

CONTACT & GENERAL INFORMATION

Name Howard Levitt Relevant degree(s) MA

Home Address

Bus. Address

Phone: (Day) (Evening)

Email Address
(All Board and Committee Members shall be e-mail accessible.)

Occupation LMFT

Number of years as a CAMFT Member 44 years

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.)

<u>License:</u> MFT 5795	<u>Date Issued:</u> OCT 1972
<u>License:</u>	<u>Date Issued:</u>
<u>License:</u>	<u>Date Issued:</u>

From what school did you graduate that qualified you for each license?
San Francisco State University

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.

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

BOARD POSITION

Choose the position for which you wish to run. Click on each title to view a detailed job description.

- President-Elect
- Chief Financial Officer
- Clinical Board Director-At-Large (Elected by Clinical Membership)

BACKGROUND & EXPERIENCE

Describe your past and current activities within CAMFT or CAMFT Chapter.

I served on the state board of CAMFT from June 1993 through June 1997 as a member at large. I gained tremendous insight into the workings of the board on the state level and the intricacies of how our Organization operates.

I have been a member of CAMFT since 1973 and have watched the organization grow over the years. I have presented to the annual conference on numerous occasions and received very favorable evaluations. The topics presented were "Team Divorce Mediation" and "Techniques to Grow Your Private Practice".

2018-2019 CAMFT Board Candidate Application

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

While working as a Deputy Probation Officer for LA County and being a licensed LMFT I was instrumental in creating the Granada Hills Foundation, which brought together mental health practitioners, law-enforcement, and the juvenile courts to better treat juvenile offenders.

In 1976 I cofounded Counseling West, a nonprofit mental health center providing services to the greater San Fernando Valley. This center grew to five locations with a staff of over 50 therapists.

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

In 1984 I formed, along with my partner, Divorce Mediation Services to provide team divorce mediation to couples wishing to seek a fully legal divorce. My partner and I have also provided a 40 hour mediation training to Marriage and Family Therapists under the auspices of CAMFT as well as taught at other local universities.

Another unique aspect of my practice is that I provide "expert witness" testimony in court.

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

I hold a Bachelor of Arts in Economics with additional Masters level studies in Economics. I was awarded a Masters degree in Educational Psychology in 1971, and a Marriage and Family Therapists License issued in October 1972.

I am a retired Los Angeles County Deputy Gang Probation Officer with over 30 years experience.

In 1976 along with Patricia Katalin PhD, founded Counseling West a mental health clinic in LA. What are the reasons you would like to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of CAMFT? Over the past 40 years CAMFT has been a wonderful and supportive organization to me and my practice, and I look forward to the opportunity to provide that same kind of support to my fellow members around the states. I feel at this time with my experience, that I have something to contribute to the overall direction of our organization as we embark with a new executive director.

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

I am a hard worker and fair minded.

I have a strong business background and a record of successful innovation. I have created three successful businesses including my private practice established in 1972, Counseling West a not-for-profit mental health center in the San Fernando Valley established 1976, and Divorce Mediation Services established 1984. Each of these three entities has been successful and have a long and positive track record.

I served on the state CAMFT board from June 1993 through June 1997.

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

My past experience as a board member showed me that, by working with fellow board members I can have a greater expectation of change with regard to my personal goals. I recognize that as a member of a democratic board I have only a partial say and therefore it is essential to work collaboratively in order to achieve any goals. One of my personal goals is to create a vehicle for international travel for our membership.

A second goal is to evaluate how Marriage and Family Therapists are perceived by the public and how these findings can be incorporated into our strategic plan to better meet the needs of our membership. ~~Camft should do this as part of its on-going evaluation of the effectiveness of its~~
What CAMFT programs/activities interest you and why?

CAMFT currently have an individual on staff dealing with chapter liaison. I would like to work closely with the new Executive Director in developing this position in order to create a post that will be more relevant to the needs of local chapters and state CAMFT. I believe we should have an outreach program in the local colleges and universities to encourage students to become active in the state and local aspects of CAMFT

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 increase its outreach to local educational institutions in order to encourage greater participation in our state organization as well as local chapters. I believe it is essential to encourage students to become involved in their professional organization for their benefit as well as the profession.

Furthermore, it is necessary to strengthen our relationships with the chapters and provide them support in growing their membership and their member involvement.

In addition I feel CAMFT should provide an opportunity for our membership to travel internationally for professional exchanges with our counterparts throughout the world.

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

With my undergraduate and graduate work in economics I would enjoy the opportunity to become intimately involved in the financial aspects of our organization. As we move forward with a new Executive Director and with my past history of operating small mental health organizations, I believe I can be of great assistance in providing a smooth transition for our executive director and his/her relationship with the board. I've always had a strong belief that the economics of the mental health profession can sometimes be challenging.

What is your five-year vision for CAMFT?

I believe we need to use our resources in order to create a stronger and better defined image within the general public. I believe we need to engage a professional organization that deals with image and marketing in order to better understand what future challenges are. Once this is done, we then need to have an active plan to achieve the goals that would then be set by the Board of Directors as a strategic plan.

I further believe that we should initiate steps to increase the number of chapters within the state of California, as well as better utilize our state resources to augment the needs of lo

What is your one-year vision for CAMFT?

In the next year I envision our new Executive Director working closely with the board of directors to become a preeminent organization that will be even more effective in meeting the needs of our membership will continue to expand CAMFT.

