

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DIV. OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF MARRIAGE
& FAMILY THERAPY

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Therapy Examiners

FILED

E. J. [Signature] 3/22/2008
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS
ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR COMMITTEE

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE	:	
APPLICATION OF	:	Administrative Action
	:	
ALIM TAJUDEEN	:	CONSENT ORDER GRANTING RESTRICTED
	:	CERTIFICATION TO PRACTICE
FOR CERTIFICATION TO PRACTICE	:	ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELING
ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELING	:	
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY	:	

This matter was opened before the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee of the New Jersey State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners (hereinafter "the Committee"), upon review of Mr. Tajudeen's application for certification. In his application, Mr. Tajudeen disclosed that he was on parole as the result of a 1988 conviction for robbery 1st degree in New York. Mr. Tajudeen completed parole on December 12, 2006.

The applicant appeared pro se before the Committee on January 18, 2005 to discuss his criminal history and his qualifications for certification as an alcohol and drug counselor. Mr. Tajudeen requested that his application be placed "on hold" until he completed probation. Mr. Tajudeen testified about his four arrests in New Jersey, including a 1984 arrest for homicide. Mr. Tajudeen testified

that he was convicted of unlawful possession of a weapon and sentenced to five years probation and fined \$250.00. He further testified that in 1988 he was arrested in New York for intentional murder, plead guilty to robbery 1st degree and was sentenced to six to eighteen years imprisonment. He was imprisoned for twelve years and was released in 2000. Mr. Tajudeen testified about his successful rehabilitation since his imprisonment in 1988, his completion of his GED (High School Equivalency Diploma), obtaining an Associate's degree, enrollment in Thomas Edison College and his career as an alcohol and drug counselor. In response to the Committee's questions about his convictions, Mr. Tajudeen testified that he has changed his life, including changing his name from Allen Bernard O'Neill, and accepted personal responsibility and guilt for his crimes. He further testified that he now has a strong support system. His prior supervisor, Jane M. Spurrier, M.A., Ed.M., LCADC at Liberty Health - Jersey City Medical Center Campus, Jersey City, New Jersey. testified before the Committee in support of his application for Certification as an Alcohol and Drug Counselor. Ms. Spurrier testified that Mr. Tajudeen is a very good counselor, has a gentle manner, that he is an asset to the field and that his knowledge of the "streets" is very helpful.

Mr. Tajudeen has provided documentation that he has successfully completed his period of parole. In addition, he has submitted a psychological evaluation, prepared by James S. Wulach, Ph.D., J.D., supporting Mr. Tajudeen's application based on the following findings: Mr. Tajudeen's criminal record and rehabilitation, his excellent job history in the last seven years, his relatively stable marriage and family life, psychological test results and that he will

be working within a hospital or agency setting, with appropriate supervision

The Committee has reviewed Mr. Tajudeen's application, evidence of success on the part of the applicant in the field of alcohol and drug counseling and testimony of Mr. Tajudeen and his past supervisor, Jane Spurrier and the evaluation prepared by James S. Wulach, Ph.D., J.D. The Committee has considered the applicant's acknowledgment of his past errors, rehabilitation efforts as well as his remorse and his agreement to restrict his practice to a licensed substance abuse treatment facility and/or a nonprofit substance abuse agency. 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 22nd DAY OF May, 2008
ORDERED:

1. Respondent shall be granted a restricted certification to practice alcohol and drug counseling conditioned upon compliance with the terms of this Consent Order and all requirements for certification as an alcohol and drug counselor.

2. Respondent may only engage in the practice of alcohol and drug counseling at a licensed substance abuse treatment facility and/or a nonprofit substance abuse treatment agency or other Committee approved site.

3. Respondent shall be precluded from engaging in any independent or private practice.

4. Respondent shall be supervised pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:34C-6.3 by a supervisor pre-approved by the Committee and shall be precluded from supervising any practice of alcohol and drug counseling, including but not limited to the supervision of certified

alcohol and drug counselors (CADCs) or counselor interns, unless and until the Committee issues a subsequent written order granting him an unrestricted certification to practice alcohol and drug counseling. Each supervisor shall be provided with a copy of the within Order, shall sign a copy to indicate review, and shall send the signed copy of the Order to the Committee within ten (10) days of the filing of the within Order. In the event respondent changes supervisors, or his place of employment, he shall be required to submit to the Committee within five (5) days of changing supervisors, a copy of the supervisor's curriculum vitae for the Committee's review and approval and the reason for changing supervisors or place of employment. If the new supervisor is approved by the Committee, respondent shall submit a copy of within Order, reviewed and signed by the new supervisor to the Committee within five (5) days of the Committee's approval of the new supervisor. In the event the supervisor is not approved by the Committee, respondent shall cease and desist the practice of alcohol and drug counseling unless and until he is able to secure an approved supervisor and submit a copy of the within Order, reviewed and signed by the approved supervisor. All supervisors signing a copy of this Order shall be required to send written notification to the Committee within three (3) days if respondent violates this Consent Order, engages in any activity indicative of alcohol and/or substance abuse and/or criminal activity, or any act contrary to the statutes, regulations and codes of ethics governing the practice of alcohol and drug counseling. If supervision of respondent ceases or changes, the supervisor is required to send written notification to the Committee within ten (10) days of any change in supervision, giving the reason for ending the supervision. Failure to provide the Committee with notice of a

violation of this Order or updated information regarding supervision may be considered a violation of this Order and a violation of the supervision regulations for certified alcohol and drug counselors.

