The Texas School Psychologist A partner on the path to student success Texas Association of School Psychologists

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Affiliate of the National Association of School Psychologists

Vol. 20

No. 2

Summer 2009

President's Message

Mindi Jeter

What's in a name? For practitioners in professions such as accounting, business management, and nursing, title is largely determined by credentialing based on skills/ competence, rather than delineated by completion of a specific degree. Individuals in any profession should be held to training standards that will prepare them to perform their job responsibilities and in turn should be able to identify and communicate their talents through a clear, concise title. Sounds simple, right?? This formula, while sufficient for myriad professions including speech pathology and engineering, is not generally promoted in the field of psychology as evidenced in APA's latest proposal for revisions of their Model Licensing Act. While Texas is no stranger to emphatically avoiding the term psychologist for anyone other than doctoral level practitioners in psychology, most other states in our great nation have allowed non-doctoral school psychology professionals to operate as school psychologists certified by state education agencies due to an exemption clause in their psychology licensing act. This privilege is being threatened by APA's proposal to remove the exemption that has been in place in the original version of the Model Licensing Act.

So now you're wondering why you should care, right??? After all, Texas doesn't operate under State Board of Educator Certification and we already know we shouldn't call ourselves school psychologists under present licensure. Furthermore, Modeling Licensing Act is merely a guideline for development of licensing legislation—not a requirement. The fallacy in apathy toward this issue involves potential implications for practice and more importantly the overall mindset and attitude toward non-doctoral practitioners in school psychology. If the practice of psychology and psychological



service delivery are limited to psychologists (defined as doctoral level and duly licensed by state licensing boards), how can a non-doctoral level school psychology service provider really exist? APA has stated repeatedly that the exemption removal is related to title only. Unfortunately, if a title is requisite to substantiate the ethical provision of the services, a non-doctoral professional (not a psychologist) could potentially be disallowed from providing school psychological services based on literal interpretation. Enough with the gloom and doom though-we do have a license in Texas that guides our practice in the field of school psychology. We do recognize that we have a mission with respect to service provision for students in need and we will continue to work toward fulfilling our obligation to those students-and we will do it no matter what they call us. We will also continue to build and foster a positive relationship with our Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists

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TASP Executive Board				
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2009TASP Conference, October 8-10, Houston

The Texas School Psychologist is published four times a year. Articles, announcements, advertising, employment notices, and letters should be submitted to:

The Editor:

Coady Lapierre 1901 S Clear Creek RD Killeen TX 76549 (254) 519-5428 lapierre@tarleton.edu

Deadline for receipt of material by the Editor

No. 1 Spring	February 29
No. 2 Summer	May 25
No. 3 Fall	August 15
No. 4 Winter	November 1

Advertising Policy

The publication of any advertisement by the Texas Association of School Psychologists Newsletter is neither an endorsement of the advertiser, nor of the products or services advertised. TASP is not responsible for any claims made in an advertisement. Advertisers may not, without prior consent, incorporate in a subsequent advertisement or promotional piece the fact that a product or service has been advertised in the TASP newsletter. The TASP newsletter is published to enhance communication among school psychologists in a manner that advances the general purpose of the Texas Association of School Psychologists. The acceptability of an ad for publication is based upon legal, social, professional, and ethical considerations. All advertising must be in keeping with the generally scholarly, and/or professional nature of the publication. Thus, TASP reserves the right to unilaterally reject, omit, or cancel advertising which it deems not to be in the best interest of the scholarly and professional objectives of the Association, and/or not in keeping with appropriate professional tone, content, or appearance. In addition, the Association reserves the right to refuse advertising submitted for the purpose of airing either side of controversial social or professional issues. Permission is granted to all other school psychology associations' newsletters to reproduce any article, providing the original source and author are credited.

Classified Rates

There is no charge for Employment Notices. The rate for any other advertising is \$2.00 per line. The minimum order is four lines and each line contains about 60 characters. The charge for a full page ad is color \$440 (b&w \$100.00), half page ad is color \$275 (b&w \$60.00) and a quarter page ad is color \$200 (b&w \$35.00). All advertising must be prepaid. No frequency or agency discounts apply. To submit copy, and/or for other classify/display advertising rates and information, contact: Coady Lapierre; 1901 S Clear Creek RD; Killeen TX 76549; (254) 519-5428; Email lapierre@tarleton.edu.

