

ON MARCH 21, 2008, MS. KEPLER DIDATO AND THE BOARD ENTERED INTO A CONSENT AGREEMENT. IN 2010, NEW INFORMATION WAS PRESENTED TO THE BOARD AND REVIEWED ALONG WITH THE ORIGINAL INVESTIGATION FILE. HAD THIS INFORMATION BEEN PRESENTED IN 2008, THE BOARD WOULD HAVE WRITTEN THE PARAGRAPH 2 ON PAGE 1 TO READ "MS. KEPLER DIDATO CREATED A SITUATION WHERE BOUNDARIES COULD BE PERCEIVED AS BLURRED BY HER CLIENT BY EXCHANGING GIFTS, CARDS AND EMAILS WITH THIS CLIENT, AND ALSO ATTENDING FAMILY FUNCTIONS AFTER THE CLIENT HAD TERMINATED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES." BASED ON THE ABOVE, THE BOARD WOULD NOT HAVE SUSPENDED THE LICENSE, OR REPRIMANDED THE LICENSE. THE REQUIREMENTS WITH REGARD TO CONTINUING EDUCATION AND MONITORING FOUND ON PAGE 2 OF THE ORIGINAL CONSENT AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE REMAINED. Terms completed as of 1/20/2010.

**AMENDED
CONSENT AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
VICTORIA L. KEPLER DIDATO
AND THE
STATE OF OHIO COUNSELOR, SOCIAL WORKER, MARRIAGE AND
FAMILY THERAPIST BOARD**

This AMENDED CONSENT AGREEMENT is entered into by and between Victoria L. Kepler Didato, hereinafter, "**DIDATO**," and the STATE OF OHIO COUNSELOR, SOCIAL WORKER, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST BOARD, hereinafter "**BOARD**," the state agency charged with enforcing Chapter 4757 of the Ohio Revised Code and all rules promulgated thereunder.

DIDATO hereby acknowledges that she has read and understands this AMENDED CONSENT AGREEMENT and has voluntarily entered into it without threat or promise by the **BOARD** or any of its members, employees or agents.

DIDATO is fully aware of her rights, including her right to be advised by counsel and her right to a hearing pursuant to Chapter 119 of the Ohio Revised Code on the issues which are the subject of this AMENDED CONSENT AGREEMENT.

This AMENDED CONSENT AGREEMENT contains the entire agreement between the parties, based on the Board's investigation, there being no other agreement of any kind, verbal or otherwise, which varies the terms of this AMENDED CONSENT AGREEMENT. This AMENDED CONSENT AGREEMENT is entered into on the basis of the following stipulations, admissions and understandings:

1. **DIDATO** is a professional counselor (C.0003144) and social worker (S.0007329) licensed to practice counseling and social work in the State of Ohio, and is subject to the laws and rules of Ohio regulating the practices of counseling and social work as outlined in Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4757 and Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 4757. **DIDATO** received her professional counselor license on May 17, 1988, and her social work license on June 10, 1989.
2. On March 21, 2008, **DIDATO** and the **BOARD** entered into a Consent Agreement. In 2010, new information was presented to the **BOARD** and was reviewed along with the original investigation file. Had this information been presented in 2008, the Board would have written paragraph 2 on page 1 to read "**DIDATO** created a situation where boundaries could be perceived as blurred by her client by exchanging gifts, cards, and e-mails with this client, and also attending family functions after the client had terminated the professional services."
3. Based on the above, the **BOARD** would not have suspended the license for two months or reprimanded **DIDATO**. The requirements with regard to continuing education and supervision found on page 2 of the

original consent agreement would have remained.

It is hereby agreed by and between both parties that this AMENDED CONSENT AGREEMENT hereby settles all issues concerning this matter.

By her signature on this AMENDED CONSENT AGREEMENT, **DIDATO** acknowledges that in the event the **BOARD**, in its discretion, does not approve this AMENDED CONSENT AGREEMENT, this settlement offer is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value and shall not be relied upon or introduced in any disciplinary action or appeal by either party. **DIDATO** agrees that should the **BOARD** reject this AMENDED CONSENT AGREEMENT and if this case proceeds to hearing, she will assert no claim that the **BOARD** was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this AMENDED CONSENT AGREEMENT or of any information relating thereto.

