

COPY

**CONSENT AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
RITT ROUSSEAU  
AND THE  
OHIO STATE COUNSELOR AND SOCIAL WORKER BOARD**

This CONSENT AGREEMENT is entered into the and between RITT ROUSSEAU, hereinafter, "ROUSSEAU", and the OHIO STATE 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.

ROUSSEAU 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.

ROUSSEAU 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, 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. ROUSSEAU is an Independent Social Worker (I-3941) 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 O.R.C. Chapter 4757.
2. On or about October 1994, [REDACTED] began seeing ROUSSEAU in her capacity as an Independent Social Worker. This therapeutic relationship ended on February 14, 1995.
3. During the period of this therapeutic relationship, ROUSSEAU violated social worker/client boundaries and entered into a dual relationship by developing a friendship with [REDACTED] and attending the musical "Jesus Christ Superstar" at the Playhouse Square Foundation in Cleveland, Ohio, between February 3 and

February 5, 1995, before the therapeutic relationship had ended.

4. **ROUSSEAU'S** violating social worker/client boundaries and entering into a dual relationship are violations of O.R.C. 4757.13 (A), O.A.C. 4757-21-01(B)(1), and the Code of Ethics of the National Association of Social Workers Section II(F)(4).
5. **ROUSSEAU ADMITS** the facts referenced in paragraphs 1 through 4 above.

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

- A. **ROUSSEAU** agrees to take and pass a graduate level social work ethics course, pre-approved by the **BOARD**, for credit. **ROUSSEAU** will have until December 1998 to complete this requirement. At the end of the course, **ROUSSEAU** will provide to the **BOARD** an official copy of the school transcript showing the passing grade and the credits earned. The credits for this course will NOT be allowable towards licensure renewal.

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 **AGREEMENT**, **ROUSSEAU** 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. **ROUSSEAU** 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.

ROUSSEAU 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.

The BOARD shall incorporate this CONSENT AGREEMENT into a formal journal entry at its September, 1997, meeting.

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

THE OHIO COUNSELOR AND  
SOCIAL WORKER BOARD

Ritt Rousseau  
RITT ROUSSEAU

Glenn Abraham  
GLENN ABRAHAM  
Chair, Counselor and Social Worker Board

8/21/97  
DATE

9-19-97  
DATE

Att. Sarah  
Counsel for Ritt Rousseau

Mary J. Hollern for Elizabeth Y. Collis  
ELIZABETH Y. COLLIS, ESQ.  
Assistant Attorney General  
Counselor and Social Worker Board

8/25/97  
DATE

9/19/97  
DATE