School of Forensic Studies <i>Master of Arts - Clinical-Forensic Psychology</i>	2009 - 2011 Alhambra, CA
University of California, Los Angeles <i>Bachelor of Arts in Psychology</i>	2005 - 2008 Los Angeles, CA

CLINICAL/WORK EXPERIENCE

Dept. of Health Services: Correctional Health Services September 2015 – Present
Supervising Psychologist (April 2018 – present) / Clinical Psychologist II Los Angeles, CA
Misdemeanor Incompetent to Stand Trial program (MIST)
LPS/Murphy Conservatorship lead

- Coordinating treatment through a multidisciplinary team in assessing and providing treatment for competency restoration for incarcerated patients classified 1370.01 Misdemeanor Incompetent to Stand Trial (MIST); submitting court reports on a regular basis with updates on patient's competency status.
- Providing administrative and clinical supervision to a team of 2 psychologists, 2 licensed clinical social workers, and a psychiatric tech, as well as clinical psychology interns and unlicensed psychologists.
- Maintaining a regular caseload of patients of various ethnic and cultural backgrounds, with ages ranging from 18 to 75 years, and various SESs; primary population includes a large variety of diagnoses that range in severity, primarily on the psychotic-spectrum, though also including substance abuse/dependence, mood/bipolar disorders, neurocognitive disorders, as well as antisocial personality disorder and borderline personality disorder, among others.
- Assessing for and addressing necessary aftercare needs and working closely with discharge planners to determine appropriate level of aftercare necessary for patient.
- Acting as primary clinician responsible for identifying and referring MIST patients for treatment in community programs in cooperation with the Office of Diversion in an effort to divert low-level, mentally ill offenders out of the jail system.
- Completing LPS and Murphy conservatorship applications and attending court hearings as necessary for purposes of testifying as to the patient's ability/inability to care for himself.
- Assessing for LPS hold criteria and writing holds for jail inpatient level of care as necessary; additionally, coordinating 5150 releases with DHS ambulance companies and county psychiatric emergency rooms/hospitals.

- Providing weekly clinical supervision for psychology interns and unlicensed clinical psychologists.
- LPS designated with LA County Correctional Health Services.
- LA County certified as fluent in speaking, reading, and writing in Armenian.

Aram Keshishyan Psychological Services, Inc.

June 2017– Present

Licensed Clinical Psychologist in Private Practice

Los Angeles, CA

- Individual psychotherapy for children, adolescents, and adults, in-person and via telepsych.
- Evidence-based treatment of clinical disorders found in the DSM-5.
- Collaboration with psychiatrists and other professionals involved in patient care.
- Evaluation, assessment, and report-writing for pervasive developmental disability, autism-spectrum disorder, and intellectual disability in children.
- Clinical supervision for unlicensed clinical staff, including psychologists and social workers

Qualified Medical Examiner

April 2018 – Present

- Panel Qualified Medical Evaluator for Workers' Compensation cases via the State of California, Department of Industrial Relations.
- Offices based in the Los Angeles County area.

Los Angeles Co. Dept. of Mental Health: Jail Mental Health Svcs

March 2014 –

Clinical Psychologist II

August 2015

Inmate Reception Center

Los Angeles, CA

- Conducted patient intakes and assessments as mental health triage, both through face-to-face clinical interview and thorough record review for newly incarcerated individuals; assessed for appropriate housing within the jail system according to an individual's mental health needs.
- Provided re-evaluation for patients for crisis stabilization purposes and those presenting with persistent, severe mental illnesses; assessed for suicide risk and assigned necessary precautions for housing.
- Assessed for LPS hold criteria and coordinating 5150 releases with Access ambulance companies and county psychiatric emergency rooms/hospitals.

Clinical Psychology Intern, full-time

September 2012 – August 2013

California Treatment Center – Mental Health Unit (inpatient)

- Completed full-time, 6-month rotation on the 46-bed, LPS-designated inpatient psychiatric hospital unit serving the entire Los Angeles County jail system; worked with both male and female patients on LPS holds, conservatorships, and those declared 1370.01 MIST.
- Worked as part of a multidisciplinary team in treating inmate-patients with severe and persistent mental illness both on a one-to-one basis and conducting groups.
- Assessed for hold criteria and wrote 14- and 30-day holds, as well as participated in probable causing hearings.
- Assessed for and prepared documentation for patient conservatorship and conservatorship hearings; participated in patient's conservatorship court appearance and provided brief testimony through licensed clinical supervisor.

