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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS
PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR EXAMINERS COMMITTEE

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State Board of Marriage and Family
Therapy Examiners

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR EXAMINERS
COMMITTEE OF THE STATE BOARD OF
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE	:	
SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF	:	Administrative Action
THE LICENSE OF	:	
	:	
ALEXANDRA RUSH	:	CONSENT ORDER
	:	
TO PRACTICE PROFESSIONAL	:	
COUNSELING IN THE STATE	:	
OF NEW JERSEY	:	

This matter was opened before the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee of the New Jersey State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners (hereinafter "the Committee") upon review of allegations that respondent had engaged in an intimate sexual relationship with a former client less than twenty-four (24) months after respondent had terminated therapy with the client.

Respondent who is also licensed as a Clinical Alcohol and Drug Counselor admitted in a Consent Order filed with the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee on Feb 14, 2007 that she engaged in a sexual relationship with a former client less than twenty-four (24) months after treatment was terminated, in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:34C-3.3(c) and that her conduct constituted professional misconduct, in

violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21. The Committee finding that the following disposition of this matter is adequately protective of the public, and other good cause appearing;

IT IS THEREFORE ON THIS 14th DAY OF February, 2007
ORDERED:

1. Respondent's license to practice professional counseling in the State of New Jersey shall be suspended for a period of five (5) years, the first three (3) years to be served as an active suspension, commencing February 27, 2007. The remainder of the suspension shall be stayed. No credit shall be given toward the period of active suspension for any time period during which respondent is practicing any type of counseling in the State of New Jersey or any other jurisdiction or state, whether or not such counseling is provided in an exempt setting.

2. Respondent shall remain in psychotherapy for a minimum of three (3) years, such therapy to include discussion of boundary issues and ethics applicable to alcohol and drug counseling and professional counseling, at a frequency to be determined by the therapist but not less than once per week. Respondent shall submit her current psychotherapist's name and credentials to the Committee for evaluation and approval within ten (10) days of the filing of this order. In the event the psychotherapist is not approved by the Committee, respondent shall provide the Committee with the credentials of an alternate psychotherapist within ten (10) days of notification that the psychotherapist has not been approved. Unilateral cessation of therapy by respondent shall constitute a violation of this order. In the event respondent ceases therapy with her approved psychotherapist, respondent shall notify the Committee in writing within three (3) days of cessation of treatment with the

reasons therefore and shall submit the credentials of an alternate psychotherapist to the Committee for pre-approval of the psychotherapist within ten (10) days thereafter. Respondent shall provide all psychotherapists with a copy of the within order and each psychotherapist shall sign a copy of the Consent Order acknowledging that the psychotherapist has read the Consent Order and agrees to the reporting requirements. The copy of the Consent Order signed by the psychotherapist shall be sent to the Committee within ten (10) days thereafter. The psychotherapist shall immediately (within 3 days) report to the Committee in writing if Ms. Rush unilaterally ceases therapy or if treatment ceases for any other reason. Only periods of time during which respondent is in active therapy shall be counted toward the three (3) year period of active suspension. The psychotherapist shall provide the Committee with yearly reports (due on or before November 1 of each year) expounding upon respondent's progress in therapy and specifically including a discussion of respondent's understanding of ethical and boundary issues applicable to both alcohol and drug counseling and professional counseling.

3. Respondent shall pay costs of the State's investigation in the amount of nine hundred twenty dollars and ninety-nine cents (\$929.99) upon signing of this order. Payment shall be by certified check or money order, payable to the Treasurer, State of New Jersey and submitted to Elaine DeMars, Executive Director, Professional Counselor Examiners Committee, P.O. Box 45044, Newark, New Jersey 07101. In the event respondent fails to timely pay, a certificate of debt may be filed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 45:1-24, and the Committee may bring such other proceedings as authorized by law. In the event respondent demonstrates that she has paid costs in the amount of nine hundred twenty dollars and ninety-nine cents (\$929.99)

pursuant to the Consent Order filed with the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee, the costs of investigation shall not be assessed by this Committee.

4. Respondent shall pay civil penalties in the amount of twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00). Payment shall be by certified check or money order, payable to the Treasurer, State of New Jersey and submitted to Elaine DeMars, Executive Director, Professional Counselor Examiners Committee, P.O. Box 45044, Newark, New Jersey 07101 on or before March 5, 2007. In the event respondent has not made full payment by March 5, 2007 or seeks a payment plan for the payment of the civil penalty, the Committee shall file a Certificate of Debt in accordance with N.J.S.A. 45:1-24 in the full amount of the civil penalty. Respondent shall provide proof of full payment of the civil penalty upon applying for a restricted license to practice professional counseling. In the event respondent submits written proof that she has paid a civil penalty in the amount of twenty five-hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) pursuant to the Consent Order filed with the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee for the same misconduct, the civil penalty provided herein shall be stayed in its entirety.

