

Andrew Mendonsa, Psy.D., MBA

SPECIALTY

Clinical & Forensic Psychology

FOCUS

Psychological Injury Evaluation, Trauma & Suicidology, Forensic Assessment, QME / Expert Witness Services, Correctional & Regulatory Behavioral Health

BIO

Dr. Mendonsa is a Clinical and Forensic Psychologist with more than twenty years of experience across private practice, public behavioral health, correctional systems, academia, and regulatory oversight. Licensed in multiple jurisdictions, he serves as an Expert Reviewer for the California Board of Psychology and holds dual faculty appointments at the University of the Pacific. He has extensive experience as a QME and expert witness conducting IMEs, depositions, and high-stakes evaluations in criminal, civil, and administrative matters.

EDUCATION

California School of Professional Psychology (APA Accredited)	Psy.D., Clinical Psychology
Texas A&M University (AACSB Accredited)	MBA, Finance & Management
California School of Professional Psychology	MA, Clinical Psychology
National University (WASC Accredited)	BA, Psychology & Criminal Justice Administration

POST GRADUATE EDUCATION

Postdoctoral Fellowship/Residency, UC Davis Dept. of Behavioral Health (APPIC Accredited)

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Psychological Injury & Trauma Evaluation
- Suicidology & Risk Assessment
- Forensic & Correctional Psychology
- QME / Expert Witness Services
- Regulatory & Managed Care Behavioral Health Compliance

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Agile Problem Solving in Dynamic and Regulated Environments
- Competency-Based Clinical Supervision across practicum, internship, postdoctoral, and licensed clinician levels
- Expert Witness Testimony, Deposition Preparation, Trial Consultation, and Rebuttal Analysis of Opposing Expert Opinions in high-stakes litigation
- Risk Assessment for Violence, Self-Harm, and Public Safety Concerns
- Behavioral Health Systems Leadership across inpatient, outpatient, correctional, and public sector environments
- Regulatory Compliance Review and Expert Consultation for state licensing boards; APA Ethics Code Analysis in disciplinary and investigative contexts

- Collaborative Team Leadership across multidisciplinary clinical, legal, and administrative environments
- High-Complexity Clinical Interviewing in adversarial and medico-legal environments
- Public Sector and Government Behavioral Health Administration, including FQHC and correctional mental health oversight
- Trauma-Informed Forensic Evaluation of First Responders and High-Exposure Occupations
- Integrated Psychological Assessment across neurodevelopmental, personality, trauma, and capacity domains
- Organizational Consultation and Training Pipeline Development for scalable practicum, internship, and postdoctoral programs
- Knox-Keene Act and Managed Care Regulations Oversight, including state/county Medi-Cal ODS Systems

LICENSES TO PRACTICE

All professional licenses are held in good standing with no history of disciplinary action, sanctions, or malpractice claims.

Arizona	PSY5157
Arkansas	20-09P
California	PSY23208
Colorado	PSY5062
Hawaii	PSY1801
Idaho	PSY203260
Michigan	6301018285
Nevada	PY0914
New Mexico	PSY1585
Utah	11360599-250
Virginia	810006318
Washington	PY60994654
Wyoming	PSY703

CERTIFICATIONS

- Certified Correctional Health Professional (CCHP) — National Commission on Correctional Healthcare
- LEAN Six Sigma (Black Belt) — Certification 44503024380188, Awarded June 2017
- Certified Clinical Trauma Professional — Evergreen Certifications
- California DWC Qualified Medical Evaluator (QME) — #150731, exp. 07/2027
- Diplomate in Advanced Clinical Mental Health Counseling Practice — American Mental Health Counselor Association, 6/2021
- Independent Practitioner — California Sex Offender Management Board
- Site Visitor for Academic and Internship APA Accreditation — American Psychological Association
- Board Certified Cognitive Specialist (BCCS2678319) — International Board of Credentialing & Education Standards

