1 BEFORE THE ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EXAMINERS 2 In the Matter of: 3 CASE NO. 2022-0158 Gary D. Miller, LMSW-12279, Licensed Master Social Worker, 4 In the State of Arizona. **RELEASE FROM NON-DISCIPLINARY CONSENT** 5 RESPONDENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER 6 7 The Board received a request from Respondent to release them from the terms and conditions of the Non-Disciplinary Consent Agreement and Order dated September 9th, 2022. 8 After consideration, the Board voted to release Respondent from the terms and conditions of the 9 Non-Disciplinary Consent Agreement and Order dated September 9th, 2022. 10 ORDER 11 GOOD CAUSE APPEARING, IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT: 12 Respondent is hereby released from all terms and conditions of the Non-Disciplinary 13 Consent Agreement and Order dated September 9th, 2022. 14 May 8, 2023 By: 15 TOBI ZAVALA, Executive Director Date 16 Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners 17 May 8, 2023 **ORIGINAL** of the foregoing filed 18 with: 19 Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners 1740 West Adams Street, Suite 3600 20 Phoenix, AZ 85007 21 **EXECUTED COPY** of the foregoing sent electronically May 8, 2023 22 Gary D. Miller 23 Address of Record Respondent 24 25 Flynn P. Carey Mitchell Stein Carey Chapman PC

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BEFORE THE ARIZONA BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EXAMINERS

In the Matter of:

Gary D. Miller, LMSW-12279, Licensed Master Social Worker, In the State of Arizona.

Respondent

CASE NO. 2022-0158

NON-DISCIPLINARY CONSENT AGREEMENT

In the interest of a prompt and speedy settlement of the above captioned matter, consistent with the public interest, statutory requirements and responsibilities of the Arizona State Board of Behavioral Health Examiners ("Board"), and pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 32-3281(D)(3) and 41-1092.07(F)(5), Gary D. Miller ("Respondent") and the Board enter into this Non-Disciplinary Consent Agreement, Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order ("Consent Agreement") as a final disposition of this matter.

RECITALS

Respondent understands and agrees that:

- Any record prepared in this matter, all investigative materials prepared or received by the Board concerning the allegations, and all related materials and exhibits may be retained in the Board's file pertaining to this matter.
- 2. Respondent has the right to a formal administrative hearing at which Respondent can present evidence and cross examine the State's witnesses. Respondent hereby irrevocably waives their right to such formal hearing concerning these allegations and irrevocably waives their right to any rehearing or judicial review relating to the allegations contained in this Consent Agreement.
- Respondent has the right to consult with an attorney prior to entering into this Consent Agreement.

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- 4. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that upon signing this Consent Agreement and returning it to the Board's Executive Director, Respondent may not revoke their acceptance of this Consent Agreement or make any modifications to it. Any modification of this original document is ineffective and void unless mutually approved by the parties in writing.
- 5. The findings contained in the Findings of Fact portion of this Consent Agreement are conclusive evidence of the facts stated herein between only Respondent and the Board for the final disposition of this matter and may be used for purposes of determining sanctions in any future disciplinary matter.
- 6. This Consent Agreement is subject to the Board's approval, and will be effective only when the Board accepts it. In the event the Board in its discretion does not approve this Consent Agreement, this Consent Agreement is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value, nor shall it be relied upon or introduced in any disciplinary action by any party hereto, except that Respondent agrees that should the Board reject this Consent Agreement and this case proceeds to hearing, Respondent shall assert no claim that the Board was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this document or of any records relating thereto.
- 7. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that the acceptance of this Consent Agreement is solely to settle this Board matter and does not preclude the Board from instituting other proceedings as may be appropriate now or in the future. Furthermore, and notwithstanding any language in this Consent Agreement, this Consent Agreement does not preclude in any way any other state agency or officer or political subdivision of this state from instituting proceedings, investigating claims, or taking legal action as may be appropriate now or in the future relating to this matter or other matters concerning Respondent, including but not limited to violations of Arizona's Consumer Fraud Act. Respondent acknowledges that, other than with respect to the Board, this Consent Agreement makes no representations, implied or

otherwise, about the views or intended actions of any other state agency or officer or political subdivision of the state relating to this matter or other matters concerning Respondent.

