

JOHN HOFFMAN  
ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY  
Division of Law  
124 Halsey Street  
P.O. Box 45029  
Newark, New Jersey 07101  
Attorney for the State Board of Social Work Examiners

FILED BY THE BOARD OF  
SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

*August 14, 2013*  
*J. Michael Walker*

By: Jodi C. Krugman  
Deputy Attorney General  
(973) 648-2436

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION  
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF  
  
**EDWARD JANKOWSKI, LCSW**  
**License No. 44SC05267900**  
  
TO PRACTICE CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK  
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Administrative Action

**CONSENT ORDER**

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Social Work Examiners (the "Board") upon receipt of information that respondent Edward Jankowski ("respondent") had engaged in a social relationship with a client immediately after the time the client was engaged in therapy with respondent, and that as a result of discipline related to that relationship, respondent left his position at New Jersey AIDS Services. On February 22, 2012, respondent appeared with counsel, David Rostan, Esq., at an inquiry into this matter conducted by the Board.

At the inquiry, respondent admitted that he provided therapy to R.H. from February 2010 until April 2010, at which point R.H. indicated that he no longer wished to

partake in therapy sessions. R.H. continued to attend weekly counseling sessions at New Jersey Aids Services (NJAS), respondent's place of employment. Once R.H. discontinued treatment with respondent, he became a volunteer at NJAS, and thereafter became an employee. Respondent admitted that during this time, he became friendly with R.H. He admitted that he twice stayed overnight with R.H. at his apartment, talking and listening to him out of concern for R.H.'s mental health. He also shared a hotel room with R.H. during the New Jersey Ride Against AIDS because R.H. became ill and he did not want him to feel abandoned. Respondent also admitted that he permitted R.H. to stay briefly in the basement common room in the building in which he lived. Respondent acknowledged that he was twice disciplined because of boundary violations related to R.H., and that he chose to resign rather than have a hearing before the board of NJAS.

It was additionally asserted that respondent has engaged in inappropriate crossing of boundaries with other clients, such as sitting on a bed with a client during a session, and becoming increasingly involved in the transportation of another client. Respondent provided some explanations for these situations in his testimony, explaining, for example, that sitting on the bed was not a common practice, but occurred due to the client being bedridden in a room with little other furniture. He maintained that in hindsight some of his behavior appeared inappropriate for his profession, but stated that he was acting out of concern for his clients in each instance.

Having reviewed the entire record, it appears to the Board that respondent failed to maintain appropriate boundaries in his relationship with his former client R.H. and others, and that respondent's conduct provides grounds to take disciplinary action

against his license to practice clinical social work in New Jersey pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e). The parties desiring to resolve this matter without recourse to formal proceedings, and the Board finding that entry of this Order adequately protects the public health, safety, and welfare, for good cause shown:

IT IS ON THIS 14<sup>th</sup> DAY OF August, 2013,

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:

1. Respondent's license to practice social work shall be and hereby is suspended for a two (2) years, effective April 1, 2013, all to be stayed and served as a period of probation, contingent on compliance with the terms of this Order and the laws governing social work in the State of New Jersey.

2. During the period of probation, beginning upon entry of this Consent Order, respondent's social work services shall be supervised weekly by a New Jersey licensed clinical social worker who satisfies the requirements of N.J.A.C. 13:44G-8.1 and who shall be pre-approved by the Board following submission of his or her credentials to the Board. The prospective supervisor shall be provided with a copy of this Consent Order. He or she shall submit to the Board a curriculum vitae along with a signed copy of this Consent Order, indicating that he or she has read the Order and agrees to comply with its terms. Judith Ann Lagani, LCSW, has been approved as respondent's supervisor. Respondent and his supervisor shall meet face-to-face a minimum of once per week, with the exact frequency to be determined by the supervisor, to review all of respondent's cases. In addition to a review of all client progress notes, the supervision shall focus on boundary issues and the appropriate use of transference and counter-transference in therapeutic relationships. The supervisor

shall provide quarterly progress reports regarding supervision of respondent for the period of probation. An unfavorable report may be considered a violation of this Consent Order. In the event the supervisor becomes aware of a boundary violation by respondent, the supervisor shall notify the Board by telephone and in writing within twenty-four hours of learning of the events. At the conclusion of two years of supervision, the supervisor shall submit to the Board a final report assessing respondent's ability to resume the independent clinical practice of social work.