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Telehealth service delivery and multi-state practice compliance for treatment and assessment
- Digital psychological testing platforms and secure assessment scoring systems

- Risk documentation systems aligned with managed care and regulatory standards
- HIPAA-compliant communication and data security workflows
- Documentation audit and compliance review systems
- Familiarity with AMA Guides digital resources and impairment rating tools
- Secure digital evidence management and protected file transfer systems
- Deposition and trial preparation technology integration
- Statistical software such as SPSS for quantitative analysis; qualitative analysis platforms such as NVivo
- AI-assisted workflow optimization within ethical and regulatory parameters

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Clinical & Forensic Psychologist / Consultant

December 2009 – Present

- Serves as Expert Reviewer for the California Board of Psychology Enforcement Division, opining on standards of care, ethics, and alleged misconduct.
- Delivers advanced psychotherapy and comprehensive psychological evaluations across the lifespan; utilizes forensic measures including MMPI-3, PAI, SIRS-2, TOMM, HCR-20, VRAG-R, LS/CMI, STABLE-2007, PCL-R, C-SSRS, BDI, and BAI.
- Conducts Compensation and Pension examinations and service connection evaluations for veterans pursuing disability benefits and appeals.
- Performs comprehensive Social Security disability evaluations and medical source opinions supporting initial determinations and appellate proceedings.
- Provides contracted mental health evaluations for the World Trade Center Health Program, assessing trauma-related conditions and program eligibility.
- Conducts intellectual, adaptive, personality, diagnostic, and neurodivergent assessments using instruments such as WAIS-V, WISC-V, WMS-V, Vineland, ABAS, ADOS-2, SRS, and SCQ.
- Serves as QME, AME, and independent evaluator in contested workers' compensation, disability, and personal injury matters, offering opinions on causation, apportionment, and impairment.
- Provides high-level consulting to managed care organizations, health plans, and public sector systems on behavioral health claiming practices, medical necessity standards, and regulatory compliance.
- Conducts psychological autopsies and high-liability case reviews involving suicide risk and deviation from standards of care.
- Provides expert witness services in civil, administrative, and criminal matters in superior and federal courts. Current caseload distribution is approximately 60% defense and 40% plaintiff or applicant.
- Performs forensic and risk evaluations for justice-involved populations, including violence and sexual risk assessment, competency (PC 1368/1370), insanity (PC 1026), and fitness for duty for law enforcement, fire, and security-sensitive roles.
- Collaborates with attorneys, courts, agencies, and insurers to deliver rebuttal reports, deposition testimony, trial consultation, and continuing education presentations nationally and internationally.

Professor of Clinical Practice

University of the Pacific | July 2025 – Present • CA School of Professional Psychology | January 2019 – Present

- Holds dual faculty appointment teaching at undergraduate and doctoral levels within psychology and related disciplines.
- Develops and delivers courses in forensic psychology, psychological assessment, law and ethics, biological bases of behavior, social psychology, and clinical supervision.

- Designs competency-based curriculum aligned with APA accreditation standards.
- Chairs and serves on dissertation committees, guiding doctoral candidates through research design, data analysis, and defense.
- Leads applied learning experiences including case formulation labs, mock depositions, and risk assessment exercises.

Behavioral Health Investigation Surveyor

California Department of Managed Health Care | 2019 – 2025

- Conducted comprehensive regulatory audits of commercial and behavioral health plans for compliance with the Knox-Keene Act, MHPAEA, SB 855, and related mandates.
- Reviewed clinical records, medical necessity determinations, and utilization management protocols to identify systemic deficiencies and parity violations.
- Authored formal findings, deficiency reports, and corrective action directives incorporated into DMHC Final Survey Reports.
- Led training initiatives on SB 855 reforms and oversaw Plan of Correction review and validation.

