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Examiners, Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee

FILED
29 May 2015
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS
ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR COMMITTEE
Chlorgas Blaloz

By: Nancy Costello Miller
Deputy Attorney General
(973) 648-7457

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY
EXAMINERS, ALCOHOL AND DRUG
COUNSELOR COMMITTEE

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF :
: Administrative Action
: GREGORY C. POTTER :
: CONSENT ORDER
: TO BE CERTIFIED AS AN ALCOHOL :
: AND DRUG COUNSELOR :
: IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY :

The New Jersey State Board of State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners, Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee ("Committee"), reviewed the application of Gregory C. Potter ("Mr. Potter") to be certified as an alcohol and drug counselor. That information included an arrest on May 25, 2013, for which he was charged with one count of Possession of a Controlled Dangerous Substances or Analog in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:35-10A(1) and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:36-2. On November 8, 2013, Mr. Potter was accepted into the Pre-Trial

Intervention program prior to the entry of a plea. On May 5, 2014, upon completion of Pre-Trial Intervention, the matter was dismissed. In May 2013, Mr. Potter pled guilty to driving under the influence in violation of N.J.S.A. 39:4-50, and was sentenced to a seven-month revocation of his driving privileges. Mr. Potter has advised that he was diagnosed with polysubstance dependence and is undergoing treatment. Following its review of this information, the Board of Social Work Examiners granted Mr. Potter a license as a licensed social worker with restrictions in August 2014.

The Committee notes that Mr. Potter has begun treatment, is complying with treatment recommendations, and is maintaining his sobriety. His practice as a certified alcohol and drug counselor requires him to work under the supervision of a licensed alcohol and drug counselor (LCADC) or other qualified supervisor. While Mr. Potter's arrest provides a basis to deny certification, N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(f), the Committee has determined that certifying Mr. Potter with the restrictions in this consent order is appropriate.

The parties desire to resolve this matter without recourse to formal proceedings, and Mr. Potter has expressly waived his right to be further heard in this matter, and the Committee finds that entry of this Order adequately protects the public health, safety, and welfare, for good cause shown:

IT IS ON THIS *29* DAY OF *May*, 2015,

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:

1. Gregory C. Potter's application for certification as an alcohol and drug counselor is granted subject to the restrictions in this consent order.

2. Mr. Potter shall work only under the supervision of a Committee-approved supervisor for a minimum of two years, beginning with the filing of this order and until further order of the Committee relieving him of the requirement that his supervisor be pre-approved. Subsequent supervision shall be consistent with the Committee's regulations for supervision of a CADC.

(a) Mr. Potter shall advise the Committee of the name and address of his employer and his proposed supervisor(s). The supervisor(s) must not have had a prior relationship (personal or professional) with Mr. Potter. The supervisor(s) must hold a current, valid CCS credential (Certified Clinical Supervisor).

(b) Mr. Potter's supervisor(s) shall be provided with a copy of this order and shall sign a copy of this order indicating that he or she agrees to supervise Mr. Potter, and to provide quarterly reports to the Committee regarding his practice. The copy of the consent order signed by the supervisor must be provided to the Committee prior to respondent beginning employment. Reports shall be sent to Milagros Collazo, Executive Director, Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee, P.O. Box 45050, Newark, New Jersey, 07101. The first quarterly report is due ninety days after the entry of this consent order. The supervision may be compensated or uncompensated, but costs related to supervision shall be borne by Mr. Potter.

(c) Mr. Potter shall meet not less than once a week with his supervisor; not more than half of the weekly supervision meetings may be group supervision.

(d) At least 10 days prior to changes in supervisors or employment, Mr. Potter shall submit to the Committee written notification of the change(s), and appear before the Committee if so requested. The Committee reserves the right to grant or deny

approval of the proposed supervisor.