DIDATO hereby releases the members of the **BOARD**, its officers and employees, jointly and severally, from any and all liability arising from the matter within.

This AMENDED CONSENT AGREEMENT shall be considered a public record as that term is used in Section 149.43 of the Ohio Revised Code. Pursuant to 42 USC Section 132a-73(b), 5 USC Section 552a, 45 CFR part 61, and Ohio Revised Code Section 3123.41 et seq. the **BOARD** may be required to provide **DIDATO'S** social security number to requesting governmental agencies.

The **BOARD** shall incorporate this AMENDED CONSENT AGREEMENT into a formal journal entry at its March, 2010, meeting. This AMENDED CONSENT AGREEMENT shall take effect upon the date of the Board Chair's signature below:


Victoria L. Kepler Didato, PC, LSW

3/8/10
Date


Glennon J. Karr, Esq.
Counsel for Ms. Didato

3/12/10
Date


Susan Norris Huss, Ph.D., PC
Chair, Counselor, Social Worker, Marriage and Family Therapist Board

3-19-10
Date


Leah V.B. O'Carroll, Esq.
Assistant Attorney General
Counselor, Social Worker, Marriage and Family Therapist Board

3-19-10
Date

**CONSENT AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
VICTORIA L. KEPLER DIDATO
AND THE
STATE OF OHIO COUNSELOR, SOCIAL WORKER AND MARRIAGE AND
FAMILY THERAPIST BOARD**

This CONSENT AGREEMENT is entered into by and between VICTORIA L. KEPLER DIDATO, hereinafter, "**DIDATO**," and the STATE OF OHIO COUNSELOR, SOCIAL WORKER AND MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST BOARD, hereinafter "**BOARD**," the state agency charged with enforcing Chapter 4757 of the Ohio Revised Code and all rules promulgated therein.

DIDATO hereby acknowledges that she has read and understands this CONSENT AGREEMENT and has voluntarily entered into it without threat or promise by the **BOARD** or any of its members, employees or agents.

DIDATO is fully aware of her rights, including her right to be advised by counsel and her right to a hearing pursuant to Chapter 119 of the Ohio Revised Code on the issues which are the subject of this CONSENT AGREEMENT. Should **DIDATO** fail to comply with any provisions of this CONSENT AGREEMENT, **DIDATO** knowingly waives her rights under ORC Chapter 119 with respect to the claims in this agreement.

This CONSENT AGREEMENT contains the entire agreement between the parties, there being no other agreement of any kind, verbal or otherwise, which varies the terms of this CONSENT AGREEMENT.

This CONSENT AGREEMENT is entered into on the basis of the following stipulations, admissions and understandings:

1. **DIDATO** is a professional counselor (C.0003144) and social worker (S.0007329) licensed in the State of Ohio, and is subject to the laws and rules of Ohio regulating the practice of social work and counseling as outlined in Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4757 and Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 4757. **DIDATO** received her professional counselor license on May 14, 1988, and her social work license on June 10, 1989.
2. **DIDATO** is self-employed as a private practitioner under the name of Child Sexual Abuse Institute of Ohio, Wooster, Ohio. **DIDATO** blurred her professional boundaries by creating a multiple relationship with a client, by attending the same retreats as the client, attending the same church as the client, allowing the client to tour her home garden, exchanging gifts, cards and e-mails of a mixed nature and also attending family functions while providing counseling services to this client. This inappropriate conduct constitutes a violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 4757.36(A)(1) and Ohio Administrative Code Section 4757-5-01(C) 1 thru 4 and 4757-11-01(C)(20)

3. **DIDATO ADMITS** the allegations referenced in paragraph 2 above.

