

Consent Agreement between Sheri Hamler and the State of Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, Marriage and Family Therapist Board

**CONSENT AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
SHERI HAMLER
AND THE
STATE OF OHIO COUNSELOR, SOCIAL WORKER, MARRIAGE AND
FAMILY THERAPIST BOARD**

This CONSENT AGREEMENT is entered into by and between SHERI HAMLER, hereinafter, "HAMLER," 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 therein.

HAMLER 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.

HAMLER 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.

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. HAMLER is a professional clinical counselor (E-0003317-Supv) 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. HAMLER received her professional clinical counselor license on July 21, 2000.
2. On February 11, 2014, the Counselor Professional Standards Committee ordered HAMLER to submit to full neurological examination. She was required to complete the examination by March 31, 2014. She was given an extension until April 10, 2014, to complete the examination. HAMLER has not complied with this requirement. HAMLER'S actions constitute a violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 4757.36(C)(1) and (6), and Ohio Administrative Code Sections 4757-11-02(C).
3. HAMLER neither admits nor denies the statements referenced in paragraph 2 above.

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Therapist Board

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

1. HAMLER'S license to practice as a professional clinical counselor (E.0003317-Supv) is indefinitely suspended beginning November 21, 2014. HAMLER will have to obtain Board pre-approval to submit to the neurological evaluation. Once HAMLER obtains the required neurological evaluation and the Board has reviewed the evaluation, HAMLER can petition the Board in writing to lift the suspension. The Board will consider the findings of the evaluation in deciding to lift the suspension. During the term of this indefinite suspension, HAMLER must continue to obtain approved continuing education hours and renew her professional clinical counselor license if she would like to re-enter into the profession.

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, HAMLER 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. HAMLER 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. HAMLER 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. All parties to this Consent Agreement understand that this information will be sent to the United States Department of Health and Human Services' National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB), pursuant to Title IV of Public Law 99-660, the Healthcare Quality Improvement Act of 1986, as amended; Section 1921 of the Social Security Act; and Section 1128B of the Social Security Act, as amended by Section 221(a) of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996. The BOARD shall incorporate this CONSENT AGREEMENT into a formal journal entry at its November 2014, meeting.

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

Sheri Hamler
Sheri Hamler, LPCC

11-19-14
Date

Steven Polovick
Steven Polovick, LSW
Chair, Counselor, Social Worker, Marriage and Family Therapist Board

11-20-14
Date

James McGovern, Esq.
James McGovern, Esq.
Counsel for Ms. Hamler

11/19/14
Date

Melissa L. Wilburn, Esq.
Melissa L. Wilburn, Esq.
Assistant Attorney General
Counselor, Social Worker, Marriage and Family Therapist Board

11-20-14
Date