(e) All supervisors signing this order agree to submit quarterly reports as required by subparagraph (b) above and to submit written notification to the Committee if Mr. Potter engages in any activity that appears to violate the statutes or regulations governing the practice of alcohol and drug counseling; if Mr. Potter appears to have relapsed into substance or alcohol abuse; or if supervision is terminated, the reason(s) for ending the supervision. The supervisor agrees to send written notification regarding any change in supervision with ten (10) days of the change. Notifications shall be sent to Milagros Collazo at the address in subparagraph (b) above.

3. Mr. Potter shall engage in counseling with a therapist experienced in treating individuals with addictions for a minimum of two years. The therapist is to be pre-approved by the Committee after submission of his or her credentials to the Committee. The frequency of the therapy is at the discretion of the therapist. The therapist must review and sign this Consent Order, agree to comply with the terms of the order, and provide quarterly reports to the Board regarding respondent's progress. The copy of the consent order signed by the therapist must be provided to the Committee within thirty days of the entry of this consent order. The therapist agrees to conduct random urine monitoring of respondent, a minimum of once per month, with all testing to be performed by a qualified laboratory. An unexplained refusal to appear for a urine screen will be considered a positive test result. If the therapist is aware of any information indicative of a relapse or slip by Mr. Potter, or obtains a positive result from a urine screen, the therapist must report any such event to the Committee within 24 hours of receipt of that information. Mr. Potter may not terminate therapy without the

Committee's permission, and any change in therapist must be reported to the Committee and the credentials of any new therapist must be approved by the Committee in accordance with this paragraph. Any unfavorable report may be considered a violation of this Consent Order. At the conclusion of two years of therapy, the therapist shall submit to the Committee a final report assessing Mr. Potter's fitness to engage in the practice of alcohol and drug counseling. .

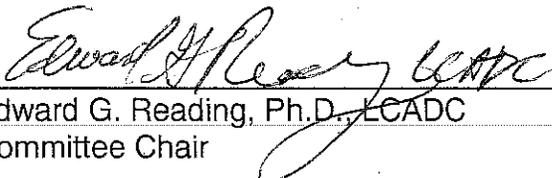
4. Two years from the entry of this order, Mr. Potter may apply for relief from its restrictions. At the Committee's discretion, he may be required to appear before the Committee. The Committee reserves the right to continue the restrictions in this consent order or place other restrictions on Mr. Potter's certification at that time should the Committee's review of his practice demonstrate that such restrictions are warranted.

5. Mr. Potter shall notify the Committee within 72 hours of any arrest for, or charges of, any crime or offense involving moral turpitude or relating adversely to the profession of alcohol and drug counseling, and/or any actions taken by his employer(s) related to his professional practice. Notice shall be sent to Ms. Collazo at the address in paragraph 2(b) above.

6. Failure to comply with any of the terms of this consent order may result in disciplinary action.

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

By:



Edward G. Reading, Ph.D., LCADC
Committee Chair

I have read and understand this
Consent Order and agree
to be bound by its terms. I consent
to the entry of this order.



Gregory C. Potter

5/14/15

Date

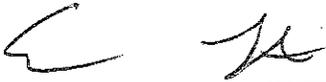
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AND DRUG COUNSELOR :
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY :

Administrative Action

SUPERVISOR'S
ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I have read and understand this Consent Order.
I agree to supervise Gregory C. Potter's
practice of alcohol and drug counseling
during face-to-face and group sessions,
and to report to the Committee regarding
his progress as set forth in this Consent Order.



3/14/15

Supervisor Signature

Date

Print Name: Ed Lysaght

License Number: 44 SCO5232700

Tel. Number: (908) 451 - 6953 ext. _____

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TO BE CERTIFIED AS AN ALCOHOL
AND DRUG COUNSELOR
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Administrative Action

THERAPIST'S
ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I have read and understand this Consent Order.
I agree to provide counseling to Gregory C. Potter,
to conduct urine screens, and to provide
quarterly and immediate (as necessary) reports
to the Committee as set forth in this Consent Order.



5/11/13

Therapist Signature

Date

Print Name: Michael Liberto

License Number: NJ 2370

Tel. Number: (609) 921 6264 ext. _____