ANNE MILGRAM
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY
Division of Law, 5th Floor
124 Halsey Street
P.O. Box 45029
Newark, New Jersey 07101
Attorney for the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee of the New Jersey State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners

By: Susan C. Berger
Deputy Attorney General
Tel. (973) 648-4876

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

2009 APR 22 A 8:52

FILED

May 7, 2009
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY
EXAMINERS

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 APPLICATION OF | : | Administrative Action |
| **HEATHER L. ALTMAN** | : | |
| TO PRACTICE AS A PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR IN THE STATE NEW JERSEY | : | CONSENT ORDER |

This matter was opened before the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee (hereinafter "the Committee") of the New Jersey State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners (hereinafter "the Board") upon review of Ms. Altman's application for licensure as a Professional Counselor. Ms. Altman disclosed in her application that she had worked as a counselor in a for-profit setting at Maxim Healthcare in Cherry Hill, New Jersey under the supervision of Geraldine Lancieri-Panzera, LPC. Ms. Altman submitted documentation of supervised counseling

experience admitting that from March 2006 through December 2007 she performed two thousand six hundred twenty-five (2,625) hours of counseling services at Maxim Healthcare.

Having reviewed the entire record, it appears to the Committee that the applicant has engaged in the unlicensed practice of professional and/or associate counseling, in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:8B-39(a), as she does not hold any license which would entitle her to provide such services in a for-profit setting in New Jersey.

It appearing that the applicant desires to resolve this matter without further proceedings, and the Committee finding this Consent Order to be adequately protective of the public interest, and other good cause appearing;

**IT IS THEREFORE ON THIS** 7TH **DAY OF** May, **2009**

**ORDERED:**

1. Respondent shall immediately cease and desist from offering to engage in or engaging in professional and/or associate counseling, in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:8B-39(a) unless and until she is licensed by the Committee or otherwise licensed or certified in the State of New Jersey to provide mental health counseling or to engage in professional and/or associate counseling practice pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:8B-48.

2. None of the supervised hours performed by Ms. Altman in any for-profit setting, prior to licensure as an associate counselor, shall count toward the mandatory hours of supervised experience required for licensure as a Professional Counselor.

3. Ms. Altman shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of two hundred and fifty dollars ($250.00). Payment shall be made by certified check or money order, payable to the "State of New Jersey" and sent to

Elaine DeMars, Executive Director, Professional Counselor Examiners Committee, P.O. Box 45044, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey 07101. The civil penalty shall be paid within ninety (90) days of the entry of the Consent Order.

4. Failure to remit payment as required by this Order will result in the filing of a Certificate of Debt and such other proceedings as are permitted by law.

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

J. Barry Mascari

J. Barry Mascari, Ed.D., 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.

Heather L. Altman