

## *Counselor, Social Worker & Marriage and Family Therapist Board*

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<http://cswmft.ohio.gov> & [cswmft.info@cswb.state.oh.us](mailto:cswmft.info@cswb.state.oh.us)

### ADJUDICATION ORDER in the Matter of:

Lisa A. Depoussaint Little  
19401 Cherokee Avenue  
Cleveland, OH 44119

IN THE MATTER OF LISA A. DEPOUSSAINT LITTLE TO PRACTICE AS A  
LICENSED SOCIAL WORKER IN THE STATE OF OHIO.

THE MATTER OF LISA A. DEPOUSSAINT LITTLE CAME BEFORE THE  
FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE SOCIAL WORKER PROFESSIONAL  
STANDARDS COMMITTEE OF THE OHIO COUNSELOR, SOCIAL WORKER,  
AND MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST BOARD ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2007:  
MOLLY TUCKER, JENNIFER RIESBECK-LEE, DR. THERESA CLUSE-TOLAR,  
TIM BRADY, AND KAREN HUEY.

### FINDINGS, ORDER, AND JOURNAL ENTRY

This matter came for consideration after a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing was issued to Lisa A. Depoussaint Little by the Social Worker Professional Standards Committee on July 20, 2007.

Pursuant to R.C. 119.07 licensees are entitled to a hearing before the Board if such a hearing is requested within thirty days of the mailing or publishing of the Notice of Opportunity for Hearing. In this case, Ms. Little failed to make a request for such a hearing, therefore pursuant to *Goldman v. State Medical Board* (March 29, 1996) Franklin County Court of Appeals, 95 APE 10-1358 the case was presented to the Social Work Professional Standards Committee on September 20, 2007.

## Summary of Evidence

### State's Exhibits

1. Affidavit prepared by William L. Hegarty, Deputy Director, State of Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board.
2. Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Ms. Little dated July 20, 2007 (State Exhibit A).
3. Consent Agreement entered into in November 2006. (State Exhibit B).
4. Letter to Ms. Depoussaint from the Board dated November 17, 2006 (State Exhibit C).
5. Letter to Ms. Little from the Board dated June 5, 2007. (State Exhibit D).
6. Copy of e-mail and notation concerning phone message dated July 27, 2007 (State Exhibit E).

### Conclusions of Law

Ohio Revised Code Section 4757.36(A)(1) provides that the Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board may take disciplinary action against a licensee who has committed a violation of any provision of the Board's law and rules.

### Discussion and Findings

As required in the case of *Goldman v. State Medical Board* (March 29, 1996) Franklin County Court of Appeals 95APE10-1358, all cases where a Board issues a Notice for Opportunity for Hearing and the individual does not request a hearing, the Board still must review evidence presented to it and make specific findings of fact. In this case, Ms. Little or her legal counsel did not request a hearing after receiving the Notice for Opportunity for Hearing.

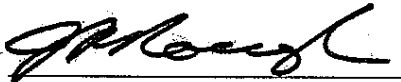
The Social Worker Professional Standards Committee has reviewed the evidence prepared in this case. The Committee finds that Ms. Little did not comply with the Consent Agreement entered into between herself and the Board or its extension. Based on this, the Committee orders that Ms. Little's license to practice social work (S-0025025) be **REVOKED**. As Ordered by the Social Worker Professional Standards Committee of the Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board.

It is hereby certified by this Board that the above language is incorporated into the Board's journal in this matter.

### APPEAL RIGHTS

Pursuant to Section 119.12 of the Ohio Revised code, you have the right to appeal this Order. The appeal must be commenced by filing your original Notice of Appeal with the Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board, 50 West Broad Street, Suite 1075, Columbus, Ohio 43215. A copy of the appeal must be filed with the Court of Common Pleas in the county in which the place of your business is located or the county in which you reside. If you are not a resident of Ohio and/or have no place of business within the State, a copy of your appeal may be filed with the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas. Appeal filings must be received within fifteen (15) days of the mailing of this Adjudication Order. The Notice of Appeal must set forth the Order appealed, the grounds for appeal and must be in accordance with the requirements outlined in section 119.12 of the Ohio Revised Code.

By Order of the State of Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board.



James Rough  
Executive Director

9-21-07  
Date

Certified Mail Receipt #7003 0500 0002 4341 5136

**CONSENT AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
LISA A. LITTLE  
AND THE  
STATE OF OHIO COUNSELOR, SOCIAL WORKER AND MARRIAGE AND  
FAMILY THERAPIST BOARD**

This CONSENT AGREEMENT is entered into by and between LISA A. LITTLE, hereinafter, "LITTLE," 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.

LITTLE 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.

LITTLE 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 LITTLE fail to comply with any provisions of this CONSENT AGREEMENT, LITTLE knowingly waives her 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. LITTLE is a social worker (S-0025025) 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. LITTLE received her social work license on March 20, 1998.
  
2. LITTLE was employed with The Cuyahoga County Department of Justice Affairs, Cleveland, Ohio. Between December 28, 2004, and January 12, 2005, CCDJA conducted an investigation regarding LITTLE. LITTLE allegedly forged two client signatures on treatment plans dated September 20, 2004, and October 4, 2004, respectively and

was suspended by CCDJA for 10 days. This inappropriate conduct constitutes a violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 4757.36(A) (1) and Ohio Administrative Code Section 4757-5-01(I) (1) and (2).

