

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

This CONSENT AGREEMENT is entered into by and between **ELIZABETH CAREY**, hereinafter, "**CAREY**" 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.

CAREY 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. **CAREY** 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. **CAREY** is a licensed social worker (S.1450418) 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. **CAREY** received her social worker license on June 24, 2014.
2. In 2014, while employed at a mental health agency in Marion, Ohio, **CAREY** entered into an inappropriate relationship with a client. **CAREY'S** conduct constitutes a violation of O.R.C. 4757.36 (C)(1) and O.A.C. 4757-5-04 (A).
3. **CAREY** admits the statements 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, **CAREY** knowingly and voluntarily agrees with the **BOARD** to the following terms and conditions:

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1. **CAREY'S** license to practice social work is hereby **SUSPENDED** for three (3) years beginning September 14, 2018. **CAREY** must renew her license during the period of suspension if she intends to re-enter the field.
2. During the period of suspension, **CAREY** must receive personal counseling from a **BOARD** pre-approved practitioner for two (2) years. All costs associated with this counseling are at **CAREY'S** expense. **CAREY** must submit the name, contact information, and professional resume or vitae to the **BOARD'S** Deputy Director no later than September 30, 2018, to obtain pre-approval. Once approved, the practitioner will provide the **BOARD** with quarterly reports detailing issues discussed in counseling, professional ethics, boundaries and responsibilities, and other issues the practitioner deems appropriate. It is **CAREY'S** responsibility to ensure the **BOARD** receives the reports in a timely manner. After the end of the first year of mandated counseling, the approved practitioner shall determine if the remaining one (1) year of mandated counseling is necessary and submit a report detailing such. The ultimate decision to continue or discontinue the mandated counseling shall be at the discretion of the Social Worker Professional Standards Committee.
3. **CAREY** must complete six (6) additional hours of continuing education in ethics/boundaries at her expense. The additional hours must be pre-approved by the **BOARD**. **CAREY** must contact the **BOARD'S** investigative unit to seek pre-approval. The additional hours must be completed by December 31, 2018. These six (6) additional hours may not be used for the renewal of her social worker license.

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**, **CAREY** 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. **CAREY** 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.

CAREY 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 (NPDDB), pursuant to Title IV of

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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 September 2018, meeting.

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

Elizabeth Carey LSW
Elizabeth Carey, LSW

8-28-18
Date

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

9/14/18
Date