

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 Professional Examiners Committee
 Of the State Board of Marriage and Family Examiners

FILED
March 7, 2014
 STATE OF NEW JERSEY
 BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS
 PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR EXAMINERS COMMITTEE
Kilago Ballay

By: Shirley P. Dickstein
 Deputy Attorney General
 (973) 648-2779

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
 DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND 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 LICENSE OF : Administrative Action
 :
JOSEPH MCKEON, LPC
 LICENSE NO. 37PC00472200 : **CONSENT ORDER**
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 :
 TO PRACTICE PROFESSIONAL :
 COUNSELING IN THE STATE OF :
 NEW JERSEY :

This matter was opened before the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee (hereinafter the "Committee") of the New Jersey Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners upon allegations that Respondent engaged in professional misconduct by engaging in a social relationship with the mother of his former client.

Respondent appeared before the Committee pro se on May 2, 2013. Respondent testified that he began treating D.S. in September 2010 and met D.S.'s mother the same month. Respondent further testified that D.S.'s therapy terminated in April 2011 and that he continued to respond to D.S.'s mother's questions about her son for about two months following termination of treatment. Respondent admitted that D.S.'s mother visited him in his office during evening hours during the period April 2011 through June 2011 with no prior appointments and that he did not document the visits. Respondent also testified that he engaged in personal conversations with D.S.'s mother regarding running and fitness. Respondent stated that, at the time, he saw nothing wrong with the discussions because D.S.'s mother was not his client. Respondent further testified that he participated in a "Tough Mudder" event with D.S.'s mother, an endurance event series in which participants attempt 10-12 mile long military-style obstacle courses. He admitted that he agreed with a co-worker who expressed concern about having D.S.'s mother participate in the event but that she participated because she had paid an expensive entrance fee. Respondent admitted that his interactions with D.S.'s mother violated his obligation to maintain appropriate boundaries.

Having reviewed the entire record, it appears to the Committee that Respondent's social interactions with D.S.'s

mother constitute professional misconduct, in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and boundary violations, in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:34-30.4. The parties desiring 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 ON THIS 7 DAY OF June, 2014,

HIMBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:

1. Respondent is reprimanded for engaging in professional misconduct, in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and N.J.A.C. 13:34-30.4.

2. For a period of one year, beginning upon entry of this Consent Order, Respondent shall practice professional counseling only under supervision in accordance with the requirements of this paragraph and paragraphs 3, 4, 5 and 7 below. Any period of time during which respondent is not employed as a Professional Counselor shall be excluded from computation of the time to be served under supervision. Respondent and his supervisor shall meet face-to-face a minimum of one hour per week, with the exact frequency to be determined by the supervisor, to review all of respondent's cases and address boundary and record keeping issues. Additionally, Respondent is

specifically prohibited from working as a mentor through any provider whatsoever.

3. Respondent shall be supervised by a licensed professional counselor ("LPC"), or other supervisor pre-approved by the Committee, who works directly with Respondent at Respondent's place of employment. Respondent's supervisor and any successor supervisor, upon approval by the Committee, shall review and sign this Order and submit it to the Committee no less than five (5) days before Respondent begins employment.

4. Respondent's supervisor and any successor supervisor shall submit quarterly reports directly to the Committee. The reports shall describe case reviews which shall include the number of hours of supervision, the number of cases and treatment records that were reviewed during the supervision, and an evaluation of the treatment records which reviews whether the treatment records include sufficient documentation of any potential or actual issues discussed during treatment. The supervisor shall include in the quarterly report a list of any deficiencies in the treatment records, or of respondent's practice, recommended remediation actions and a statement regarding Respondent's compliance with the supervisor's recommendations. An unfavorable report shall be sufficient basis for extending the requirements of this order or such other actions as the Committee deems appropriate. The supervisor

shall submit quarterly reports directly to the Committee, and such reports shall not be shared with Respondent until after they have been submitted to the Committee.

5. Respondent's supervisor shall immediately (within two (2) business days of obtaining knowledge of the occurrence) report to the Committee orally and in writing any information that Respondent has engaged in behavior that raises issues regarding appropriate professional boundaries or fails to keep adequate records, or that he may be in violation of any statute or regulation governing the practice of professional counseling, or that reflects that Respondent is not able to practice professional counseling consistent with the public health, safety and welfare.

6. Respondent shall inform the Committee in writing of the name, address and telephone number of each work site and the proposed supervisor at least five (5) days prior to commencing employment. The written notification shall be sent to the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee, attention Executive Director, P.O. Box 45044, Newark, New Jersey 07101.

7. In the event any supervisor's relationship with Respondent is terminated for any reason, or Respondent proposes to begin working under a different supervisor, the supervisor who is a signatory to the agreement shall immediately (within

two (2) business days of termination) notify the Committee in writing providing detailed reasons for the change.

8. Respondent shall fully attend and successfully complete a three credit graduate in person (not a distance learning or internet program) course in ethics and boundary issues and a counseling skills and practice course in person, pre-approved by the Committee. Respondent shall submit written documentation to the Committee that he fully attended and successfully completed the courses.

9. The Committee shall not entertain an application by Respondent to lift any of the restrictions contained herein for a minimum of one (1) year from the date of entry of this Order. Prior to any such application by Respondent, Respondent shall submit to the Committee documentation of his successful completion of the coursework required in paragraph 8 herein sufficient to establish his ability to safely engage in independent practice. The Committee may require Respondent to appear and provide additional documentation before making a determination lifting any of the restrictions contained herein, and reserves the right to retain some or all of these restrictions.

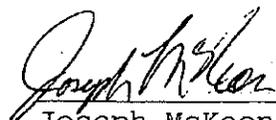
10. Respondent shall be prohibited from supervising any professional counseling and/or mental health counseling unless

and until the Committee issues an Order permitting him to provide supervision for professional counseling.

11. Respondent hereby consents to the entry of an Order of automatic suspension of his license to practice professional counseling in this State, without notice, upon the Committee's receipt of any information which the Committee in its sole discretion deems reliable that Respondent has engaged in a boundary violation or materially failed to comply with any of the terms of this Order or has engaged in conduct that violates any statute or regulation administered by the Committee. Respondent may upon five (5) days' notice, request a hearing to contest the entry of such an order. At any such hearing, the sole issue shall be whether any of the information relied upon by the Committee was materially false.

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

By 
William Green, L.R.C.
Committee Chair


Joseph McKeon, Respondent

Dated: 2/5/14

I have read and agree to the reporting and supervision requirements, in accordance with Paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 of this Order.

Joey Meyer
[Name]
Supervisor

Date: 2/5/14