

Ms. Waits completed the terms of the consent agreement as of 7/20/2003

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COUNSELOR AND SOCIAL
WORKER BOARD

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**CONSENT AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
VICKIE L. LUCAS
AND THE
STATE OF OHIO COUNSELOR AND SOCIAL WORKER BOARD**

This **CONSENT AGREEMENT** is entered into by and between **VICKIE L. LUCAS**, hereinafter, "**LUCAS**", 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.

LUCAS 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.

LUCAS 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 **LUCAS** fail to comply with any provisions of this **CONSENT AGREEMENT**, **LUCAS** 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. **LUCAS** is a social worker (S-1475) 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. **LUCAS** received her social work license on April 11, 1989.

2. In 2000, **LUCAS** was employed at Brown County Counseling in Georgetown, Ohio, as a Children's Community Support Program Worker. Lucas had been assigned case management duties for Client #1 and his children. When questioned by agency management about an improper relationship with Client #1, **LUCAS** denied the allegation. **LUCAS'S** last day of employment with Brown County Counseling was October 30, 2000. On that date, Client #1 was an open active case on her caseload.
3. On November 8, 2000, **LUCAS** married Client #1. This conduct constitutes a violation of Ohio Revised Code 4757.36(A)(1) and Ohio Administrative Code 4757-5-01(D)(3).
4. **LUCAS** admits the statements referenced in paragraphs 1 through 3 referenced above.

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

1. **LUCAS'S** license to practice social work is suspended for two (2) years from the date of this Consent Agreement. During the period of suspension, **LUCAS** must continue to meet her statutory continuing education requirements.
2. **LUCAS** will take and pass a social work ethics course from an accredited college or university. Said course must be pre-approved by the **BOARD**. The course must be taken for credit and the hours obtained may not be used by **LUCAS** to renew her social work license. At the conclusion of the course, **LUCAS** will arrange for an official transcript to be sent from the college or university to the **BOARD**, to the attention of the Investigative Supervisor. Said course must be completed by January 1, 2003, and the transcript received at the **BOARD** offices no later than February 14, 2003.

3. If **LUCAS** returns to work as a social worker after her two-year suspension, she must notify the **BOARD** of her employer and the name of her clinical supervisor. The **BOARD** at its discretion may contact the clinical supervisor to ensure **LUCAS** understands and is maintaining her professional boundaries.

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**, **LUCAS** 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. **LUCAS** 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, **LUCAS** is found by the **BOARD** to have violated any terms of this Consent Agreement, the **BOARD** may impose any penalty up to and including **REVOCAION** of **LUCAS'S** social work license based solely upon a violation of this Consent Agreement. **LUCAS** may not appeal this action.

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

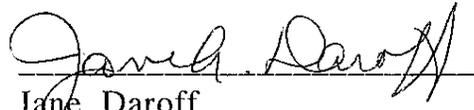
This **CONSENT AGREEMENT** shall be considered a public record as that term is used in Section 149.43 of the Ohio Revised Code. Pursuant to 42 USC Section 132a-73(b), 5 USC Section 552a, 45 CFR part 61 and Ohio Revised Code Section 2301.373(E), the **BOARD** may be required to provide **LUCAS'S** social security number to requesting governmental agencies.

The **BOARD** shall incorporate this CONSENT AGREEMENT into a formal journal entry at its July, 2001, meeting.

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

THE OHIO COUNSELOR AND
SOCIAL WORKER BOARD


Vickie L. Lucas


Jane Daroff
Chair, Counselor and Social Worker Board

5-22-01
Date

Counsel for Ms. Lucas

Date

7/20/01
Date


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

7-20-01
Date