

Consent Agreement between Sandra Ernst and the State of Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, Marriage and Family Therapist Board

**CONSENT AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
SANDRA ERNST  
AND THE  
STATE OF OHIO COUNSELOR, SOCIAL WORKER, MARRIAGE AND  
FAMILY THERAPIST BOARD**

This CONSENT AGREEMENT is entered into by and between SANDRA ERNST, hereinafter, "ERNST", 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.

ERNST 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.

ERNST 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. ERNST is a licensed independent social worker (I.1700458) 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 and Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 4757. ERNST received her independent social worker license on July 31, 2017.
2. On or about June 20, 2018, while employed at a medical facility in Middletown, Ohio, ERNST was required to submit to a breathalyzer test while on-duty, of which the results were positive for alcohol. This constitutes a violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 4757.36(C) (1) and Ohio Administrative Code Section 4757-05-05.
3. ERNST admits the allegations referenced above.

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

1. ERNST'S license to practice as a licensed independent social worker (I.1700458) is hereby REPRIMANDED.

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, ERNST 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. ERNST 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.

ERNST 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 January 2019 meeting.

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

Sandra Ernst LISW  
Sandra Ernst, LISW

Margaret Knerr, MS, IMFT-S  
Margaret Knerr, IMFT-S  
Chair, Counselor, Social Worker, Marriage and Family  
Therapist Board

11/14/2018  
Date

1-17-19  
Date