

Terms of the consent agreement
complete as of 3/25/2003

**CONSENT AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
LONNIE H. LEWIS
AND THE
STATE OF OHIO COUNSELOR AND SOCIAL WORKER BOARD**

This CONSENT AGREEMENT is entered into by and between LONNIE H. LEWIS, hereinafter, "**LEWIS**", 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.

LEWIS 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.

LEWIS 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 **LEWIS** fail to comply with any provisions of this CONSENT AGREEMENT, **LEWIS** knowingly waives his 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. **LEWIS** is a social worker (S-27443) 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. **LEWIS** was originally licensed as a social worker under license number (S-17638) May 22, 1991, but **LEWIS** allowed this license to lapse May 22, 1995. **LEWIS'** current social work license was issued March 17, 2000.
2. In September 2001, while employed at Talbert House in Hamilton County, Ohio, **LEWIS** breached confidentiality. While facilitating a group session, **LEWIS** excused himself from the room, went to his office and returned to the

group session with the file of one group member. **LEWIS** proceeded to read excerpts from the client's file to the group. A breach of confidentiality constitutes a violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 4757.36(A)(1) and Ohio Administrative Code Section 4757-5-01(B)(4).

3. Also while employed at Talbert House **LEWIS** engaged in conversation that is inappropriate in nature while clients were present. The language used in the conversation constitutes a violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 4757.36(A)(1) and Ohio Administrative Code Section 4757-5-01(B)(8)(b).
4. **LEWIS ADMITS** the allegations referenced in paragraphs 2-3 referenced above.

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

1. **LEWIS'** license to practice social work is hereby **REPRIMANDED**.
2. **LEWIS** must complete and pass an ethics course from a university that is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. Said course must be pre-approved by the Board. The course must be taken for credit and for a letter grade. Course work will be taken at the expense of **LEWIS**. An official transcript showing successful completion must be received by the **BOARD** no later than July 31, 2003, to satisfy this requirement.

It is hereby agreed by and between both parties that this **CONSENT AGREEMENT** hereby settles all issues concerning this matter.

By his signature on this CONSENT AGREEMENT, **LEWIS** 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. **LEWIS** 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.

If, following notice and an evidentiary hearing, not an Ohio Revised Code Chapter 119 hearing, **LEWIS** 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 **LEWIS'** social work license based solely upon a violation of this Consent Agreement. **LEWIS** may not appeal this action.

LEWIS 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 **LEWIS'** social security number to requesting governmental agencies.

The **BOARD** shall incorporate this CONSENT AGREEMENT into a formal journal entry at its March 22, 2002, meeting.

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

THE OHIO COUNSELOR AND
SOCIAL WORKER BOARD



Lonnie H. Lewis

1/15/02

Date

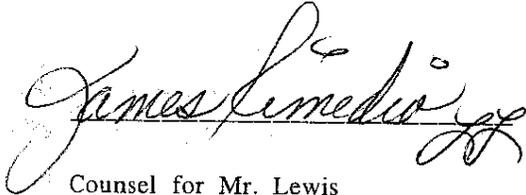


Lane A. Daroff, ISW

Chair, Counselor and Social Worker Board

3/22/02

Date



Counsel for Mr. Lewis

1/15/02

Date



Barbara Petrella, Esq.

Assistant Attorney General

Counselor and Social Worker Board

3-22-02

Date