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Therapy Examiners

FILED
Alexis Goldberger 1/15/13
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS
ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR COMMITTEE

By: Alexis Goldberger
Deputy Attorney General
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IN THE MATTER OF	:	
THE REINSTATEMENT OF	:	
THE LICENSE OF	:	
	:	ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION
LAURA M. HARRISON, LCADC	:	
License No. 37LC00126700	:	CONSENT ORDER
	:	
TO PRACTICE CLINICAL 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 receipt of an application by Laura Harrison ("Respondent") to reinstate her license to practice clinical alcohol and drug counseling.

Respondent entered into a Consent Order with the Committee on May 15, 2009, which suspended her license to practice clinical alcohol and drug counseling for a period of five (5) years, based upon Respondent's professional misconduct in engaging in a dual relationship with a client. During the first three years of the

suspension, Respondent was prohibited from practicing clinical alcohol and drug counseling, but was permitted to practice as a certified alcohol and drug counselor under the supervision of a pre-approved supervisor, with the remainder of the suspension to be stayed and served as a period of probation. The Order also required Respondent to refer, transfer or terminate all of her clients at Harrison and Associates before May 29, 2009, and prohibited Respondent from engaging in supervision of any CADC's or counselor interns. The Order required Respondent to complete a three credit graduate course in in the area of ethics and boundary issues, and to pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$10,000.00

On August 24, 2012, Respondent appeared *pro se* before the Committee to discuss her request to reinstate her license to practice clinical alcohol and drug counseling. Respondent testified that she has been employed at Francis House as a CADC under supervision since the filing of the 2009 Order, and was supervised by Daniel Pitzer, LCSW, LCADC during the first year of suspension, and then by Riley Regan, LCADC during the last two years of active suspension, and that both supervisors were pre-approved by the Committee. Respondent's supervisors submitted all quarterly reports as required by the 2009 Order which were reviewed by the Committee, and the reports indicated there were no ethical or boundary violations during the period of active suspension. Respondent testified that she engaged in weekly supervision during

the entire three year period, during which case reviews, case recommendations and ethics and boundary issues were discussed. Additionally, Respondent testified that Harrison and Associates ceased operation in May 2009, and all of her clients were transferred. Respondent provided proof of completion of a three credit graduate level course in the subject area of ethics and boundary issues, and provided proof of Payment of the entire civil penalty. Respondent testified that she has not provided supervision during the period of active suspension. Finally, Respondent demonstrated to the Committee's satisfaction her full understanding of boundary issues as they relate to her practice, and discussed with the Committee how her practice has changed to avoid boundary issues in the future.

The Board having considered the aforesaid information, and the parties being desirous of resolving this matter without the necessity for further formal proceedings; and the Board finding that the within Order is adequately protective of the public health and that good cause exists for its entry:

IT IS ON THIS 15 DAY OF January 2012³,

ORDERED:

1. Respondent's license to practice clinical alcohol and drug counseling in the State of New Jersey is reinstated as of the date of this Order, and Respondent shall practice clinical alcohol and drug counseling on probation for a minimum period of two years,

subject to the terms and conditions of this Order, and until further Order of the Committee.

2. 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 the Consent Order dated May 15, 2009, and a copy of this Consent Order (or a subsequent Order filed by the Committee) signed by each employer acknowledging that the employer has received the 2009 Consent Order and this Consent Order within ten (10) days of the commencement of employment.

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

4. During the period of probation, Respondent shall not engage in supervision of any certified alcohol and drug counselors or counselor interns.

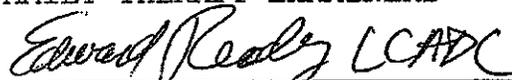
5. During the period of probation, Respondent shall cause her employer to submit quarterly reports to the Committee which discuss any ethical or boundary violations by Respondent, and confirm that Respondent is not engaging in supervision of any certified alcohol and drug counselors or counselor interns during the probationary period.

6. At 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 of 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.

7. During the period of probation provided herein, any deviation from the terms of this Order without the prior written consent of the Committee shall constitute a failure to comply with the terms of this Order. Upon receipt of any reliable information indicating that Respondent has violated any terms of this Order, Respondent's license and/or certification may be automatically suspended by the Committee. Respondent, upon five (5) days notice, may request a hearing to contest the entry of such Order. At any such hearing, the sole issue shall be whether any of the information received regarding Respondent was materially false. In addition, the Committee reserves the right to bring further disciplinary action.

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

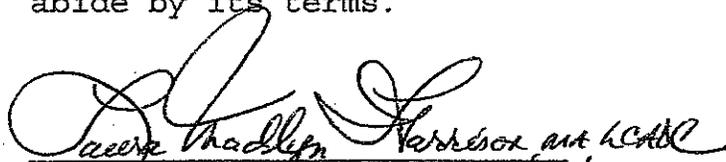
By:



Edward Reading, Ph.D.

Chair

I have read the above order
and I understand and agree to
abide by its terms.


Laura M. Harrison, LCADC
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