

PC3710

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 Counselor Examiners Committee
of the State Board Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners

FILED
23 June, 2014
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS
PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR EXAMINERS COMMITTEE
Shirley P. Dickstein
2014 JUN 17 P 4:03

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
: :
BIANCA KAZOUN, LPC : CONSENT ORDER.
License No. 37PC00371000 : :
: :
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 authoring a letter containing a clinical evaluation of a client's mother who was not Respondent's client.

Respondent appeared before the Committee with her attorney, Steven Wallach, Esq. on May 2, 2013 and testified that she treated L.I. and L.I.'s siblings. She further testified that L.I.'s father, R.I., was seeing another therapist in her office and sat in on sessions which Respondent conducted with L.I.'s children. Respondent further testified that L.I.'s mother was never her client and that her only interaction with L.I.'s mother was a telephone call during which the mother stated that she had not consented to therapy for her children and that Respondent was providing therapy in violation of a court order. After this telephone call, R.I. cancelled the children's appointment for the next day and, although the children's treatment was never formally terminated, Respondent never saw the children for therapy again.

Respondent testified that, based upon her telephone interaction with L.I.'s mother and information she received from R.I. about the mental state or sobriety of L.I.'s mother, she authored a letter to memorialize her telephone interaction with L.I.'s mother, on Center for Optimum Living letterhead and signed her name with the designation LPC. Respondent further testified that she gave R.I. the letter, which was addressed "To Whom It May Concern," and which was submitted to the court deciding custody issues relating to R.I.'s children. In the letter, Respondent commented on the "mental state or sobriety"

of L.I.'s mother and stated that the mother had an "aggressive demeanor," which raised "serious concerns about her abilities to maintain appropriate self-control not only around professionals but more importantly around her children."

Respondent expressed regret over not consulting with a supervisor before giving the letter to R.I.

Having reviewed the entire record, it appears to the Committee that Respondent's clinical evaluation of L.I.'s mother, who was not Respondent's client, provided in a writing constitutes professional misconduct, in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e). 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 23 DAY OF June, 2014,

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:

1. Respondent is reprimanded for engaging in professional misconduct, in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e).
2. For a period of one year, beginning ten (10) days following service of this Consent Order, Respondent shall practice professional counseling only under the supervision of a New Jersey supervisor pre-approved by the Committee, and in accordance with the requirements of this paragraph and

paragraphs 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 below. Any period of time in which respondent is not employed as a Professional Counselor shall be excluded from computation of the time to be served under supervision. Respondent and her 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. 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. Respondent's supervisor and any successor supervisor, upon approval by the Committee, shall 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 restrictions on Respondent's license to practice professional counseling, 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 that she 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. 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 her personal and professional 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.

9. Respondent shall be prohibited from supervising any professional counseling unless and until the Committee issues an Order permitting her to provide supervision for professional counseling.

10. Respondent hereby consents to the entry of an Order of automatic suspension of her license to practice professional

counseling in this State, upon the Committee's receipt of any information which the Committee in its sole discretion deems reliable that Respondent has 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 LRC
William Green, L.R.C.
Committee Chair

I have read and understand the provisions of this order and agree to be bound by them.

Bianca Kazoun
Bianca Kazoun, Respondent

Dated: 5/28/14

I consent to the form
and entry of this Order



Steven Wallach, Esq.
Attorney for Bianca Kazoun

Date: 6/2/2014

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

Germaine Gritwold, PhD Germaine Gritwold, PhD
[Name] NJ License #35S/0044700
Supervisor
Date: 5/28/14