



*flacounseling.org*

August 26, 2021

Dan Logsdon  
Director  
National Center for Interstate Compacts  
The Council of State Governments  
1776 Avenue of the States  
Lexington, KY 40511

Dear Mr. Logsdon:

On behalf of the Florida Counseling Association, we write to express our strong support for the Counseling Compact. The Florida Counseling Association is the state-level membership organization for professional counselors in Florida, representing over 590 counselors. In 1939, the first state organization for counselors in Florida was established and has since evolved to become known as the Florida Counseling Association, which is also the state branch of the American Counseling Association.

Much like the existing licensure compacts for nurses, physical therapists, physicians, psychologists and EMS personnel, the Counseling Compact will increase licensure portability for counselors while allowing member state regulatory boards to better protect consumers through enhanced sharing of licensure information. Existing interstate occupational licensure compacts have been successful in reducing barriers for practitioners who wish to provide services in other states.

We recognize that the Counseling Compact will benefit consumers, including Florida residents, our members and the counseling profession by:

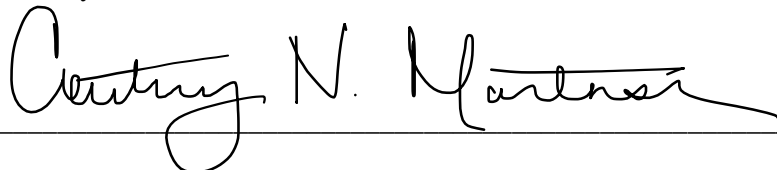
- Enhancing mobility for counselors who meet uniform licensure requirements;
- Increasing access to care for clients;
- Ensuring continuity of care when clients or counselors relocate or travel to other states;
- Allowing military personnel and spouses to more easily maintain their certifications when relocating; and
- Preserving and strengthening the current system of state licensure.

Importantly, the Counseling Compact preserves each member state's authority to regulate the profession. Counselors utilizing the Compact must abide by the laws and rules of the state in which they are practicing, including adhering to that state's scope of practice.


With these benefits in mind, the Florida Counseling Association is excited to endorse the Counseling Compact to best meet the mental health needs of Florida residents across our state and beyond.

We look forward to supporting the Counseling Compact in Florida.

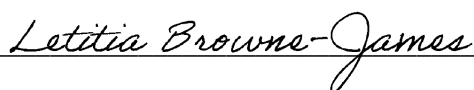
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Courtney N. Martensen". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a solid horizontal line.

Courtney N. Martensen, MS, LMHC, NCC  
2021-2022 President, Florida Counseling Association

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Luisairis Soto". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a solid horizontal line.

Luisairis Soto, MA, LMHC, CCTP, NCC  
2021-2022 President-Elect, Florida Counseling Association

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Letitia Browne-James". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a solid horizontal line.

Letitia Browne-James, Ph.D., LMHC-S, NCC, BC-TMH  
2021-2022 Immediate Past President, Florida Counseling Association