Advertising Deadlines

Camera ready artwork or Employment Notices must be received prior to deadline date for desired publication. Contact TASP at 888-414-8277 for artwork specifications. It is recommended that response deadlines in advertisements be no earlier than the 15th of the month following the month of publication.

TASP Annual Professional Development Conference 2009.

The 2009 TASP Professional Development Conference will be held October 8-10 in Houston at the Omni Hotel Westside. Many exciting presentations will offer unparalleled continuing education opportunities. In addition, the TASP conference is the only chance that Texas school psychologists have to get together to network, renew relationships and re-kindle passion for the profession.

The theme for this year's conference is LSSPower: Providing Indispensable Services in Mental Health, Assessment and System Reform. In addition to the traditional 3 hour workshops given by nationally recognized presenters, the 2009 Conference will debut a new type of session. These sessions will feature 2 presentations, a best practice and a research-based presentation, on each of the strands of the themes. There will be presentations from school districts, a regional service center, and university faculty. All of these presentations will give an opportunity for LSSPs to learn about what other professionals in the state are doing to implement great programs and what research is happening in Texas that furthers the profession.

Confirmed Pre-conference presenter, Randy Sprick, will present a practical approach to positive behavioral interventions. A second preconference presentation on early childhood assessment is planned. Other topics that are planned include legal/ethical issues and updates, crisis intervention, art therapy, electronic management of RtI data, art therapy, autism assessment and intervention, childhood anxiety disorders, social skills assessment, positive behavioral supports, assessing behavior and supervision of school psychologists.

Please make plans now to attend the TASP Professional Development Conference in October. There is no better opportunity for school psychologists in Texas!!! *§*

Poster Presentations at TASP Professional Development Conference

A great way to spotlight your original research or innovative programs is to present a poster at the TASP professional development conference. The scientist/ practitioner model of school psychological services is the training philosophy for most school psychology programs in Texas. This model encourages professionals to engage in research and program planning to further the understanding of best practices in the field. In order for your personal work to impact the professional practice of others, you must present that work to them. The TASP professional development conference is the ideal place to do this.

Students and professionals are invited to submit proposals for poster presentations. Students should submit proposals that highlight empirical research or theoretical analysis of previous studies. The presentation should represent original work. Students may submit individually or as part of a research group. A panel of school practitioners, graduate students and university trainers will award a certificate for the most outstanding student poster presentation.

Professional school psychologists are encouraged to submit proposals that describe empirical research and innovative programs. Professionals working in both university and school districts are encouraged to participate.

Poster presentation at TASP professional development conference is a great way to participate in the growth of the field. Other school psychologists in Texas can benefit from innovative work that is going on here in our state. Take this opportunity to make your important contribution!

To submit a poster proposal, send a brief (max. 500 words) description of the poster presentation to:

Student posters: Jennifer Stewart at jenniferls02@yahoo.com Professional posters: James Crosby at jwc014@shsu.edu

Deadline for submission is September 1st. 🕅

From President's Message - Page 1

Psychologists in hopes of further clarifying and solidifying our role in the provision of school psychological services.

So what am I asking you to do?? First of all, get involved! Your opinions are valuable and you may have knowledge or experience that would further promote school psychology. TASP has formulated a letter to be sent to APA opposing the proposed revisions to the Modeling Licensing Act, which focuses primarily on implications for practice of school psychology. By the time this newsletter reaches you, you will have most likely received other information via email concerning possible avenues for advocacy at the state level. NASP also has some great resources, such as form letters and more specific interpretation of the implications of each proposed revision. Finally, feel free to contact TASP if you want to get more involved or would like to share your insight. *§*

Employment Opportunities

Position: Clear Creek Independent School District has District Lead Psychologist position open

Description: District Lead Psychologist will provide coordination and support for all aspects of special education appraisal and psychological services. In addition, the lead psychologist will assist with implementing positive behavioral supports, mental health resources and response to intervention initiatives for 41 district campuses. Minimum of 3 years experience providing direct services in a public school setting. Strong administrative experience preferred. Ph.D. or Ed.D. preferred. LSSP licensure required. CCISD is located between Houston and Galveston in the center of the beautiful bay area of Clear Lake.