3. Respondent shall successfully complete six (6) credits of continuing education in courses relating to boundary issues, transference and counter-transference. Respondent shall submit the specific courses proposed to satisfy this requirement to the Board for approval within sixty (60) days of the entry of this Final Order, and shall complete the courses within sixty (60) days thereafter. These courses are in addition to the regularly required continuing education hours. Respondent shall provide the Board with proof of successful completion for each course taken within thirty days of completion.

4. Respondent is hereby assessed civil penalties, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-25, in the amount of \$1,000 for the conduct described herein. Payment of the \$1,000 penalty shall be stayed pending respondent's compliance with the other terms of this Order. At the termination of the period of probation, if respondent has fully complied with all terms of this Order, the penalty will be discharged and no longer be due and payable. In the event respondent fails to comply with any of the terms of this Order, including timely payment of the costs set forth in paragraph 5, the full amount of the civil penalty will be due. Payment shall be submitted by certified check or money order

made payable to the State of New Jersey and shall be sent to J. Michael Walker, Executive Director, Board of Social Work Examiners, 124 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor, P.O. Box 45033, Newark, New Jersey 07101. Subsequent violations will subject respondent to enhanced penalties pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-25.

5. Respondent shall be assessed the costs of the State's investigation in this matter in the amount of \$5,925.53. Payment of costs shall be made by certified check, attorney's check or money order, made payable to the State of New Jersey, and sent to J. Michael Walker, Executive Director, Board of Social Work Examiners, at the address set forth in paragraph 4. An initial payment of \$500 shall be due on August 1, 2013, followed by eighteen (18) monthly installment payments of \$285.55 due on the first of each month, and a final payment of \$285.63 due on March 1, 2015. In the event timely payment is not made, the entire balance will be immediately due and payable.

6. In the event the Board receives information which the Board in its sole discretion deems reliable that respondent has failed to comply with any of the terms of this Consent Order, the Board may immediately enter an order making respondent's period of stayed suspension active. Respondent shall have the right to apply to the Board to request a hearing, on seven (7) days' notice, for removal of the automatic suspension, but the application shall be limited to a showing that the information submitted to the Board was false or inaccurate.

7. Respondent may not resume the independent practice of social work without supervision until successful completion of the probationary period, with proof of compliance with the terms of this Order, and further order of the Board.

NEW JERSEY BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

By:   
Dawn Apgar, Ph.D., LSW, ACSW  
Board President

I have read and understand the within Consent Order and agree to be bound by its terms. Consent is hereby given to the Board to enter this Order.

  
Edward Jankowski, LCSW

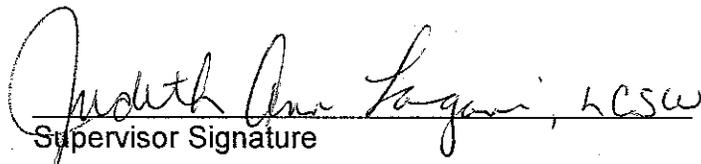
7-30-13  
Date

Consent is given as to form and entry of this Order.

  
David Rostan, Esq.  
Attorney for Edward Jankowski, LCSW

7-31-13  
Date

I have read the attached Consent Order.  
I agree to supervise Edward Jankowski's clinical practice of social during face-to-face sessions, and to report quarterly to the Board regarding his progress, as set forth above.

  
Supervisor Signature

Print name: Judith Ann LAGANI License #: 445C05241900  
Telephone #  
(including area code and extension number)