

FILED BY
Leslie Aronson
Executive Director
JST 11/13/99

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF	:	
	:	
NANCY VALENTE, LCSW	:	Administrative Action
	:	CONSENT ORDER
Certified/Licensed to	:	
Practice Social Work in	:	
the State of New Jersey	:	

This matter was opened to the State Board of Social Work Examiners ("Board") upon receipt of a complaint from K.G. which alleged that respondent Nancy Valente ("respondent"), a licensed clinical social worker ("LCSW"), provided therapy to K.G. and his girlfriend C.K. despite the fact that respondent was a friend and had a social relationship with both C.K. and K.G. K.G. alleged that respondent did not keep records of the therapy; however, he provided the Board with a letter dated November 14, 1997 from the respondent to a doctor. Said letter stated that K.G. had been in psychotherapy with respondent for three months and suggested that K.G. would benefit from a trial of medication to ease his stress. K.G. further alleged that respondent attempted to interfere with

the therapy that another therapist was providing to K.G.'s daughter.

On July 28, 1999, respondent and her attorney, Christopher Barbrack, Esq., appeared for an investigative inquiry before the Board. Respondent maintained that neither K.G. nor C.K. were ever clients, but admitted that she wrote the November 14, 1997 letter to assist K.G. in getting medication for stress. Respondent testified that K.G. was the boyfriend of a female friend. She testified that her relationship with K.G. was that of a friend and that she gave advice as a friend when it was solicited. She denied ever having treatment sessions with K.G. and denied meeting with him regularly. Further, she denied charging him for any alleged service.

Having reviewed the entire record, including respondent's written response and testimony, the affidavit of C.K., the November 14, 1997 letter, and an investigative report, it appears to the Board that respondent engaged in the employment of misrepresentation in her November 14, 1997 letter in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b).

It appearing that the respondent desires to resolve this matter without further proceedings, and the Board finding the entry of the Consent Order to be in the public interest,

IT IS ON THIS 29th DAY OF *October* 1999,

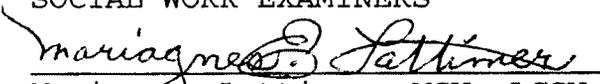
HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT

1. Respondent is hereby reprimanded for the November 14, 1997 she wrote to a doctor falsely claiming that she provided therapy to K.G.

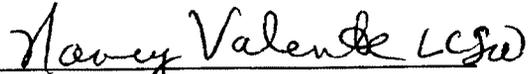
2. Respondent is hereby assessed a civil penalty in the amount of \$750.00 for her misrepresentation in the November 14, 1997 letter. Said penalty shall be paid by certified check or money order made payable to the State of New Jersey and submitted to the Leslie Aronson, Executive Director, State Board of Social Work Examiners, 124 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor, New Jersey 07101, within fourteen days of the entry of the within Consent Order.

3. Respondent is hereby assessed the costs of this investigation in the amount of \$1,419.69. Said costs shall be paid by certified check or money order made payable to the State of New Jersey and submitted to the Leslie Aronson, Executive Director, State Board of Social Work Examiners, 124 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor, New Jersey 07101, within fourteen days of the entry of the within Consent Order.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF
SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS


Mariagnes Lattimer, MSW, LCSW
President

I have read the within Consent Order and understand its terms. I hereby consent to its entry and to be bound by the Consent Order's terms.


Nancy Valente, LCSW