Compensation: 230 day contract. Competitive salary and benefits

Contact: For further information, please contact: Jerry Klekotta, Executive Director of Special Education sped@ccisd.net (281)284-7733

Outstanding Doctoral Level School Psychologist Award Call For Nominations Texas Association of School Psychologists

This award will be presented at the awards ceremony at the Annual TASP Professional Development Conference October 9-11, 2008.

This form must be used to submit your nomination of the individual you feel is the most deserving of this award. The individual must be a current member of TASP.

At a later date, nominees and nominators will be contacted via email for a request for information expanding on the following categories and for a resume or vita of the individual being nominated.

Name of Nominee:
Nominee's Job Title:
Employed by:
Nominator:
Nominators email:

This award is intended to recognize a doctoral level school psychologist that demonstrates excellence in the suggested categories.

- <u>Direct Service</u>: This area relates to providing school psychological services to students and parent(s)/guardian(s) (i.e., assessment, counseling, parent training, etc.)
- <u>Indirect Service</u>: These services are those which involve consultation with teachers, parents, administrators, and other school and non-school personnel. In-service training would also fall in this category.
- <u>Supervision or Administration</u>: This category involves supervision of other school psychologists and related personnel and administrative responsibilities such as coordination of programs.
- <u>Leadership in School Psychology</u>: This area includes work done in professional organizations and/or the community, public lectures and/or workshops given, membership on advisory boards, membership in professional organizations, etc.
- <u>Research</u>: This area includes both empirical and applied research work carried out either as part of the job or outside the job. The research should be related to school-aged children with respect to psychological and/or educational issues/practices. Publications, project reports, presentations at professional conferences and similar activities would be included here.

Send completed nomination by September 1, 2009 to:

Outstanding Specialist Level School Psychologist Award Call For Nominations Texas Association of School Psychologists

This award will be presented at the awards ceremony at the Annual TASP Professional Development Conference October 9-11, 2008.

This form must be used to submit your nomination of the individual you feel is the most deserving of this award. The individual must be a current member of TASP.

At a later date, nominees and nominators will be contacted via email for a request for information expanding on the following categories and for a resume or vita of the individual being nominated.

Name and email of Nominee:
Nominee's Job Title
Employed by:
Nominator:
Nominator's email:

This award is intended to recognize a specialist level school psychologist that demonstrates excellence in the suggested categories.

- <u>Direct Service</u>: This area relates to providing school psychological services to students and parent(s)/guardian(s) (i.e., assessment, counseling, parent training, etc.)
- <u>Indirect Service</u>: These services are those which involve consultation with teachers, parents, administrators, and other school and non-school personnel. In-service training would also fall in this category.
- <u>Supervision or Administration</u>: This category involves supervision of other school psychologists and related personnel and administrative responsibilities such as coordination of programs.
- <u>Leadership in School Psychology</u>: This area includes work done in professional organizations and/or the community, public lectures and/or workshops given, membership on advisory boards, membership in professional organizations, etc.
- <u>Research</u>: This area includes both empirical and applied research work carried out either as part of the job or outside the job. The research should be related to school-aged children with respect to psychological and/or educational issues/practices. Publications, project reports, presentations at professional conferences and similar activities would be included here.

Send completed nomination by September 1, 2009 to:

Outstanding Service to the Profession of School Psychology Award Call For Nominations Texas Association of School Psychologists

This award will be presented at the awards ceremony at the Annual TASP Professional Development Conference October 9-11, 2007.

This form must be used to submit your nomination of the individual you feel is the most deserving of this award. The individual must be a current member of TASP.

The Outstanding Service To The Profession Award is designed to recognize an individual who has contributed to the profession of school psychology by making contributions in the following areas:

• Publications and Conference Presentations, Training, and Development of Procedures & Policies

• Leadership in promoting school psychology at state level/membership in state and national associations

• Other areas which you feel show exemplary service to the profession such as community involvement, participation in task forces or other groups to promote school psychology

At a later date, nominees and nominators will be contacted via email for a request for information expanding on the following categories and for a resume or vita of the individual being nominated.