Twin Towers Men's Forensic Outpatient Program - Mental Observation Housing (outpatient)

- Completed full-time, 6-month rotation at Twin Towers Correctional Facility - Men's Forensic Outpatient Program, the primary mental health housing for men in the LA County jail system.

- Treated inmate-patients with less severe mental illness – a wide variety of Axis I and II disorders – in both one-on-one and group treatment modalities; also assessed to differentiate between genuine mental illness and exaggerated/feigned symptomatology.
- Acted as on-call clinician for entire forensic outpatient program once a month for crisis stabilization purposes.

Los Angeles Co. Dept. of Mental Health: Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall November 2014 –
Clinical Psychologist I March 2015
Unit E-F Los Angeles, CA

- Provided intake, treatment, and case management services for youth aged 14-15 currently under the jurisdiction of the Los Angeles County Department of Probation.
- Assessed for and, as necessary, reported child abuse through the LA County DCFS phone hotline, as well as through written reports that were sent to DCFS.
- Provided on-call/acute crisis stabilization/treatment on designated days.

Aegis Medical Systems, Inc. September 2011 – August 2012
Psychology Practicum/Intern: Caseload Manager Simi Valley, CA

- Concurrent with Methadone replacement treatment, provided counseling services for individuals with histories of substance abuse/dependence in both individual and group therapy contexts using cognitive behavioral and motivational interviewing techniques.

Alliant International University, CSFS August 2011 – June 2012
Teacher's Assistant: Research Methods/Statistics Los Angeles, CA

- TA to Dr. Tracy Fass, J.D., Ph.D. for a graduate level course in psychological statistics/research methods.

Los Angeles Co. Department of Probation October 2010 – June 2011
Psychology Practicum/Intern Los Angeles, CA

- Provided services for youth both under the jurisdiction of the Los Angeles County Department of Probation, as well as those under the custody of the Department of Children's and Family Services who are currently being held at Central Juvenile Hall.
- Facilitated groups of 8-16 minors with a co-therapist and implemented the "Teaching Prosocial Skills" evidence-based program in order to reduce criminal recidivism.

California PsychCare, Autism Response Team March 2010 – June 2011
Lead Therapist Van Nuys, CA

- Designed social and behavior modification programs (Applied Behavioral Analysis: ABA) for direct staff to implement with children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- Researched and coordinated training programs for common developmental disorders, normal and abnormal developmental milestones, and sexual/pubertal development.
- Created basic training materials to be used in meetings and information sessions both for supervisors and direct staff.
- Developed daily tasks in a discrete trial training (DTT) format, such as washing hands, sitting properly, and tying shoes.
- Curated programs that assist parents with certain behavioral modification techniques to reinforce children's learning and progress.

Behavior Modification Therapist October 2007 – June 2008, June 2011 – August 2012

- Provided social and behavior modification therapy (Applied Behavioral Analysis: ABA) for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, as well as assisted parents with behavioral modification techniques.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

DHS Correctional Health Services

December, 2018

Twin Towers Correctional Facility; Los Angeles, CA

Continuing Education Presentation

- Provided CE-certified lecture on competency to stand trial, and LPS conservatorship law and procedure as it pertains to Los Angeles County residents.

Post-Doctoral Research Dissertation Committee Member

September 2014 – May 2015

- Served on dissertation committee for pre-doctoral student Trisha Contarino, MA, titled: Cognitive, Emotional, and Social Capacities of Juvenile Offenders in Relation to Their Overall Risk Rating on the SAVRY; committee chaired by Dr. Annette Ermshar, Ph.D., M.S.C.P., ABPP.
- Consulted on research involving the Structured Assessment of Violence Risk in Youth (SAVRY) juvenile violence risk assessment instrument, the Rorschach Inkblot Test, and measures of cognitive ability/IQ (i.e. WAIS, WASI, and WISC).

