

Complaint
20.890

BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY
THERAPY EXAMINERS
124 HALSEY STREET, 6TH FL.
P O BOX 45007
NEWARK, NJ 07101

DAVID SAMSON
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Division of Law
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Newark, New Jersey 07101
Attorney for the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee

FILED
8/19/02 *Dej*

By: Marilyn Bair, Deputy Attorney General
Tel: 973-648-3696

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR EXAMINERS COMMITTEE**

IN THE MATTER OF :

JOAN ABRUTYN :
37 PC00282200 :
Unlicensed to Practice :
Professional Counseling :
In the State of New Jersey :

Administrative Action
CONSENT ORDER

This matter was opened to the New Jersey Professional Counselor Examiners Committee ("the Committee") upon receipt of information that in 1990 Joan Abrutyn ("Respondent") opened a private counseling practice, the Counseling Center of Morristown, in Morristown, New Jersey. In this private practice setting, respondent has offered and has provided her services as a clinical counselor. Respondent sees approximately twenty clients a week who pay approximately \$125.00 per hour for respondent's services as a clinical

counselor.

For the last twelve years, respondent has engaged in the independent private practice of clinical counseling although she has not held any license, including as a Professional Counselor, which would entitle her to provide such services in New Jersey. Respondent's unlicensed practice of clinical counseling violates the laws of the State of New Jersey.

Having reviewed the entire record, it appears to the Committee that respondent has engaged in the unlicensed practice of clinical counseling in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:8B-39 by having advertised and/or engaged in offering counseling services to the public which she was not legally authorized to engage in or to offer.

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

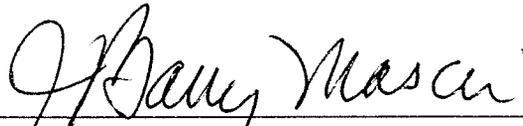
IT IS ON THIS 19th DAY OF August, 2002,

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:

1. Respondent agrees to come under the jurisdiction of the Committee in this matter.
2. Respondent shall immediately cease and desist from offering to provide and providing any clinical counseling services in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:8B-39 until such time as she may be licensed as a professional counselor.
3. Respondent is hereby assessed a civil penalty in the amount of seven thousand, five hundred dollars (\$7,500.00).
4. Respondent shall pay the costs of the investigation in the amount of two thousand, one hundred and eighty-eight dollars (\$2,188.00).

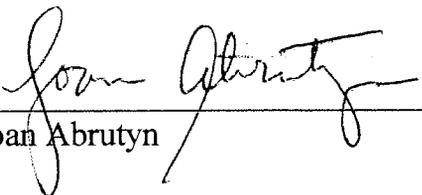
5. Respondent shall pay the above penalty and costs, totaling nine thousand, six hundred and eighty-eight dollars (\$9,688.00), within forty-five (45) days of the entry of this Consent Order. Payment shall be by certified check, or money order, payable to the "State of New Jersey", and sent to Dennis Gonzalez, Executive Director, Professional Counselor Examiners Committee, P. O. Box 45044, Newark, New Jersey 07101.

NEW JERSEY PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS
EXAMINERS COMMITTEE



J. Barry Mascari, LPC
President

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



Joan Abrutyn