

**CONTACT & GENERAL INFORMATION**

Name Jonathan D Flier

Relevant degree(s) MA

Occupation MFT

Number of years as a CAMFT Member 1978-85, 1988-2016

**EDUCATION & LICENSE INFORMATION**

List all licenses which you hold and the date each license was issued. (Note: You are considered to be licensed if you hold an active, inactive, delinquent or retired license.)

License: MFT27794

Date Issued: Jan 1991

License:

Date Issued:

License:

Date Issued:

From what school did you graduate that qualified you for each license?  
Sonoma State University, MA Community Psychology

**DISCLOSURE OF ADVERSE ACTION**

Are you a party to any litigation, or are you or have you been involved in any other legal proceeding that may adversely affect the Association or the profession, should you be elected to serve on the Board?

Yes  No

If yes, please explain on a separate page.

Has any licensing board, regulatory body, or ethics/peer review committee of a professional association ever taken any disciplinary action against you or a license/registration/certification held by you?

Yes  No

If yes and action was taken by a licensing board or regulatory body or an ethics/peer review committee of a professional association OTHER THAN CAMFT, please attach a detailed explanation.

If yes and the matter involves an action taken by the CAMFT Ethics Committee, please indicate below and provide your consent, below, acknowledging that your application will be forwarded to the CAMFT Ethics Committee to provide a recommendation regarding your application. In providing its recommendation, the Ethics Committee would not divulge information regarding the nature of your case.

yes

I consent to my application being forwarded to the CAMFT Ethics Committee to provide a recommendation.

### BOARD POSITION

Position for which you wish to run:

- President-Elect
- Secretary
- Clinical Board Director-at-Large (Elected by Clinical Membership)
- Pre-Licensed Board Director-at-Large (Elected by Pre-Licensed Membership)

### BACKGROUND & EXPERIENCE

Describe your past and current activities within CAMFT or CAMFT Chapter

For the past year and a half I have served on the board as Director-at-Large. I have served on the Chapter Advisor Committee and the Strategic Planning Committee. As a board member I was an active participant, working with my colleagues in a collaborative fashion. Previously to my election to the CAMFT Board, I was President of the Los Angeles Chapter for 6 years and helped bring a moribund and disorganization group into a strengthened and revitalized organization with strong cohesive board leadership, over 500 active chapter members, and multiple educational and networking opportunities for special interest groups and the therapist community at large. I currently serve as Past President and mentor to our Prelicensed Members.

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**2. Describe any community activities you have or are involved in, including the offices held.**

See above

**3. List the special interest(s) in your clinical practice or internship.**

I work with clients using various somatic techniques and processes to treat trauma and symptoms related to the consequences of short and long term traumas. I work with highly conflictual couples and couples that have found themselves in a stuck dispassionate relationship. I have been very successful in helping men to be willing to try out therapy and to embrace a therapeutic experience that ultimately serves them as individuals and as part of a couple.

**4. Describe your education, training and/or experience which has qualified you for MFT licensure:**

Graduated Sonoma State University, MA Community Psychology 1979. In 1983, 2 1/2 years studying Organizational Psychology toward PhD at Wright Institute in Berkeley, CA. An interruption occurred in that program and left before completing dissertation. Over 3000 hours of internships. Passed written and oral exams. Licensed in 1991

**5. What are the reasons you would like to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of CAMFT?**

I would like to continue to take part in the progress and keep up the momentum the board and staff of CAMFT has made these past few years toward becoming a more bottom up, member-driven organization. This shift away from a top-down Staff- to Board -to Membership operation and a movement towards a flatter and more egalitarian organizational hierarchy has encouraged a productive collaboration between Staff and Board and members

By serving on the Board of Directors of CAMFT, I can participate in the continuing efforts to enlarge, activate and organize the MFTs into an entity that can influence the California and the USA political scene. I would also help CAMFT continue to contribute to the political dialogue as a positive influence supporting the needs and rights of our undervalued,

underserved and underrepresented minority populations including the poor, people of color and LGBTQ communities.

**6. What strengths do you have in your background and/or experience that are relevant to your candidacy?**

Along with my Master's in Community Psychology and licensing as an MFT, I spent two and a half years in a PhD program in Organizational Psychology at the Wright Institute in Berkeley. Through that experience I developed a deep understanding of the conscious and unconscious forces at play in a myriad of Organizational Systems; from huge corporations with multiple overlapping subsystems to family businesses as small as a neighborhood store and as large as Levi-Straus. I would bring the knowledge and experience of that training to my work as a board member of CAMFT. I have already used that systemic viewpoint adding to the dialogue among CAMFT board members, staff and CAMFT members during the CAMFT Connects events including Bylaws Revisions discussion as a part of the Strategic Planning Committee, the ethical issues surrounding Sexual Orientation Change Therapies and advocating for a larger pre-licensed member representation on the board.

**7. What aspect of being a Board member will help you meet your personal goals?**

My personal goals as a board member reflect the personal goals I hold for myself as a member of society, as a community builder and organizer, an educator and as a psychotherapist. This goal is to be a part of an uplifting of the lived experience of humankind.