Guest Lecturer: Juvenile Violence Risk

November, 2014

Alliant International University – CA School of Forensic Studies; Los Angeles, CA

- Served as guest lecturer for graduate-level course, Assessment III: Risk Assessment, taught by Dr. A. Ermshar, Ph.D., M.S.C.P., ABPP. Lectured on the theory, development, and instruments in the field of juvenile risk assessment.

Doctoral Dissertation: Primary Researcher

August 2010 – May 2013

- Head author and researcher in doctoral dissertation research involving the Structured Assessment of Violence Risk in Youth (SAVRY) juvenile violence risk assessment instrument and the Rorschach Inkblot Test; committee is chaired by Dr. Annette Ermshar, Ph.D., M.S.C.P., ABPP, and includes: Dr. Tracy Fass, J.D., Ph.D.; Dr. Mark Rosenblatt, Psy.D.; and Dr. Robert Welsh, Ph.D., ABPP.
- Conducted over 20 hours of SAVRY training for research assistants to assist data gathering; maintained open communication and consultation with SAVRY developer Dr. Randy Borum throughout training process.
- Successfully defended dissertation study with minor edits in April 2013.

Graduate Research Assistant

September 2011 – February 2013

- Served as research assistant to dissertation committee chair, Dr. Annette Ermshar, Ph.D., M.S.C.P., ABPP. Assisted with archival data organization.

Alliant IRB: Student Committee-Member

September 2011 – January 2012

- Served as a student member on the Alliant University Institutional Review Board, known as the Human Participants Protection Committee (HPPC).

Graduate Dissertation Research Assistant

December 2009 – March 2010

- Worked with Dr. Deborah Miora, Ph.D. and doctoral student Taryn Goff, through the Pasadena Rehabilitation Institute.
- Gathered data for a study of traumatic brain injury and its effects on various subtests and overall normalization of the WAIS-IV population.
- Conducted WAIS-IV assessments on individuals with varying levels of traumatic brain injury.

Undergraduate Research Assistant, UCLA

January – December 2008

- Conducted research with Psychology & Law Professor Dr. Edward Geiselman, Ph.D. Responsible for analyzing subjects' survey responses and determining relationship between subjects' responses and their verdicts regarding a sample criminal trial.
- Assisted PhD graduate student with research project on stress's effects on analogical reasoning ability.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/TRAINING

Specialty Topic: Violent Crime in South Africa

January 11-25, 2010

- Two-week, study-abroad specialty course conducted through Alliant International University. Worked with the three-person Investigative Psychology Unit in Pretoria, South Africa in investigations of violent crime.

Specialty Topic: Advanced Neuropsychology

August 2010 – June 2011

- Two-semester course on Advanced Neuropsychology taught by Dr. Kyle Boone, Ph.D., ABPP at Alliant International University.
- Explored the presentation of various neurological conditions on different assessments of cognitive, personality, and achievement abilities.

Moral Reconciliation Therapy

October 22-25, 2012

- Four-day training workshop on Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT): addressing treatment concerns within correctional settings and addressing relevant issues for such patients.

Advances in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

October, 2012 – May, 2013

- Nine-month, bi-weekly course on Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and related therapeutic modalities, such as DBT, ACT, and Mindfulness.

ORGANIZATIONS & AFFILIATIONS

Alpha Epsilon Omega Fraternity, Inc

September 2006 – December 2008

- Served as Treasurer for the 2008-2009 school year and maintained a positive budget for the 2008-2009 fiscal year.
- Organized and financed various philanthropic events such as Armenian Educational Relief Fund, Homeless Shelters, Habitat for Humanity and other national, international and local charities.

REFERENCES

Joseph Simpson, MD, PhD

Supervising psychiatrist; primary supervisor

Los Angeles County Department of Health Services: Correctional Health Services –
Twin Towers Correctional Facility

Men’s Forensic Outpatient Program

450 Bauchet St.

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Work: (213) 680-6907

E-mail: jrsimpso@lasd.org

Richard Weiss, Psy.D.

Clinical Psychologist; prior primary supervisor

Los Angeles County Department of Health Services: Office of Diversion and Reentry
450 Bauchet St.

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Work: (213) 473-6162

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Luis Pena, LCSW

Mental Health Clinical Program Manager I

Los Angeles County Department of Health Services: Correctional Health Services –
Twin Towers Correctional Facility

Men’s Forensic Outpatient Program

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