5. The Committee-approved supervisor/supervisors shall meet face-to-face with respondent for a minimum of a one-hour session per week to review respondent's client contacts and records. The supervisor shall submit quarterly reports directly to the Committee describing the matters reviewed, including the following information: the number of matters reviewed, a description of each matter reviewed, the number of hours of supervision, and an evaluation of respondent's work, listing any deficiencies and recommended remediation, and addressing respondent's compliance with the supervisor's recommendations.

6. Respondent shall inform all of his employers, including his present employers, of the terms of the within Order immediately upon beginning employment and provide them with a copy of the within Order. Respondent shall cause each of his employers to acknowledge in writing that they have received a copy of the within Order. Respondent shall provide a copy of each such acknowledgment to the Committee within ten (10) days of commencing employment. The employers shall immediately report to the Committee any indication that respondent has engaged in any activity indicative of alcohol and/or substance abuse and/or criminal activity, or any act contrary to the statutes, regulations and codes of ethics governing the practice of alcohol and drug counseling, or any violation of this Consent Order.

7. Respondent shall provide any and all releases to any parties who are participating in the supervision programs outlined in this order. With regard to any requirement for submission of a quarterly

report to the Committee, the beginning of the first quarter is deemed to have commenced on May 1, 2008.

8. Respondent shall ensure that the Committee receives quarterly reports from his supervisor/supervisors.

9. Within one (1) year of the filing of the within Order, respondent shall provide the Committee documentation that he has fully attended and successfully completed six (6) contact hours of required continuing education in legal standards related to the practice of alcohol and drug counseling, N.J.A.C. 13:34C-5.2(d). The six (6) contact hours may be used towards the required continuing education contact hours.

10. Respondent shall obey all the laws of the State of New Jersey, the United States and their political subdivisions as well as all regulations, rules or laws pertaining to the practice of alcohol and drug counseling in this State or any other State.

11. Two (2) years after beginning practice as a CADC under the provisions of the within Consent Order, the respondent may submit a request for an unrestricted certification to practice alcohol and drug counseling. In the event the respondent submits a request for an unrestricted certification, respondent shall have the burden of submitting documentation that he has complied with all the terms of the within Order and is fit and competent to practice as a certified alcohol and drug counselor without the restrictions set forth in this Consent Order.

12. The respondent's certification shall be restricted unless and until the Committee issues a subsequent Order granting him an

unrestricted certification to practice alcohol and drug counseling.

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

Edward Reading, LCADC
Edward Reading, LCADC
Committee Chair

I have read the above order and I understand and agree to abide by its terms. Consent is hereby given to the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee of the State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners to enter this Order.

Alim Tajudeen
Alim Tajudeen

I have read the within Order. I agree to supervise all alcohol and drug counseling provided by Alim Tajudeen, to submit quarterly reports to the Committee and to advise the Committee in writing of any violations of the Consent Order.

X Frank Berlinger
(Print name) Frank Berlinger License # 372C06080100
Supervisor of Program Coordinator Dated: 4/18/08, 2008
Telephone # 973-239-9400 x 170
(including area code and extension number)

I have read the within Order and have been advised that Alim Tajudeen shall be granted a restricted certification to practice alcohol and drug counseling. I agree on behalf of Turning Point, Inc.
(name of facility or agency) that the employer will immediately report any violation of the Consent Order to the Committee in writing.

Christine K. Burdon
(Print name) Christine K. Burdon
Employer name Turning Point, Inc.
Telephone # 973-239-9400 x 123
(including area code and extension number)

unrestricted certification to practice alcohol and drug counseling.

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

Edward Reading

Edward Reading, LCADC
Committee Chair

I have read the above order and I understand and agree to abide by its terms. Consent is hereby given to the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee of the State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners to enter this Order.

Alim Tajudeen

Alim Tajudeen

I have read the within Order. I agree to supervise all alcohol and drug counseling provided by Alim Tajudeen, to submit quarterly reports to the Committee and to advise the Committee in writing of any violations of the Consent Order.

Becky Cruz

(Print name)

Supervisor

Telephone #

(including area code and extension number)

445C 01303000

License #

Dated: *May 19*, 2008

I have read the within Order and have been advised that Alim Tajudeen shall be granted a restricted certification to practice alcohol and drug counseling. I agree on behalf of *JERSEY CITY MEDICAL CENTER* (name of facility or agency) that the employer will immediately report any violation of the Consent Order to the Committee in writing.

Becky Cruz

(Print name)

Employer name

Telephone # *(201) 915-2349*

(including area code and extension number)