At the age of 14, I became involved in the Civil Rights movement and participated in educating friends and family as well as participating in a sit-in at the Los Angeles Central Post Office demanding troop protection for Martin Luther King's march for voter rights in Selma, Alabama. Later I participated in the Teach-ins and Marches for Peace for an end to the war in Viet Nam. In 1970, I joined a one-month walk from Sacramento to Los Angeles with a group from the emerging Environmental Movement providing education and demonstrations on Ecology to cities and townships along the agricultural valley of California.

I bring this goal of personal responsibility for our societal collective to CAMFT as the leadership model for us as therapists and humanists.

**8. What CAMFT programs/activities interest you and why?**

I'm interested in the lobbying efforts in Sacramento and Washington. I have been involved in political activities for over 40 years as my parents and grandparents were during their lives.

Now that MFTs will be allowed to work in additional governmental agencies, I would like to see CAMFT continue her efforts to have MFTs be Medicare providers. I would also like CAMFT turn to lobbying congress to address the burden of student loan debts by increasing debt forgiveness programs for those who serve the needs of the poor and indigent in our communities. I would also like congress to address the insurance monopolistic policies that keep reimbursements below community standards for medical services, as well as lobbying for a one-payer system for the health needs of Californians. I would also like to see CAMFT work with the agencies and community centers that utilize interns to be able to financially

support interns with wages for services offered. I recognize this would be a substantial burden on most agencies and could force them to close some doors to the desperate communities they serve. We need creative solutions to this seemingly unsolvable situation. We can't be creating indigent college graduates who cannot sustain a livelihood, while serving the needs of their indigent clients.

I am also interested in developing and enhancing the organizing activities of the Chapters throughout the state. Each chapter is unique and I would like to personally assist them in increasing Chapter membership as well as reaching out to non-CAMFT member MFTs to engage them in collective and collaborative activities. I think if all the MFTs in an area could become engaged in communal activities that would lead to increased membership in CAMFT. This would also help engage our colleagues to become more politically active with their local, state and national representatives and be effective lobbyist for our professional concerns.

**9. What new programs/activities would you like to see CAMFT embark upon? What do you think would make CAMFT more effective?**

I would like to see CAMFT provide additional financial and organizing help to our local Chapters to increase their efficiency and effectiveness serving the needs of MFTs and the mental health needs of people in their catchment areas. I see the Chapters as being a brilliant organizing force and a progenitor of leadership for MFTs in California. They are a vital force against isolation and burnout in our profession.

I would like to explore the ways and means that would allow the members of CAMFT to automatically be members of their local chapters. Perhaps CAMFT could calculate a rebate to chapters that would cover chapter membership costs. I would like to do this without having to raise CAMFT membership fees. I would also like to help chapters develop sponsorships from business interest in their areas that would add revenue for activities as well as ways to keep prices for events at rates affordable to students, interns and others who have financial needs that keep them from being active members.

**10. What aspects of the office you seek are most and least attractive to you?**

I am most attracted to being able to help CAMFT continue to become more engaged with the membership, sharing thoughts and concerns in order to increase collaboration. I think much of the wisdom for our professional concerns lies within the membership. Tapping into that wisdom will result in a broader vision for our profession as well as a honing in and prioritizing the needs of our membership.

The least attractive is not having enough personal and collective time or resources to bring quicker solution to our community but I know the importance of thoughtfulness and patience in creating, evolving and implementing a holistic plan of action, based on the widened perspective provided from the bottom up, from those we serve.

**11. What is your five-year vision for CAMFT?**

In my previous board application I noted a five-year vision for CAMFT is to become a larger organization by attracting more MFTs to experience CAMFT membership as a great benefit

to their professional success and personal development. In the past two years CAMFT has succeeded in that effort

In the recent past CAMFT has seen the energizing effect of a membership driven by fear and anger when feeling dismissed and misrepresented. In these past 2 years I've seen CAMFT move to being a positive activating stimulus to our members, many who now feel more empowered and acknowledged by their Board of Directors and through them, the staff. I would like the association to continue and expand being this positive organizing force and to further our influence and usefulness for the mental health needs of our communities.

As the most effective representative of the MFTs in California, CAMFT needs to do better in developing a deeper understanding of our unique role in the mental health needs and services we provide our State. The current board has devoted considerable funding, professional staff and board member time to create and execute a new marketing plan to educate the public and to educate our political representative on "What is an MFT" and the level of training and experience MFTs bring to their role as mental health professionals. During my tenure as a board member CAMFT has further expanded their active role in organizing MFTs in other states, through collaboration with AAMFT and other professional mental health associations.

## **12. What is your one-year vision for CAMFT?**

My one-year vision for CAMFT is to continue their efforts at being more transparent in communication with membership. During these past two years we have deepened the connection and collaboration between staff and board. CAMFT has also developed a stronger common and shared vision with our members that better reflects member's needs and ideas.