

FILED BY THE BOARD OF  
SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

*BYA 8/16/02*

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

IN THE MATTER OF \_\_\_\_\_ :  
 :  
 DAWN DONOVAN, LCSW : Administrative Action  
 :  
 Licensed to Practice Social : CONSENT ORDER  
 Work In the State of New Jersey :  
 \_\_\_\_\_ :

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Social Work Examiners (hereinafter "the Board") upon receipt of information that Dawn Donovan (hereinafter "respondent"), Licensed Clinical Social Worker (hereinafter "LCSW") violated the Social Workers' Licensing Act while providing therapy to E.T. Specifically, the information disclosed that while providing therapy, respondent crossed professional boundaries.

On August 17, 2001 respondent appeared without counsel for an investigative inquiry into the matter before a committee of the

Board which reported back to the full Board. Respondent stated that Dorothy Neddermeyer was the primary therapist of E.T. Respondent further stated that on some occasions she acted as a co-therapist with Ms. Neddermeyer in sessions with E.T. Respondent admitted that during the time that E.T. was a client, respondent went to dinner with E.T., and respondent had E.T. to respondent's home.

Having reviewed the entire record, it appears to the Board that respondent's relationship with E.T. crossed the professional boundaries between therapist and client, thereby limiting respondent's objectivity, impairing her professional judgment, and increasing the risk of exploitation in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:44G-10.4.

It appearing that respondent desires to resolve this matter without recourse to formal proceedings and for good cause shown:

IT IS ON THIS 5<sup>th</sup> DAY OF February 2002,

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:

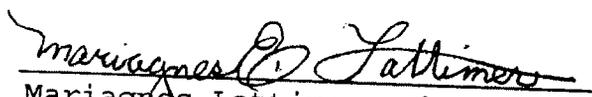
1. Respondent is hereby assessed a civil penalty in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) for having crossed professional boundaries in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:44G-10.4.

2. Respondent shall pay the costs of the investigation of this matter in the amount of five hundred and seventy-five dollars (\$575.00)

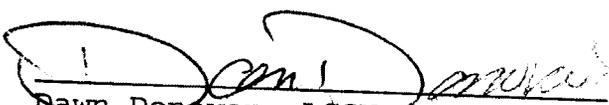
3. Respondent shall pay the above penalty and cost, totaling one thousand, five hundred and seventy-five dollars (\$1,575.00), with twenty-one (21) days of the entry of the within Consent Order.

Payment shall be by certified check or money order, payable to the State of New Jersey, and sent to Leslie Aronson, Executive Director, State Board of Social Work Examiners, P.O. Box 45033, Newark, New Jersey 07101.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF  
SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

  
Mariagnes Lattimer, Ph.D, MSW, LCSW

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.

  
Dawn Donovan, LCSW