

REGULATION CHANGES THAT IMPACT SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE

Retention of Client Records

Pursuant to **NAC 641B.200(16)**, “A licensee shall maintain each client’s records for at least 10 years unless otherwise specifically authorized by law.

Pursuant to the provisions of **subsection 7 of [NRS 629.051](#)**, “The health care records of a person who is less than 23 years may not be destroyed: and The health care records of a person who has attained the age of 23 may be destroyed for those records which have been retained for at least 5 years or longer period provided by federal law; and except as otherwise provided In subsection 7 of NRS 629.051 and unless a longer period is provided by federal law, the health care records of a patient who is 23 years of age or older may be destroyed after 5 years pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 629.051.

Applicability to social work practice

Social workers in practice who are the custodians of their clients records (e.g. those in private practice) will:

- **CLIENTS UNDER 23**—social workers will retain the records of their underage clients until they reach the age of 23; and
- Retain their client records for a minimum of *10* years

- **CLIENTS OVER 23**—social workers will retain the records of these clients a minimum of *10* years