

# MARISA ROMANO PERRY

**Licensed Educational Psychologist | School Psychologist | Counselor**

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Scheduling and Spanish translation 310-997-0453*

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## **PROFILE**

Licensed Educational Psychologist with over 22 years of experience across public education and private practice. Specialized in psychoeducational and trauma-focused evaluations, autism behavior intervention, and high-risk behavioral support. Known for her clinical rigor, compassionate approach, and ability to translate complex assessments into meaningful, actionable strategies.

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## **CREDENTIALS & LICENSURE**

- LEP – Licensed Educational Psychologist, State of California, since 2006
- Pupil Personnel Services Credentials
- School Psychology, School Counseling
- MA in Psychology
- MA in Counseling

## **AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

- Psychoeducational & Trauma-Focused Evaluations
- Developmental Assessments (Birth–Adulthood)
- Autism Behavior Intervention (BCBA-guided)
- Social Skills & Pragmatic Language Training
- Crisis Intervention & High-Risk Behavior Support
- Litigation-Ready Psychological Reporting
- Inclusive Education & Neurodiversity Advocacy
- Anxiety and depression Research based on coping tools
- Eastern - Intervention

## **CLINICAL & EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **Private Practice – Licensed Educational Psychologist**

#### **2006–Present**

- Conducts comprehensive psychoeducational and trauma-focused evaluations for children, adolescents, and adults.
- Specializes in pre and post vocational pre-morbid life function.
- Expert in standardized norm for litigation and educational procedures/timelines, and school based legal proceedings
- Known for objectivity, rigor, and applicability in legal, medical, and educational contexts.

## **Expert in Nonverbal Social Skills, Augmentative Communication, & Behavior Intervention 2006 – Present**

- Specialized in assessing and developing advanced nonverbal social communication skills—such as social inference, perspective-taking, gesture interpretation, and situational awareness—for neurodiverse individuals and those with limited expressive language.
- Designed and implemented individualized, small-group, and classroom-wide interventions targeting social pragmatics and adaptive communication, ensuring ecological validity and real-world generalization.
- Expert in augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) systems, including PECS, light sign language, and mid- to high-tech AAC devices (e.g., “hamburgers,” dynamic display systems), enhancing expressive and receptive access for minimally verbal and nonverbal students.
- Authored over 500 individualized Behavior Intervention Plans (BIPs), including high-risk profiles involving self-injury, aggression, and threats to safety, using function-based hypotheses and interventions across multiple settings.
- Collaborated with wraparound providers—behavioral health agencies, mobile crisis teams, and county mental health professionals—to ensure coordinated care and successful reintegration into educational environments.
- Collected and analyzed baseline data, CBMs, observational rubrics, and benchmark progress, aligning assessment practices with both the Discrepancy Model and the Strengths and Weaknesses Model for eligibility.
- Employed goal attainment scaling, direct observation, and multi-informant rating tools to track development in communication, emotional regulation, and adaptive behavior.
- Provided professional training and consultation to multidisciplinary teams—including school psychologists, SLPs, OTs, and clinicians—ensuring implementation fidelity and alignment with IEP and FBA goals.

## **Licensed Educational Psychologist / Neuropsychological Examiner 2005**

### **– Present**

- Conducted and interpreted over 2,000 comprehensive psychoeducational and neuropsychological evaluations for individuals ranging from toddlers to adult learners.
- Administered full assessment batteries covering intellectual functioning, academic achievement, executive functioning, processing speed, and socio-emotional development.
- Integrated neuropsychological process analysis (e.g., verbal/visual memory, auditory/visual processing, visual-motor integration, working memory) to support differential diagnosis and tailored intervention plans.
- Accurately identified students with Specific Learning Disability (SLD), Intellectual Disability (ID), and Emotional Disturbance (ED), including complex cases with trauma, ADHD, and comorbid neurodevelopmental conditions.

## **Licensed Educational Psychologist / Neuropsychological Examiner 2005**

### **– Present (con't)**

- Delivered expert-level assessments in high-liability IEP environments, often under due process audio-recordings, with strict adherence to IDEA, Section 504, and state education laws.
- Performed over 1,000 suicide risk, threat, and at-risk assessments across K-12 and adult education settings, guiding clinical decisions in crisis response and safety planning.
- Led school- and district-wide crisis response and postvention protocols, coordinating emergency mental health referrals and legally compliant monitoring for students at imminent risk.
- Trained and supervised over 100 professionals—including school psychologists, counselors, and mental health staff—on crisis intervention, culturally responsive assessment, and special education compliance.
- Conducted bilingual (English/Spanish) evaluations using culturally sensitive frameworks to assess cognitive and academic development in diverse linguistic populations.
- Collaborated with attorneys, advocacy groups, and compliance officers to ensure litigation-readiness and uphold ethical transparency in educational and mental health determinations.

### **Public School Systems & Districts**

#### **2002–2024**

- Over two decades of service supporting students across a spectrum of learning and behavioral needs.
- Extensive work with moderate-to-severe disabilities, neurodiverse learners, and trauma-impacted students.
- Collaborates with IEP teams, teachers, and families to implement effective, culturally responsive interventions.
- Conducted over 1,000 effective risk assessments for emotionally disturbed youth and adults

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## **EXPERT IN MINDFULNESS-BASED CLINICAL INTERVENTIONS**

- Specializes in the clinical integration of Eastern mindfulness practices, including breath regulation, present-moment awareness, and meditative focus.
- Draws from traditional systems such as Zen Buddhism, Taoist philosophy, and Vedic healing to support therapeutic goals.
- Applies mindfulness techniques to promote neuroregulation, trauma recovery, and stress-related symptom management across pediatric to adult populations.
- Aligns interventions with emerging research in neuroscience and psychophysiology to enhance clinical efficacy and holistic well-being.

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## **SPECIALIZED TRAINING**

### **Autism Behavior Intervention**

- Discrete Trial Training (DTT)
- Reinforcement Systems (Positive & Negative)
- Graduated Desensitization
- BCBA-Guided Programming

### **Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) Certified**

- De-escalation strategies
- Physical intervention techniques
- Risk reduction for aggressive/self-injurious behaviors

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## **PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT & INNOVATION**

### **Creator — The Box of Now. (Bilingual: Spanish/English)**

*A tangible therapeutic toolkit rooted in eight consciousness-based coping strategies.*

- Supports emotional regulation, trauma recovery, and mindfulness
- Widely used across ages and settings to generalize clinical skills
- Effective in managing anxiety, depression, and stress-based behaviors

### **Pioneer — Coping Technology**

*Early adopter of integrating tangible tools with psychological theory to enhance emotional resilience*

- Created accessible strategies for emotional regulation
- Recognized for innovative methods that support self-regulation across diverse populations
- Conceived and led the development of an innovative suite of therapeutic video games.
- Designed to teach evidence-based emotional regulation and coping strategies to youth through adults.
- Integrated gamified tools with clinical techniques to support skill generalization in everyday life.
- Bridged entertainment and mental wellness to promote accessible self-regulation.

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## **LEADERSHIP & ADVOCACY**

- Trainer and mentor to school psychologists and counselors-in-training
  - Consultant on trauma-informed care practices
  - Advocate for inclusive education, mental health awareness, and student-centered policy reform
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