

Consent Agreement between GEORGE W. SHEPPARD and the State of Ohio Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and Family Therapist Board

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**CONSENT AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
GEORGE W. SHEPPARD  
AND THE  
STATE OF OHIO COUNSELOR, SOCIAL WORKER AND MARRIAGE AND  
FAMILY THERAPIST BOARD**

This CONSENT AGREEMENT is entered into by and between GEORGE W. SHEPPARD, hereinafter, "SHEPPARD," 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.

SHEPPARD hereby acknowledges that he 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.

SHEPPARD is fully aware of his rights, including his right to be advised by counsel and his 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 SHEPPARD fail to comply with any provisions of this CONSENT AGREEMENT, SHEPPARD knowingly waives his 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. SHEPPARD is an independent social worker (1-0001866) licensed 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. SHEPPARD received his independent social work license on June 20, 1986.
2. SHEPPARD is employed as a private practitioner in Columbus, Ohio. From about February 2003, through May 15, 2003, SHEPPARD engaged in inappropriate verbal and physical conduct of a sexual nature with female client #1. This inappropriate conduct constitutes a violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 4757.36(A)(1) and Ohio

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Administrative Code Section 4757-5-01(B)(6) and (B) (A)

3. SHEPPARD 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, SHEPPARD knowingly and voluntarily agrees with the BOARD to the following terms and conditions:

1. SHEPPARD'S license as an independent social worker is hereby **SUSPENDED** for a period of thirty (30) days beginning March 1, 2006
2. SHEPPARD is required to complete and pass a college or university course in social work ethics, at his expense. The course must be pre-approved by the BOARD. SHEPPARD must contact the BOARD'S investigative unit to seek pre-approval. The course must be completed by December 2006.
3. SHEPPARD will be on probation for a period of one (1) year. During the one year probationary period SHEPPARD must be supervised in all aspects of his practice of social work and receive face-to-face supervision one hour every two weeks. SHEPPARD'S supervisor must be ~~pre-approved~~ by the BOARD and should not have a prior relationship with SHEPPARD. If a previous relationship exists, SHEPPARD must provide full disclosure of such a relationship in the request for supervisor approval. All cost associated with supervision will be at SHEPPARD'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 weeks after the signing of this consent agreement. Supervision should focus on, but not be limited to, multiple relationships with clients, accurate and timely record keeping, conflicting roles and therapeutic techniques. Supervision should be considered training in nature and should not be limited to simply approving and denying case plans. SHEPPARD'S supervisor must submit quarterly reports to the BOARD for the entire one year period detailing topics discussed during supervision sessions, areas of concern, areas of improvement and make a recommendation with regards to SHEPPARD'S suitability to practice. However, if SHEPPARD'S supervisor is concerned with SHEPPARD'S practice at any time during the probationary period the BOARD should be notified immediately. It is SHEPPARD'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.

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By his signature on this CONSENT AGREEMENT, SHEPPARD 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. SHEPPARD agrees that should the BOARD reject this CONSENT AGREEMENT and if this case proceeds to hearing, he will assert no claim that the BOARD was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this CONSENT AGREEMENT or of any information relating thereto.

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

The BOARD shall incorporate this CONSENT AGREEMENT into a formal journal entry at its January 21, 2005 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

George W. Sheppard  
GEORGE W. SHEPPARD, ISW

Dr. Rose Quinones-DelValle  
Dr. Rose Quinones-Delvalle, PCC  
Chair, Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and Family Therapist Board

1-19-05  
Date

1-21-05  
Date

Jeffery Poth  
Jeffery Poth  
Counsel for Mr. Sheppard

Juliane E. Barone, Esq.  
Juliane E. Barone, Esq.  
Assistant Attorney General  
Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and Family Therapist Board

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Date

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