Wherefore, in consideration of the foregoing and mutual promises hereinafter set forth, and in lieu of any formal disciplinary proceedings, **DIDATO** knowingly and voluntarily agrees with the **BOARD** to the following terms and conditions:

1. **DIDATO'S** licenses to practice counseling and social work are hereby **SUSPENDED** for two (2) months beginning June 1 2008, through August 1, 2008.
2. **DIDATO'S** licenses to practice counseling and social work are hereby **REPRIMANDED**.
3. **DIDATO** must complete 6 hours of continuing education in professional counseling and social work ethics with a focus on professional boundaries, in addition to the thirty (30) required for renewal. These 6 hours must be pre-approved by the **BOARD'S** Deputy Director or his designee. All costs associated with the continuing education are at the expense of **DIDATO**. **DIDATO** must submit proof of completion of the ethics continuing education to the attention of the Investigation Unit at the Board office. Verification of completion is due in the Board office no later than November 30, 2008.
4. **DIDATO** will be on probation for a period of eighteen months (18) months, at her current place of employment. The probation will begin after the two (2) month suspension period, August 1, 2008. During the eighteen month probationary period **DIDATO** must be supervised in all aspects of her practice of counseling and social work and receive face-to-face supervision one hour every month. **DIDATO'S** supervisor must be pre-approved by the **BOARD** and should not have a prior relationship with **DIDATO**. If a previous relationship exists, **DIDATO** must provide full disclosure of such a relationship in the request for supervisor approval. All cost associated with supervision will be at **DIDATO'S** expense. The request for supervisor approval must be made in writing, include a copy of the supervisor's vita and be submitted no later than two (2) weeks prior to the probationary period beginning August 1, 2008. Supervision should focus on, but not be limited to, ethical decision making, multiple relationships and standards of care. Supervision should be considered training in nature and should not be limited to simply approving and denying case plans. **DIDATO'S** supervisor must submit quarterly reports to the **BOARD** for the entire eighteen month period detailing topics discussed during supervision sessions, areas of concern, areas of improvement and make a recommendation with regards to **DIDATO'S** suitability to practice. However, if **DIDATO'S** supervisor is concerned with **DIDATO'S** practice at any time during the probationary period the **BOARD** should be notified immediately. It is **DIDATO'S** responsibility to ensure that the **BOARD** receives all supervisory reports.

It is hereby agreed by and between both parties that this CONSENT AGREEMENT hereby settles all issues concerning this matter.

By her signature on this CONSENT AGREEMENT, **DIDATO** acknowledges that in the event the **BOARD**, in its discretion, does not approve this CONSENT AGREEMENT, this settlement offer is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value and shall not be relied upon or introduced in any disciplinary action or appeal by either party. **DIDATO** agrees that should the **BOARD** reject this CONSENT AGREEMENT and if this case proceeds to hearing, she will assert no claim that the **BOARD** was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this CONSENT AGREEMENT or of any information relating thereto.

DIDATO hereby releases the members of the **BOARD**, its officers and employees, jointly and severally, from any and all liability arising from the matter within.

This CONSENT AGREEMENT shall be considered a public record as that term is used in Section 149.43 of the Ohio Revised Code. Pursuant to 42 USC Section 132a-73(b), 5 USC Section 552a, 45 CFR part 61 and Ohio Revised Code Section 2301.373(E), the **BOARD** may be required to provide **DIDATO'S** social security number to requesting governmental agencies.

The **BOARD** shall incorporate this CONSENT AGREEMENT into a formal journal entry at its March 21, 2008, meeting.

This CONSENT AGREEMENT shall take effect upon the date of the last signature below:

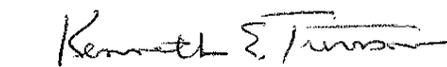
THE OHIO COUNSELOR,
SOCIAL WORKER AND MARRIAGE AND
FAMILY THERAPIST BOARD


VICTORIA L. KEPLER DIDATO, PC, SW

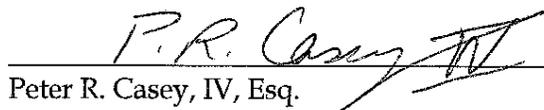
3/7/08
Date


Steve Roepke, Esq.
Counsel for Ms. Didato

3/10/2008
Date


Kenneth E. Trivison, IMFT, PCC
Chair, Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and
Family Therapist Board

3/20/08
Date


Peter R. Casey, IV, Esq.
Assistant Attorney General
Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and Family
Therapist Board

3/21/08
Date