Division Chief / Health Program Manager / Sr. Mental Health Counselor

County of Sacramento | 2022–2025; 2004–2009

- Directed operations of Sacramento County's Primary Health Division, overseeing delivery of primary care services through the county's FQHC.
- Provided executive leadership across medical, behavioral health, and integrated wellness programs, ensuring HRSA compliance and funding renewals.
- Led strategic planning and operational oversight of the Substance Use Prevention and Treatment Services Unit.
- Managed and monitored annual budgets exceeding $65 million, maintaining fiscal stewardship and grant compliance.
- Previously served in secured and forensic psychiatric settings as a Senior Mental Health Counselor, providing direct care to justice-involved and high-risk populations.

Chief Psychologist / Forensic Psychologist

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation | 2020–2022; 2009–2011

- Directed statewide suicide prevention initiatives across state correctional institutions, developing policies and risk mitigation strategies.
- Served as subject matter expert for correctional behavioral health policy, compliance audits, and system reform under the Coleman v. Brown settlement.
- Conducted complex forensic evaluations including competency (PC 1368/1370), mentally disordered offender, and Sexually Violent Predator-related assessments.
- Led institutional audits, root cause analyses, and critical incident reviews involving suicides and adverse events.
- Developed and delivered specialized training for custody and healthcare staff on suicide prevention and crisis response.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor of Clinical Practice*, University of the Pacific

Former Clinical Supervisor, Pepperdine University (MFT Program)

Doctoral Research Advisor, University of West

Virginia

Former Volunteer Faculty, UC Davis School of Medicine

Clinical Professor, California School of Professional Psychology

** Dual Appointment: Teaching in both graduate and undergraduate programs.*

ACADEMIC AREAS OF INSTRUCTION

- Psychological Assessment across clinical and forensic settings, including structured diagnostic interviewing and integrated report writing
- Law and Ethics in Professional Psychology, including APA Ethics Code, regulatory standards, forensic applications, and risk management
- Suicide Risk Assessment, Violence Risk Assessment, and Advanced Case Profiling
- Clinical Interviewing, Differential Diagnosis, and Case Conceptualization
- Forensic Psychology, Correctional Mental Health, and Psychological Injury Evaluation
- Social Psychology and applied behavioral systems
- Dissertation and Thesis Advising with methodological oversight and applied research integration
- Adaptive, Neurodivergent, and Autism Spectrum Assessment
- Business of Practice, Health Care Systems, and Behavioral Health Administration
- Biological, Neuropsychological, and Cognitive-Affective Bases of Behavior

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP, GOVERNANCE, AND PUBLIC SERVICE

Current Appointments and Service

- Chair & Board of Director Member, Mountain Valley Child and Family Services
- National Service Team Behavioral Health Subject Matter Expert Council Chairperson / Past Council Commissioner, Boy Scouts of America (Scouting America)
- Peer Reviewer, American Psychological Association Divisions 12 and 18
- Expert Reviewer, California Board of Psychology Enforcement Unit
- Member, Faculty Technology Board — University of the Pacific
- APA Accreditation Site Visitor — American Psychological Association

Previous Appointments and Public Service

- Steering Committee Member, Sacramento County Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)
- Member, Sacramento County Alcohol and Drug Advisory Board
- Member, Placer County Mental Health Board
- Member, El Dorado County Grand Jury
- Executive Board Member, California Coalition on Sex Offending (2015–2020)
- Member, Sacramento County Children's Coalition and Child Death Review Team

AWARDS & HONORS

- 40 Under 40 Honoree — Sacramento Business Journal
- Leadership Sacramento Alumni — Sacramento Metro Chamber of Commerce

- United States Congressional Medal for Community Service
- Eagle Scout, Boy Scouts of America

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Additional volunteer service, board and commission appointments, and leadership roles have included work across behavioral health, government, and forensic systems. Experience spans residential treatment centers, inpatient psychiatric hospitals, youth detention facilities, locked mental health units, community mental health and substance use programs, and geriatric care settings. Clinical practice began in the early 2000s and reflects sustained engagement across diverse levels of care. Additional details are available upon request.