- 8. Respondent understands that once the Board approves and signs this Consent Agreement, it shall constitute a public record that may be disseminated as a formal action of the Board.
- 9. Respondent further understands that any violation of this Consent Agreement constitutes unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(n) and may result in disciplinary action pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3281.
- 10. The Board therefore retains jurisdiction over Respondent and may initiate disciplinary action against Respondent if it determines that they have failed to comply with the terms of the Consent Agreement or of the practice act.

The Board issues the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Respondent is the holder of License No. LMSW-12279 for the practice of counseling in the State of Arizona.
- 2. From 06/20 05/21, Respondent provided telehealth therapy services to a client ("Client") at a behavioral health agency.
- 3. Client's consent for treatment forms were missing a majority of the Board's required elements, and progress notes were missing all telehealth requirements.
- 4. There were communication records between Respondent and Client that were not documented in the clinical records.
- 5. Prior to the last session, Client's progress notes do not indicate Client was ready or planning to terminate services.
- 6. Respondent did not document any attempts to reach out to Client to determine whether or not she would like to continue services.

7. Respondent represented he was unaware if Client's record was closed out or if she was discharged.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Board has jurisdiction over Respondent pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3251 et seq. and the rules promulgated by the Board relating to Respondent's professional practice as a licensed behavioral health professional.
- 2. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3281(D)(3), if the Board finds that Respondent's conduct is not of sufficient seriousness to merit direct action against them, it may issue a nondisciplinary order requiring Respondent to complete a prescribed number of hours of continuing education in an area or areas prescribed by the Board to provide them with the necessary understanding of current developments, skills, procedures or treatment.

ORDER

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the parties agree to the provisions and penalties imposed as follows:

Continuing Education

1. In addition to the continuing education requirements of A.R.S. § 32-3273, within 12 months of the effective date of this Consent Agreement, Respondent shall complete 6 clock hours of the NASW Staying Out of Trouble continuing education course or an equivalent course. All required continuing education shall be pre-approved by the Board Chair or designee. Upon completion, Respondent shall submit a certificate of completion of the required continuing education.

Licensee Name

Respondent shall practice behavioral health using the name under which they
are licensed. If Respondent changes their name, they shall advise the Board of the name
change as prescribed under the Board's regulations and rules.

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Early Release

 After completion of the required continuing education, Respondent may request early release from this Consent Agreement.

General Provisions

- 4. Respondent must submit a written request to the Board for release from the terms of this Consent Agreement at least 30 days prior to the date they would like to have this matter presented before the Board. Respondent may appear before the Board, either in person or telephonically. Respondent must provide evidence that they have successfully satisfied all terms and conditions in this Consent Agreement. The Board has the sole discretion to determine whether all terms and conditions of this Consent Agreement have been met and whether Respondent has adequately demonstrated that they have addressed the issues contained in this Consent Agreement. In the event that the Board determines that any or all terms and conditions of this Consent Agreement have not been met, the Board may open up a complaint which will be subject to the provisions of A.R.S. § 32-3281.
- Respondent shall bear all costs relating to completion of all terms required in this
 Consent Agreement.
- Respondent shall be responsible for ensuring that all documentation required in this Consent Agreement is provided to the Board in a timely manner.
 - 7. This Consent Agreement shall be effective on the date of entry below.
- 8. This Consent Agreement is conclusive evidence of the matters described herein and may be considered by the Board in determining appropriate sanctions in future cases.

PROFESSIONAL ACCEPTS, SIGNS AND DATES THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT

Gary Miller
Gary Miller (Sep 2, 2022 10:59 PDT)

Gary D. Miller

Sep 2, 2022

Date

1	BOARD ACCEPTS, SIGNS AND DATES THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT	Γ
2	By: Mrl. Zarola Sep 9, 2022	
3	TOBI ZAVALA, Executive Director Date Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners	
4		
5	original of the foregoing filed Sep 9, 2022	
7	with: Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners 1740 West Adams Street, Suite 3600	
8	Phoenix, AZ 85007	
9	EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing sent electronically to:	_
11	Mona Baskin Assistant Attorney General 2005 North Central Avenue Phoenix, AZ 85004	
13 14	Gary D. Miller Address of Record	
15	Respondent	
16 17	Flynn P. Carey	
2600 N. Central Ave., Ste. 1000		
19	Attorney for Respondent	
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