

Heartland Christian Counseling

Public Statement on Dr. Gary E. Bell

Date: June 11, 2026

Purpose

Heartland Christian Counseling is welcoming **Dr. Gary E. Bell, Ed.D., LMFT** to our practice. We are providing this statement to address questions that may arise about Dr. Bell's background and prior public allegations.

Our Position

After reviewing the documentation provided to us and considering Dr. Bell's professional history, we are confident in his ability to serve clients with competence, professionalism, and care. Dr. Bell maintains that the accusations made against him were false, and our review of the record supports substantial reasons to question the credibility and reliability of the accuser's allegations.

Our perspective is also informed by Scripture: the story often summarized as "*Joseph and Potiphar's wife*"—a scenario in which an upright man is falsely accused after rejecting inappropriate advances. We understand that faith-language resonates with many of our clients and community, and we mention it here to explain why the pattern in the available record is deeply concerning.

Dr. Bell's Professional Background

Dr. Bell is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist with over 20 years of clinical experience and reports having delivered more than 20,000 hours of therapy. His work includes individual, couples, and family counseling, crisis intervention, trauma response, and clinical supervision.

- **Seattle Christian Counseling (Seattle, WA):** LMFT & Certified Supervisor (Aug 2018–Present), providing therapy in multiple offices and via telehealth.
- **California practice:** Licensed LMFT with long-standing clinical work in California (per CV and licensure history).
- **Education:** Ed.D. in Counseling Psychology; M.S. in Marriage and Family Therapy (per CV).

Licensure and Standing (as documented)

- **Iowa LMFT license:** License No. **134883**, effective February 2026 (as shown in the Iowa license document provided).
- **Washington Department of Health:** A February 6, 2026 letter states Dr. Bell has been **released from the requirements** of his stipulation to informal disposition for his Washington credentials after complying with the agreement terms.
- **Washington & California:** Dr. Bell's CV reflects LMFT licensure and practice history in both states.

Context Regarding the California Plea (Pandemic-Era Court Conditions)

Dr. Bell has explained to us that the California plea agreement occurred at the very beginning of the COVID-19 lockdown period, when courts were rapidly shifting into remote proceedings (including telephonic and Zoom-style appearances). He has further stated that his attorney expressed uncertainty about how the new remote process would unfold and, under that uncertainty and time pressure, made a recommendation that Dr. Bell believes was a serious mistake.

We understand Dr. Bell's position to be that the plea did not reflect the full truth of what occurred, and that it was accepted under extraordinary circumstances during an unprecedented and confusing moment in the justice system.

Why We Question the Accusations

Our decision is based on reviewing materials that include administrative and investigative records concerning the complainant and her documented pattern of behaviors, including conduct directed at Dr. Bell.

Relevant Public Findings Concerning the Accuser's Conduct and Mental Health Evaluation

In a California Board of Registered Nursing disciplinary decision provided to us, the record describes extensive communications and behaviors attributed to her including harassment of multiple individuals, repeated boundary violations, and violations of court orders.

The same decision includes expert testimony and evaluation by **Heather Kurera, D.O.** (psychiatrist), who—after reviewing a large volume of emails/texts and conducting an in-person evaluation—testified that she showed significant character pathology and that a diagnosis of **Personality Disorder, Unspecified** was most appropriate, with traits consistent with **borderline**, **narcissistic**, and **histrionic** personality disorders.

Examples of Documented Behaviors (from the provided administrative record)

- **Threatening statements:** the record includes communications in which she used violent language about Dr. Bell (including an explicit statement about shooting him).
- **Boundary violations and harassment:** the record describes repeated, excessive, and inappropriate emails/text messages to multiple parties, including attorneys and members of a district attorney's office.
- **Violation of restraining orders:** the record describes admissions and findings that she repeatedly violated restraining orders and continued contact despite court orders.
- **Sexualized and inappropriate communications:** the record includes examples of highly inappropriate content being sent as part of these communications.
- **Escalations requiring intervention:** the record describes episodes where others felt compelled to involve security or law enforcement due to concerning behavior.

Our Commitment to Ethical Care and Client Safety

Heartland Christian Counseling does not minimize the seriousness of any allegation involving professional ethics. At the same time, we believe in careful discernment, due process, and the responsible review of credible documentation.

- We hold all clinicians to clear professional and ethical standards.
- We support accountability, appropriate boundaries, and client welfare.
- We welcome questions from prospective clients and will respond in a respectful, confidential, and legally appropriate manner.

Note: This statement is intended for general informational purposes on a clinician bio page and is based on documentation provided to Heartland Christian Counseling. It does not disclose any client-specific information and is not intended as legal advice.