3. On March 30, 2006 the Board received an additional complaint regarding **LITTLE**, which alleges she again falsified client records and/or did not maintain complete and accurate records. This inappropriate conduct constitutes a violation of Ohio revised Code Section 4757.36(A) (1) and Ohio Administrative Code Section 4757-5-01(I) (1) and (2).
4. **LITTLE ADMITS** the allegations referenced in paragraph 2 and 3 above.

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

1. **LITTLE** is required to complete and pass a college or university course in social work ethics, at her expense. The course must be pre-approved by the **BOARD**. **LITTLE** must contact the **BOARD'S** investigative unit to seek pre-approval. The course must be completed by December 31, 2006. **LITTLE** must ensure the Board receives an official transcript directly from the college or university at the completion of the course.
2. **LITTLE'S** social work license (S-0025025) is **indefinitely** suspended, for a minimum of one (1) year. If, in the future **LITTLE** wishes to have the suspension lifted she must make a written request to the Board for reinstatement.

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**, **LITTLE** 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. **LITTLE** 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.

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

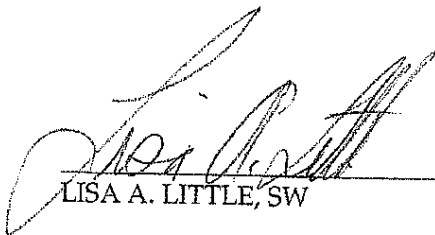
Consent Agreement between LISA A. LITTLE and the State of Ohio Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and Family Therapist Board

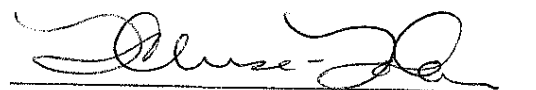
This CONSENT AGREEMENT shall be considered a public record as that term is used in Section 149.43 of the Ohio Revised Code. Pursuant to 42 USC Section 132a-73(b), 5 USC Section 552a, 45 CFR part 61 and Ohio Revised Code Section 2301.373(E), the BOARD may be required to provide LITTLE'S social security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

The BOARD shall incorporate this CONSENT AGREEMENT into a formal journal entry at its November 17, 2006, 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

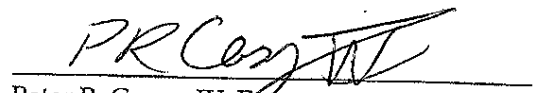
  
LISA A. LITTLE, SW

  
Dr. Theresa Cluse-Tolar, LISW  
Chair, Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and  
Family Therapist Board

11/17/06  
Date

11/17/06  
Date

  
David W. Neel, Esq.  
Counsel for Ms. Little

  
Peter R. Casey, IV, Esq.  
Assistant Attorney General  
Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and Family  
Therapist Board

11/17/06  
Date

11/17/06  
Date

Consent Agreement between LISA A. LITTLE and the State of Ohio Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and Family Therapist Board

**CONSENT AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
LISA A. LITTLE  
AND THE  
STATE OF OHIO COUNSELOR, SOCIAL WORKER AND MARRIAGE AND  
FAMILY THERAPIST BOARD**

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LITTLE 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.

LITTLE 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 LITTLE fail to comply with any provisions of this CONSENT AGREEMENT, LITTLE knowingly waives her 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.

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- 2 LITTLE is employed with The Cuyahoga County Department of Justice Affairs, Cleveland, Ohio. Between December 28, 2004, and January 12, 2005, CCDJA conducted an investigation regarding LITTLE. LITTLE allegedly forged two client signatures on treatment plans dated September 20, 2004, and October 4, 2004, respectively and was suspended by CCDJA for 10 days. This inappropriate conduct constitutes a violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 4757.36(A)(1) and Ohio Administrative Code Section 4757-5-01(l) (1) and (2).

Consent Agreement between LISA A. LITTLE and the State of Ohio Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and Family Therapist Board

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- 3 **LITTLE 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, **LITTLE** knowingly and voluntarily agrees with the **BOARD** to the following terms and conditions:

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- 2 **LITTLE** will be on probation for a period of eighteen (18) months, upon employment or at her current place of employment. During the eighteen month probationary period **LITTLE** must be supervised in all aspects of her practice of social work and receive face-to-face supervision one hour every two weeks. **LITTLE'S** supervisor must be pre-approved by the **BOARD**. All cost associated with supervision will be at **LITTLE'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, ethical decision making, and accurate and timely documentation. Supervision should be considered training in nature and should not be limited to simply approving and denying case plans. **LITTLE'S** supervisor must submit quarterly reports to the **BOARD** for the entire eighteen month period detailing topics discussed during supervision sessions, areas of concern, areas of improvement and make a recommendation with regards to **LITTLE'S** suitability to practice. However, if **LITTLE'S** supervisor is concerned with **LITTLE'S** practice at any time during the probationary period the **BOARD** should be notified immediately. It is **LITTLE'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.

By her signature on this CONSENT AGREEMENT, **LITTLE** 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. **LITTLE** 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.



Consent Agreement between LISA A. LITTLE and the State of Ohio Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and Family Therapist Board

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

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The BOARD shall incorporate this CONSENT AGREEMENT into a formal journal entry at its January 20, 2006, 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

LISA A. LITTLE, SW

Dr. Theresa Cluse-Tolar, LISW  
Chair, Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and  
Family Therapist Board

Date

Date

David W. Neel, Esq.  
Counsel for Ms. Little

Peter R. Casey, IV, Esq.  
Assistant Attorney General  
Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and Family  
Therapist Board

Date

Date