

IN 2008, WHILE EMPLOYED IN A MENTAL HEALTH AGENCY IN MORROW COUNTY, MS. WARD BLURRED HER PROFESSIONAL BOUNDARIES BY PROVIDING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES TO A RELATIVE. ENTERING INTO AN INAPPROPRIATE MULTIPLE RELATIONSHIP CONSTITUTES A VIOLATION OF OAC 4757-5-03(A)(4)(A). Terms of the consent agreement complete as of 6/5/2009

CSWMFTB

CONSENT AGREEMENT

2008 AUG 18 A 9:3

BETWEEN

JA'REE WARD

AND THE

STATE OF OHIO COUNSELOR, SOCIAL WORKER, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST BOARD

This CONSENT AGREEMENT is entered into by and between JA'REE WARD, hereinafter, "**WARD**," 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.

**WARD** 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.

**WARD** 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 **WARD** fail to comply with any provisions of this CONSENT AGREEMENT, **WARD** knowingly waives her rights under ORC Chapter 119 to a hearing.

This 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 CONSENT AGREEMENT.

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

1. **WARD** is a professional counselor (C-0500655) licensed to practice counseling in the State of Ohio, and is subject to the laws and rules of Ohio regulating the practice of counseling as outlined in Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4757 and Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 4757. **WARD** received her professional counselor license on March 17, 2006.
2. In 2008, while employed in a mental health agency in Morrow County, **WARD** blurred her professional boundaries by providing mental health services to a relative. Entering into an inappropriate multiple relationship constitutes a violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 4757.36(A)(1) and Ohio Administrative Code Section 4757-5-03(A)(4)(a).

3. **WARD 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 other formal disciplinary proceedings, **WARD** knowingly and voluntarily agrees with the **BOARD** to the following terms and conditions:

**WARD** must take twelve (12) hours of continuing education in the area of counselor professional ethics. These hours must be pre-approved in writing by the Board's Deputy Director or his designee. After **WARD** completes these hours, she must submit a copy of her attendance certificate(s) to verify her attendance for these hours. These hours must be completed and verification submitted no later than June 30, 2009. The credit earned from these hours may not be used toward the thirty (30) hours of continuing education required for license renewal. All costs associated with the continuing education hours are at the expense of **WARD**.

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

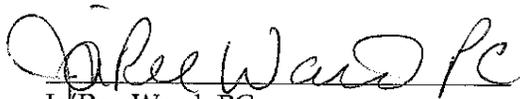
By her signature on this **CONSENT AGREEMENT**, **WARD** acknowledges that in the event the **BOARD**, in its discretion, does not approve this **CONSENT AGREEMENT**, this settlement offer is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value and shall not be relied upon or introduced in any disciplinary action or appeal by either party. **WARD** 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.

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

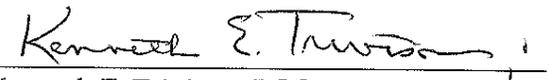
This **CONSENT AGREEMENT** shall be considered a public record as that term is used in Section 149.43 of the Ohio Revised Code. Pursuant to 42 USC Section 132a-73(b), 5 USC Section 552a, 45 CFR part 61, and Ohio Revised Code Section 3123.41 et seq. the **BOARD** may be required to provide **WARD'S**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

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

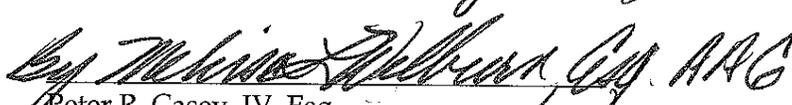
This CONSENT AGREEMENT shall take effect upon the date of the BOARD Chair's  
signature below:

  
Ja'ree Ward, PC

8/15/08  
Date

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

9/19/08  
Date

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

9-19-08  
Date