HOWARD LEVITT

Application for 2018-2019 Board of Directors

Describe your past and current activities within CAMFT or CAMFT Chapter.

I served on the state board of CAMFT from June 1993 through June 1997 as a member at large. I gained tremendous insight into the workings of the board on the state level and the intricacies of how our Organization operates.

I have been a member of CAMFT since 1973 and have watched the organization grow over the years. I have presented to the annual conference on numerous occasions and received very favorable evaluations. The topics presented were "Team Divorce Mediation" and "Techniques to Grow Your Private Practice".

On the local level I have been a member of the Los Angeles, San Fernando Valley, and Ventura chapters of CAMFT. I have been a member of the Ventura chapter of CAMFT since 1973 and in 1999 was voted Member of the Year.

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

While working as a Deputy Probation Officer for LA County and being a licensed LMFT I was instrumental in creating the Granada Hills Foundation, which brought together mental health practitioners, law-enforcement, and the juvenile courts to better treat juvenile offenders.

In 1976 I cofounded Counseling West, a nonprofit mental health center providing services to the greater San Fernando Valley. This center grew to five locations with a staff of over 50 therapists.

In 1984 I cofounded Divorce Mediation Services a Company that blends the disciplines of mental health and law into a single profession. This new profession takes a couple completely through the divorce process without the need to appear in court or to hire separate litigating attorneys. It also allows the parents to focus on the needs of the children while still dealing with all the other aspects of any divorce.

Beginning in 1993 I have led professional delegations all over the world. Currently, on an annual basis, I create delegations of mental health professionals to meet their counterparts throughout the world. In 2004 I led a delegation under the auspices of CAMFT to Australia and New Zealand. Recently I've had the pleasure of taking a delegation to the island of Cuba for professional exchanges. I have visited over 13 countries in my capacity as a professional leader.

Into 2000 I created the Conejo Valley Mental Health Professionals Association, a multi disciplinary mental health organization dedicated to supporting all licensed mental health practitioners by providing a forum to meet and discuss common issues affecting their profession. We also provided continuing education credit for LMFT's, LCSW's, and Psychologists. This organization grew to over 250 members.

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

In 1984 I formed, along with my partner, Divorce Mediation Services to provide team divorce mediation to couples wishing to seek a fully legal divorce. My partner and I have also provided a 40 hour mediation training to Marriage and Family Therapists under the auspiscus of CAMFT as well as taught at other local universities.

Another unique aspect of my practice is that I provide "expert witness" testimony in court.

As stated above I continue to lead professional delegations all over the world.

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

I hold a Bachelor of Arts in Economics with additional Masters level studies in Economics. I was awarded a Masters degree in Educational Psychology in 1971, and a Marriage and Family Therapists License issued in October 1972.

I am a retired Los Angeles County Deputy Gang Probation Officer with over 30 years experience.

In 1976, along with Patricia Katsky PhD, founded Counseling West a mental health clinic in the San Fernando Valley offering mental health services on a sliding scale.

In 1984 I partnered with Yardenna Hurvitz JD to create Divorce Mediation Services to provide team mediation to those couples wishing a divorce in a non-adversarial system. I have also lectured on the university level and provided training on team divorce mediation.

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

I am a hard worker and fair minded.

I have a strong business background and a record of successful innovation. I have created three successful businesses including my private practice established in 1972, Counseling West a not-for-profit mental health center in the San Fernando Valley established 1976, and Divorce Mediation

Services established 1984. Each of these three entities has been successful and have a long and positive track record.

I served on the state CAMFT board from June 1993 through June 1997.

My education includes a BA in Economics as well as Masters level work in Economics.

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

My past experience as a board member showed me that, by working with fellow board members I can have a greater expectation of change with regard to my personal goals. I recognize that as a member of a democratic board I have only a partial say and therefore it is essential to work collaboratively in order to achieve any goals. One of my personal goals is to create a vehicle for international travel for our membership.

A second goal is to evaluate how Marriage and Family Therapists are perceived by the public and how these findings can be incorporated into our strategic plan to better meet the needs of our members. Connected to this concept is also an evaluation of the effectiveness of internal operation as it tries to support our strategic plan.

A third goal is to strengthen the relationship between the state organization in the local chapters and increase our membership.

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 increase its outreach to local educational institutions in order to encourage greater participation in our state organization as well as local chapters. I believe it is essential to encourage students to become involved in their professional organization for their benefit as well as the profession.

Furthermore, it is necessary to strengthen our relationships with the chapters and provide them support in growing their membership and their member involvement.

In addition I feel CAMFT should provide an opportunity for our membership to travel internationally for professional exchanges with our counterparts throughout the world.

What is your five-year vision for CAMFT?

I believe we need to use our resources in order to create a stronger and better defined image within the general public. I believe we need to engage a professional organization that deals with image and marketing in order to better understand what are future challenges are. Once this is

done, we then need to an active plan to achieve the goals that would then be set by the Board of Directors as a strategic plan.

I further believe that we should initiate steps to increase the number of chapters within the state of California, as well as better utilize our state resources to augment the needs of local chapters.

As an additional benefit to our membership, we should establish an annual international delegation of marriage and family therapists that would engage in professional exchanges with our counterparts worldwide.

I believe we need to look internally to make sure that we are providing the best quality of service to our membership. With that in mind, and at the direction of the board, an outside vendor should be hired to examine the efficiency and quality of service we provide to the membership.