MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Army Directive 2011-09 (Employment of Licensed Professional Counselors as Fully Functioning Army Substance Abuse Program Practitioners)

1. References

   a. Rapid Action Revision 2 Dec 09 to Army Regulation (AR) 600-85 (The Army Substance Abuse Program), 2 Feb 09.

   b. Rapid Action Revision 22 May 09 to AR 40-68 (Clinical Quality Management), 26 Feb 04.

2. This directive authorizes the Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) to employ licensed professional counselors and licensed mental health counselors as independent practitioners with a well-defined scope of practice.

3. This directive also establishes policy for credentialing and privileging standards for licensed professional counselors and licensed mental health counselors, provided they meet the following criteria:

   a. Hold a master’s degree in counseling from a regionally accredited college or university that has its counseling program accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs. This accreditation requirement will be waived for counselors who, effective the date of this directive, are already employed with ASAP or have already entered the application process for an ASAP counseling position.

   b. Possess a State license as a professional counselor or mental health counselor.

   c. Pass the National Clinical Mental Health Counselor Examination.

   d. Achieve the highest clinical level offered by their State licensing board.

4. This policy is effective immediately. The Offices of the Army Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1 and The Surgeon General are the proponents for this policy, and they will include these policy changes in the next revisions of AR 600-85 and AR 40-68. Activities are reminded to meet any applicable labor relations obligations before implementing this policy.
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5. This Army directive is rescinded upon publication of the revisions to AR 600-85 and AR 40-68.

[Signature]

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