Name and email of Nominee"
Nominee's Job Title:
Employed by:
Nominator:
Nominator's email:
Send completed nomination by September 1, 2009 to:
Evelyn Perez
52 April Point South
Montgomery, TX 77356 OR
perez.evelyn1@gmail.com &

Outstanding Delivery of School Psychological Services Award to a School District Call For Nominations Texas Association of School Psychologists

This is for nominations of school districts, which recognize and implement the best practices or innovative practices of school psychology. This award will not be granted based on geographic location, or size of the district.

This award will be presented at the awards ceremony at the Annual TASP Professional Development Conference October 9-11 2008. It will be presented to an administrator from the district that receives the award.

This form must be used to submit your nomination of the district you feel is the most deserving of this award. At a later date, nominees and nominators will be contacted via email for a request for information expanding on the nominee's qualities in the following areas.

- <u>Model of Service Delivery</u>: This relates to the model by which school psychological services are delivered within the district. Include the number of psychological service personnel employed by the district and in what capacity they are employed.
- <u>Programs</u>: This category involves programs for special students (i.e., At-Risk, ADHD, ED, LD, etc.) or regular education students.
- <u>Direct and Indirect Service</u>: This area relates to providing school psychological services directly to students and parent(s)/guardian(s) (i.e., assessment, counseling, parent training, etc.; and/or indirectly through consultation, in-service training, etc.). Include the primary activities performed by psychological service personnel.
- <u>Research, Grants, and/or Projects</u>: Please list program evaluation activities, any special projects being conducted, and/or any grants which have been awarded to the district regarding the provision of school psychological services.

School District:

Contact Person/ Nomimator email:

Address: _____

Telephone:

Send completed nomination by September 1, 2009 to:



Initial and Renewal Membership

Application Dues are for July 1 to June 30 Annually (Federal Tax ID # 74-2673792)

Name: Last	First	M.I.	Title	(Mrs/Mr/Dr etc.))Professional	Title (i.e. LSSP)
Street Address:		C	ity:		State:	Zip:
Telephone Home: ()	Work: ()		Fax: ()
E-mail Address:		Pl	ace of E	mployment:		
Please <i>send</i> the newslett Please <i>do not print</i> my a						
Please list the county in	which you resi	de:		and in whi	ch you work:	
I am applying for membersh	ip in the following	category (Circle choi	ce):	Renewal	New	Member
Please check the approp	vriate category c	of membership:				
Professional Member 1. Regular Member (v	oting member)			\$6	0.00
 Retired (nonvoting (a) One who was a (b) One who was a (c) One who is trained 	ed in training of ar member) regular member in member) ed or employed in a	n LSSP at a college or good standing and ha closely related field or p	universit	y working or residin from the field of sch or does not meet the	ng in the state of \$4 ool psychology requirements for	Texas 0.00 0.00 regular membership
1. Trainee (voting mer	· ·					
		rements for the Texas ogists to be of trainee s		chology credential a	and has been des	signated by the Texas
2. Student (voting mer	mber)	-		••••••	\$2	.5.00
(a) One who is activ	vely engaged (mini	imum of six semester	hours or i	ts equivalent per ser	mester) in a pro	gram of psychology
I wish to donate to	the Governmer	nt Professional Re	elations	Fund	Ama	ount:
I wish to donate to	the Children's	Assistance for Liv	ving Con	nmittee	Amo	ount:
I affirm that all of the	information p	covided on this fo	rm is tr	ue and complet	<i>Т</i>	otal:
Signature					Date	
		Make checks pay	able to T	TASP or		
Credit Card: (Visa & M	astercard ONL	Y) Card holder's N	Name:			

Card Number:

Expiration Date:

Please send completed form, check, and all supportive materials as necessary to: TASP; PO Box 141023; Austin TX 78714-1023

Outstanding Specialist Level Graduate Student Award Call For Nominations Texas Association of School Psychologists

This award will be presented at the awards ceremony at the Annual TASP Professional Development Conference October 11-13, 2007.

This form must be used to submit your nomination of the individual you feel is the most deserving of this award. The individual must be a current member of TASP.

Eligibility: The graduate student must be enrolled in a school psychology program and have the status, "Intern." The student must also have a minimum overall grade point average of 3.75 and be a student member of TASP.