5. Two months prior to the end of the active period of suspension provided herein, respondent may apply for a restricted license upon demonstrating that she is fit and competent to re-enter the practice of professional counseling and has complied with all the terms of the within order. Upon any such application respondent shall submit:

a. A report from each of her psychotherapists demonstrating that she has engaged in therapy throughout the period of active suspension, expounding upon her current progress in therapy and

recommending that she is able to return to practice. The psychotherapist's report shall also include a recommendation whether further treatment is necessary. If further treatment is necessary, the report shall include a plan for future treatment. If further treatment is not required, the report shall explain why treatment should be concluded.

b. A statement signed and dated by the respondent listing each job respondent engaged in during the time respondent's license was actively suspended, including name of business or entity, address, name of supervisor, telephone number of supervisor, dates of employment and description of respondent's duties.

c. Documentation that costs and civil penalties have been paid in full.

d. If so requested by the Committee, respondent shall appear before the Committee where the burden shall be upon the respondent to demonstrate that respondent is fit and competent to practice to the Committee's satisfaction.

6. In the event the Committee finds the respondent is fit and competent to practice following the period of active suspension, respondent's license shall be reinstated and respondent shall practice professional counseling on probation for a period of a minimum of two years pursuant to the following conditions:

a. Respondent shall practice professional counseling under the supervision of a supervisor pre-approved by the Committee. The supervisor must have expertise in treating sex offenders. The supervisor shall sign a copy of this Consent Order or a subsequent Order filed by the Committee which shall be submitted to the Committee prior to respondent commencing employment as a professional counselor. In the event the supervisor ceases supervising

respondent, respondent shall cease and desist engaging in professional counseling unless and until a new supervisor is approved by the Committee and submits a signed copy of the Consent Order or a subsequent Order to the Committee. Respondent shall immediately (within 24 hours) notify the Committee in writing of any change in supervision.

b. During the period of stayed suspension, respondent shall provide all employers immediately upon commencement of employment with a copy of the within Order. Respondent shall be required to provide the Committee with a copy of this Consent Order (or a subsequent Order filed by the Committee) signed by each employer acknowledging that the employer has reviewed this Consent Order within ten (10) days of the commencement of employment.

c. During the period of stayed suspension, respondent shall notify the Committee in writing within twenty-four (24) hours of any change in the status of her employment, including any change in location, responsibilities and/or title, or additional places of employment.

d. Respondent's supervisor shall agree to report to the Committee in writing within 72 hours of awareness of any indication that respondent is not capable of continued practice or has violated the statutes or regulations governing the practice of professional counseling or has been disciplined or terminated from employment. Such notice shall be provided to Elaine DeMars, Executive Director, Professional Counselor Examiners Committee or her designee, at 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey 07101, (973) 504-6582.

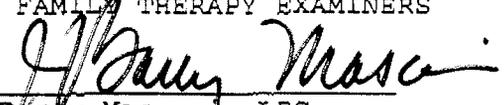
7. If respondent's license is reinstated as provided in paragraph 6 above, two months prior to the end of the period of probation provided herein, respondent may apply for an unrestricted

license upon demonstrating that she is fit and competent to practice without any restrictions and has complied with all the terms of this Order or any subsequent Order of the Committee. If so requested by the Committee, respondent shall appear before the Committee where the burden shall be upon respondent to demonstrate to the Committee's satisfaction that she is fit and competent to practice without any restrictions.

8. If respondent is reinstated as provided in paragraph 8, during the period of stayed suspension any deviation from the terms of this Consent Order without the prior written consent of the Committee shall be grounds for an automatic immediate temporary suspension if the Committee receives information which in its sole discretion the Committee deems reliable that respondent has violated this Consent Order. Respondent may petition the Committee to remove the automatic suspension on five (5) days notice, requesting a hearing limited to the sole issue of whether respondent has deviated from the terms of the Consent Order.

9. Respondent shall comply with all statutes and regulations, as well as professional standards of conduct and obligations imposed by law on licensed professional counselors.

PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR EXAMINERS COMMITTEE
OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MARRIAGE
AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS



J. Barry Mascari, LPC
President

I have read the above order and I understand and agree to abide by its terms. Consent is hereby given to the Professional Counselor

Examiners Committee of the State Board of
Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners to
enter this Order.

Alexandra Rush
Alexandra Rush

Consent as to form and entry:

James S. Wulach, Esq.
Attorney for respondent

THERAPIST

I have read the within Order and agree to
provide psychotherapy to Alexandra Rush and to
submit reports to the Committee as provided
in this Order.

Marsha Lesowitz Ph.D.

(Print name of signator) License # 2217
Name of Psychotherapist: Marsha Lesowitz, Ph.D. Dated: 1-29, 2007
Address: 220 Lenox Ave. Westfield, NJ 07090
Telephone # 908-654-6020
(including area code and extension number)

EMPLOYER

I have read the within Order.

(Print name of signator) License #
Name of Employer Dated: _____, 20__
Address:
Telephone #
(including area code and extension number)

SUPERVISOR

I have read the within Order. I agree to the supervision and reporting requirements in this Order.

Print Name of Supervisor
Address:
Telephone Number
License No.

Dated: _____, 20__