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BEFORE THE ARIZONA BOARD

OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EXAMINERS

In the Matter of:

Kathryn M. Forsyth, LPC-10773, Licensed Professional Counselor, In the State of Arizona.

RESPONDENT

CASE NO. 2023-0195
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(F) and 41-1092.07(F)(5), Kathryn M. Forsyth ("Respondent") and the Board enter into this 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 In the event the Board in its discretion does not approve this Consent Agreement, this Consent Agreement is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value, nor shall it be relied upon or introduced in any disciplinary action by any party hereto, except that Respondent agrees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

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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 is a public record that may be publicly disseminated as a formal action of the Board, and that it shall be reported as required by law to the National Practitioner Data Bank.
- 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 this Consent Agreement or of the practice act.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

- Respondent is the holder of License No. LPC-10773 for the practice of counseling in Arizona.
- 2. In 04/23, a complaint was submitted outlining concerns regarding the type and quality of services at a behavioral health residential facility ("Agency").
- Respondent was employed at Agency as the Clinical Director and provided supervision and oversight to several staff members at various Agency locations.
- 4. Upon review and investigation there are concerns and possible violations based upon Respondent's conduct.
- Respondent currently has a medical condition, and she has ceased practicing counseling due to this.
 - 6. Due to her medical condition, Respondent requested to forgo licensure.

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. The conduct and circumstances described in the Findings of Fact constitute a violation of A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(I), engaging in any conduct, practice or condition that impairs the ability of the licensee to safely and competently practice the licensee's profession.

ORDER

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

- As of the effective date of the Consent Agreement, Respondent shall not practice under their license.
 - 2. Respondent's license, LPC-10773, shall by rule, expire on 07/31/25.
 - 3. Respondent agrees not to renew their license.
- 4. Respondent agrees not to submit any type of new license application to the Board for a minimum of five (5) years.
- 5. This Consent Agreement is conclusive evidence of the matters described herein and may be considered by the Board in determining appropriate sanctions in the event a subsequent violation occurs.

PROFESSIONAL ACCEPTS, SIGNS AND DATES THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT

kathy forsyth (Feb 7, 2024 13:54 MST)	Feb 7, 2024
Kathryn M. Forsyth	Date

BOARD ACCEPTS, SIGNS AND DATES THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT

Ву:	Mpli Landa	Mar 11, 2024
	TOBI ZAVALA, Executive Director	Date

1	Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners		
2			
3	ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed Mar 11, 2024 with:		
4	Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners		
5	1740 West Adams Street, Suite 3600 Phoenix, AZ 85007		
6	EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing sent electronically Mar 11, 2024 to:		
7			
8	Mona Baskin Assistant Attorney General		
9	2005 North Central Avenue Phoenix, AZ 85004		
10	Kathryn M. Forsyth		
11	Address of Record Respondent		
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