Criteria: Two recommendations, one from each of the following: school psychology professor and field-based supervisor. At a later date, nominees and nominators will be contacted via email for a request for information expanding on the following categories, letters of recommendation, and for a resume or vita of the individual being nominated.

Name of Nominee and email:
University Attending:
GPA (at time of nomination):
Date Degree will be Awarded:
Internship Site(s):
Nominated and Verified by:
Nominator's email:
Recommended by:

This category is intended to recognize student's that demonstrate evidence of impact of graduate education in school psychology after entering the program.

- Leadership skills
- Creative endeavors
- Observed Personal Growth

That which sets this student apart from other students, regarding:

- Interpersonal Skills
- Professional Competencies
- Presentations At Conferences

Send completed nomination by September 1, 2009 to:

Outstanding Doctoral Level Graduate Student Award Call For Nominations Texas Association of School Psychologists

This award will be presented at the awards ceremony at the Annual TASP Professional Development Conference October 9-11, 2008.

This form must be used to submit your nomination of the individual you feel is the most deserving of this award. The individual must be a current member of TASP.

Eligibility: The graduate student must be enrolled in a school psychology program and have the status, "Intern." The student must also have a minimum overall grade point average of 3.75 and be a student member of TASP.

Criteria: Two recommendations, one from each of the following: school psychology professor and field-based supervisor. At a later date, nominees and nominators will be contacted via email for a request for information expanding on the following categories, letters of recommendation, and for a resume or vita of the individual being nominated.

Name of Nominee and email:
University Attending:
GPA (at time of nomination):
Date Degree will be Awarded:
Internship Site(s)::
Nominated and Verified by:
Nominator's email:
Recommended by:

This category is intended to recognize student's that demonstrate evidence of impact of graduate education in school psychology after entering the program.

- Leadership skills
- Creative endeavors
- Observed Personal Growth

That which sets this student apart from other students, regarding:

- Interpersonal Skills
- Professional Competencies
- Presentations At Conferences

Send completed nomination by September 1, 2009 to:

Colleague Assistance Program

Paul Andrews, Ph.D. LP and Laurie Klose, Ph.D., LSSP

Crises happen to all of us if we live long enough and come in many forms—hurricanes, budget cuts, family problems, lawsuits—for both personal and professional life. We know that the way a person copes with the situation matters not only for the resolution of that crisis but also has long term effects. As mental health professionals, we have more knowledge than average citizens about coping strategies but still may not have necessary resources to meet a particular situation.

Many other professional groups have established "colleague assistance programs" in order to provide additional resources to licensees in crisis, and now TSBEP has designated two Board members to collaborate with representatives of TASP, TPA and TAPA to explore ways to form a program for its licensees. Although many people think of "colleague assistance programs" only in terms of helping people for alcohol or drug abuse problems, substance abuse treatment resources are only a small part of the scope of these programs. We envision the program that will be created for LSSPs and psychologists to have a wellness and prevention focus with "safety net" resources as a back up. We think efforts to improve our personal and professional lives at stress points will benefit us as individuals, foster professional behavior, protect members of the public, and result in better practice.

The particular colleague assistance program being explored for LSSPs and all licensees of TSBEP will by state requirement have to be approved by TSBEP, but it will not necessarily be run by TSBEP nor will the TSBEP provide technical support for the program (i.e. field questions, provide information, etc.). The program will likely be run by a freestanding organization with cooperation of TSBEP as well as the professional organizations that have been developed by licensees (TASP, TPA, TAPA). Statutory requirements found in Health and Safety Code Chapter 467 state

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that a developed program can be used by the licensure board for that profession to provide assistance and/or monitoring for licensees upon referral by the licensing board, by licensees themselves, or by others who fulfill mandatory reporting requirements (regarding a peer's behavior) by contacting the program. Furthermore, information provided has an element of confidentiality, and there is civil immunity for persons reporting.

