CONSENT AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
SUSAN M. DOERFER
AND THE
STATE OF OHIO COUNSELOR, SOCIAL WORKER, MARRIAGE AND
FAMILY THERAPIST BOARD

This CONSENT AGREEMENT is entered into by and between **SUSAN M. DOERFER,** hereinafter, **"DOERFER"** and the STATE OF OHIO COUNSELOR, SOCIAL WORKER, 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.

DOERFER 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. **DOERFER** 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 and, understandings:

1. **DOERFER** is an independent social worker (I-0009423 S) 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 Section 4757 and Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 4757. **DOERFER** received her independent social worker license on May 16, 2002, and the supervision designation March 6, 2008.

2. The Board received information that while **DOERFER** was employed at a private practice agency in Westlake, Ohio, **DOERFER** violated professional boundaries, beginning in August 2013, by entering into a multiple relationship with a client. This action constitutes violations of O.R.C. 4757.36 (C) (1), O.A.C. 4757-5-04 (C).

3. **DOERFER ADMITS** the allegations referenced in paragraphs 2.

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

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1. **DOERFER'S** independent license to practice social work (I-0009423 S) is hereby **SUSPENDED** for two (2) years beginning May 15, 2014. **DOERFER** must renew the license during the period of suspension if she intends to re-enter the field.

2. Once the period of suspension is completed **DOERFER** must be monitored in all aspects of her practice of social work and receive face-to-face monitoring at the rate of one hour per every forty hours of work for an eighteen month (18) month period. **DOERFER'S** monitor must be <u>pre-approved</u> by the **BOARD,** hold an independent level license with the supervision designation and should <u>not</u> have a prior relationship with **DOERFER.** If a previous relationship exists, **DOERFER** must provide full disclosure of such a relationship in the request for monitor approval. All cost associated with monitoring will be at **DOERFER'S** expense. The request for monitor approval must be made in writing include a copy of the monitor's vita. Monitoring should focus on, but not be limited to, ethical decision making, confidentiality, multiple relationships and standards of care. Monitoring should be considered training in nature and should not be limited to simply approving and denying case plans. **DOERFER'S** monitor must submit quarterly reports to the **BOARD** for the entire period detailing topics discussed during monitoring sessions, areas of concern, areas of improvement and make a recommendation with regards to **DOERFER'S** suitability to practice. However, if **DOERFER'S** monitor is concerned with **DOERFER'S** practice at any time during the probationary period the **BOARD** should be notified immediately. It is **DOERFER'S** responsibility to ensure that the **BOARD** receives all monitoring reports.

It is hereby agreed by and between both parties that this CONSENT AGREEMENT hereby settles all issues concerning this matter.
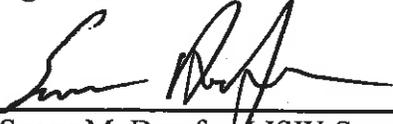
By her signature on this CONSENT AGREEMENT, **DOERFER** acknowledges that in the event the **BOARD,** in its discretion, does not approve this CONSENT AGREEMENT, this settlement offer is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value and shall not be relied upon or introduced in any disciplinary action or appeal by either party. **DOERFER** 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.

DOERFER 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. All parties to this Consent Agreement understand that this information will be sent to the United States Department of Health and Human Services' National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB), pursuant to Title IV of Public Law 99-660, the Healthcare Quality Improvement Act of 1986, as amended; Section 1921 of the Social Security Act; and Section 1128E of the Social Security Act, as amended by Section 221(a) of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996. The **BOARD** shall incorporate this CONSENT AGREEMENT into a formal journal entry at its ___May___ 2014, meeting.

This CONSENT AGREEMENT shall take effect upon the date of the Board Chair's signature below:

_____
Susan M. Doerfer, LISW-S

_____3/21/14_____
Date

Mary J Venrick MSLSWLPC
_____
Mary J. Venrick, LSW, LPC
Chair, Counselor, Social Worker,
Marriage and Family Therapist Board

_____5-15-14_____
Date