

**CONSENT AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
CAROL J. ALLEN
AND THE
STATE OF OHIO COUNSELOR AND SOCIAL WORKER BOARD**

This CONSENT AGREEMENT is entered into by and between CAROL J. ALLEN, hereinafter, "ALLEN", and the STATE OF OHIO COUNSELOR AND SOCIAL WORKER BOARD, hereinafter "BOARD", the state agency charged with enforcing Chapter 4757 of the Ohio Revised Code and all rules promulgated thereunder.

ALLEN 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.

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

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. ALLEN is a professional clinical counselor (E-3543) 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. ALLEN received her professional clinical counselor license on July 20, 2001. ALLEN is also is a social worker (S-26337) licensed to practice social work in the State of Ohio, and is subject to the laws and rules of Ohio regulating the practice of social work as outlined in Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4757 and Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 4757. ALLEN received her social work license on March 19, 1999.
2. ALLEN was employed at The Counseling Center of Wayne and Holmes Counties, Wooster, Ohio. During the course of her employment, she professionally treated an individual. While the individual was still a client of the agency, in attempting to safeguard the individual from a fight, ALLEN blurred her professional boundaries by transporting the individual to her personal residence. While at her residence, the individual attempted suicide and Allen

appropriately contacted authorities. ALLEN believed that she was acting under her minister's certificate at the time. ALLEN'S blurring of professional boundaries constitutes a violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 4757.36(A)(1) and Ohio Administrative Code Section 4757-5-01(C)(1) and (3).

3. ALLEN ADMITS the allegations referenced in paragraphs 2 above.

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

1. ALLEN'S licenses to practice counseling and social work are SUSPENDED for three (3) months. The dates of suspension are May 19, 2003, through August 19, 2003.
2. ALLEN must take and pass either a graduate level counseling or social work ethics course from an accredited college or university. This course must be taken for credit and a grade. This course must be pre-approved by the BOARD'S Investigative Supervisor, or his designee. An on-line course or other computer-based course will not be approved. At the end of the course, ALLEN must arrange for an official transcript to be sent to the Investigative Supervisor of the Board. The transcript, verifying completion, must be received no later than July 31, 2005.
3. Once ALLEN returns to work as a counselor or a social worker, she must be supervised for all her professional responsibilities for two (2) years by a pre-approved supervisor who will pay close attention to professional boundaries and other ethical concerns. The approved supervisor must submit evaluation reports to the Board's Investigation Unit every six (6) months. It is ALLEN'S responsibility to ensure that all reports are submitted on time.

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, ALLEN 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. ALLEN 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.

If, following notice and an evidentiary hearing, not an Ohio Revised Code Chapter 119 hearing, ALLEN is found by the BOARD to have violated any terms of this Consent Agreement, the BOARD may impose any penalty up to and including REVOCATION of

ALLEN'S professional clinical counselor and social work license based solely upon a violation of this Consent Agreement. ALLEN may not appeal this action.

ALLEN 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 ALLEN'S social security number to requesting governmental agencies.

The BOARD shall incorporate this CONSENT AGREEMENT into a formal journal entry at its May 16, 2003, meeting.

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

THE OHIO COUNSELOR AND
SOCIAL WORKER BOARD

Carol J. Allen - PCC, SW
Carol J. Allen, PCC, SW
4/21/03
Date

Frank O'Dell, PCC
Frank O'Dell, PCC
Chair, Counselor and Social Worker Board
5-16-03
Date

Counsel for Ms. Allen

Date

Barbara Petrella, Esq.
Barbara Petrella, Esq.
Assistant Attorney General
Counselor and Social Worker Board

Date