At this point, we are exploring ways for these groups to work together to develop programs and resources. The development is planned in three phases. Phase One has a focus on getting people from the different organizations to plan how the program will be run and what resources will be provided. We hope during this phase to identify "toolkits" or readily available information sheets and websites for helping licensees cope with predictable crises such as starting a practice, closing a practice or relocation, preparing for retirement, and disposing of test equipment. We will focus on education and letting people know about resources. Phase Two will focus on building a network of volunteers statewide who are willing to assist colleagues in crisis. We also think during this phase we will be able to begin to offer licensees an ethics discussion option whereby specialists in an area of practice can respond to specific questions about practice issues in order to inform decision making. Phase Three will focus on developing an administrative structure for maintaining a referral hotline and providing administrative oversight to the program. Financing must be developed before this phase can be activated.

In the coming months representatives from TSBEP, TASP, TPA, and TAPA will be talking with members of our professions about this concept, finding out what needs there are that the program could begin



All Memberships Expired On June 30! Use the Membership Application on Page 9

addressing, and working on developing a resource library. If you have ideas, resources to offer, or interest in working on this project, please contact one of us. Pand75711@suddenlink.net; lk14@txstate.edu.

Journal Update

Coady Lapierre, LSSP

Greetings! I wanted to bring you up to date on the progress of our project to establish a Journal for our organization. We have received submissions and they are going through a blind peer review process. The concern is getting the inertia started. Our plan is to start to publish articles that are accepted to the Journal in this Newsletter to keep the information timely, and then republish them in Journal form once a year. The success or failure of this Journal rests on the submissions, so if you, or someone you know has research relevant to the practice of School Psychology, please consider submitting it to: lapierre@tarleton.edu. *§*

UNIVERSIT SAN MARCOS The rising STAR of Texas School Psychology Program Texas State University offers a Specialist in School Psychology (SSP) degree in school psychology, approved by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). The program endorses the scientist-practitioner training model. Texas State also offers a program for individuals who already hold a master's level psychology degree in a related field and would like to re-specialize in school psychology. For more information, please contact: Cynthia Plotts, Ph.D. Coordinator, School Psychology Program

Texas State University 601 University Dr. San Marcos, TX 78666 (512) 245-3086 (512) 245-8872 (Fax)

www.txstate.edu/eaps

Who Wants to be a NASP Leader?

Charles Deupree, NCSP Chair, Nominations and Election.

If you want to be a NASP Leader the best way to achieve this is to indicate your interest in seeking nominations for a NASP elected position by July 20, 2009. Just by doing this one easy step you will get your name on the Primary ballot in October. Those who do not inform the committee will have to wage a Write-In campaign during the Primary. The goal is to be one of the top two candidates receiving Primary nominations and they will then move on to the General Election in January 2010.

The following positions will be contested this coming year and any NASP member may indicate their interest in seeking a NASP Leadership position by contacting the Nominations and Elections Chair at <u>cdeupree@</u> <u>voyager.net</u>. NASP encourages contested elections so why not give it a try?

President-Elect (2010-2011 and President 2011-2012) Treasurer (2010-2013)

State Delegates (2010-2013) from: Alaska Delaware Idaho Indiana

> KEEP INFORMED!

Let TASP know your E-mail address. Send your E-mail to <u>TASPorg@aol.com</u> or call TASP at their toll-free number: 1-888-414-TASP (8277) or in Austin at 836-1001 Missouri New York* North Carolina* Oklahoma Oregon Puerto Rico South Carolina* South Dakota* Tennessee Texas* Vermont Washington West Virginia* *Term limited Delegate

A copy of the delegate role and responsibilities is available on the NASP website at http://www. nasponline.org/leadership/delroles.aspx

As always members may contact me at <u>cdeupree@</u> <u>voyager.net</u> if they have questions or would like to indicate their interest. §?

Tarleton State University School Psychology Program

Tarleton State is now accepting applications for the Specialist in School Psychology degree program. This program is offered at both the Stephenville and Killeen campuses and includes all required coursework for the Licensed Specialist in School Psychology (LSSP) in Texas and the Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP). Coursework emphasizes the traditional roles of School Psychology; assessment and consultation, with a particular focus on counseling skills. Re-specialization to School Psychology from closely related fields is also available.

For information contact:

Stephenville: Dr. David Weissenburger (weissenburge@tarleton.edu) 254 968-9090

Killeen: Dr. Coady Lapierre (lapierre@tarleton. edu) 254 519 5428

The Texas School Psychologist

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