#### BEFORE THE ARIZONA BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EXAMINERS

**CASE NO. 2012-0151** 

ORDER OF REVOCATION

#### In the Matter of:

CALVIN J. NEZ, LISAC-11030, Licensed Independent Substance Abuse Counselor, In the State of Arizona,

#### Respondent

On July 2, 2014, the Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners ("Board") accepted a Consent Agreement placing Calvin J. Nez ("Respondent") on probation subject to terms and conditions set forth in the Consent Agreement. The Consent Agreement included the following provisions:

- 1. Respondent's license, LISAC-11030, was revoked.
- 2. The revocation was stayed and Respondent's license was placed on probation.
- 3. If Respondent was noncompliant with the terms of the Consent Agreement in any way, the stay of the revocation would be lifted and Respondent's license would be automatically revoked.
- 4. Respondent had the right to contest the lifting of the stay by requesting in writing, within 10 days of being notified of the automatic revocation of licensure, that the matter be placed on a Board agenda for the Board to review and determine if the automatic revocation of Respondent's license was supported by substantial evidence.

On December 4, 2015, the Board mailed Respondent written notice that, because he failed to comply with the terms of the Consent Agreement, the stay of the revocation of his license was lifted and his license was revoked. Respondent was further advised that he had the right to contest the lifting of the stay by submitting a written request for Board review within 10 days of the date of the letter. Respondent did not submit such a request.

#### 1 ORDER 2 Therefore, IT IS ORDERED that License No. LISAC-11030 issued to Calvin J. Nez is 3 hereby **REVOKED**. Dated this 18th day of December, 4 5 6 Tobi Zavala, Executive Director Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners 7 8 ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed 9 The /840 day of Ocember, 2015, with: 10 Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners 3443 North Central Avenue, Suite 1700 11 Phoenix, AZ 85012 12 COPY of the foregoing mailed via Interagency Mail This /s# day of \*\*Deamler\*\*, 2015, to: 13 Marc Harris 14 Assistant Attorney General 1275 West Washington 15 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 16 COPY of the foregoing mailed via Certified mail no. <u>70/4 / 2.00,0000 / 26833 / 2656</u> This \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2015, to: 17 18 Calvin J. Nez Address of Record 19 Respondent 20 21 22

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# BEFORE THE ARIZONA BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EXAMINERS

In the Matter of:

CALVIN J. NEZ, LISAC-11030, Licensed Independent Substance Abuse Counselor, In the State of Arizona. CASE NO. 2012-0151
CONSENT AGREEMENT

#### RESPONDENT

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(H) and 41-1092.07(F)(5), Calvin J. Nez ("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:

- 1. 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 his right to such formal hearing concerning these allegations and irrevocably waives his right to any rehearing or judicial review relating to the allegations contained in this Consent Agreement

- 3. Respondent has the right to consult with an attorney prior to entering into this Consent Agreement.
- 4. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that upon signing this Consent Agreement and returning it to the Board's Executive Director, Respondent may not revoke his 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 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 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 and the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank.
- 8. Respondent further understands that any violation of this Consent Agreement constitutes unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3251(n) and may result in disciplinary action pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3281.

9. The Board therefore retains jurisdiction over Respondent and may initiate disciplinary action against Respondent if it determines that he has 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. LISAC-11030 for the practice of Substance Abuse Counseling in Arizona.
  - 2. On his 03/04 certification application, Respondent attested to the following:
    - a. I certify under penalty of perjury that the information given in this application and all supporting documents is true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge. I make this certification with full knowledge that all statements made in this application may be ground for denial of my application or subsequent disciplinary action.
- 3 On his 03/04 certification application, Respondent answered "no" to the following background questions:
  - a. "Have you ever been charged with, convicted of or pled nolo contendere to a criminal offense, other than a minor traffic violation...?"
  - b. "Have you ever entered into any type of pretrial diversion agreement...?"
- 4. Respondent continued to answer "no" to those questions on all of his subsequent renewal applications from 2006 to the present.
- 5. During the investigation of Complaint No. 2012-0151, the Board obtained records indicating the following:
  - a. In 1990, Respondent was convicted of a DUI.
  - b. In 2000, Respondent was convicted of issuing a bad check.

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- 6. Respondent's failure to truthfully respond to the application criminal history background question is particularly problematic where:
  - The application background questions are intended to elicit information that may affect an applicant's ability to practice safely and competently.
  - b. In most circumstances, the Board has no way to obtain information regarding an applicant's criminal history problems or substance abuse problems unless the applicant provides truthful information in response to the background questions.
  - c. Applicants are required to attest under penalty of perjury that the information provided on an application is true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief in order to ensure that applicants respond truthfully to the background questions.
  - d. Because Respondent answered "No" to background questions regarding prior arrests, the Board had no reason to ask for additional information that could affect his ability to safely and competently practice.
  - e. The Board only learned of Respondent's prior criminal history as a result of staff researching the alleged criminal conduct in the pending complaint.
  - 7. Respondent's failure to truthfully disclose his prior criminal history on his 2004 certification application and on subsequent renewal applications was inappropriate.
  - 8. During a Board investigative interview, Respondent initially indicated that he did not recall being charged with DUI in 1990.
    - During a later interview, Respondent acknowledged:
      - a. His DUI conviction occurred when he was abusing substances over 20 years ago.

- b. He intentionally misrepresented that he did not recall being arrested for DUI in 1990 because he does not think his past issues are related to the current complaint allegations.
- Respondent's intentional misrepresentation during a Board investigation regarding his criminal history was inappropriate.

#### **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(12)(c)(i), any oral or written misrepresentation of a fact by an applicant or licensee to secure or attempt to secure the issuance or renewal of a license.
- 3. The conduct and circumstances described in the Findings of Fact constitute a violation of A.R.S. § 32-3251(12)(c)(ii), any oral or written misrepresentation of a fact by an applicant or licensee in any statements provided during an investigation or disciplinary proceeding by the board.

#### ORDER

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

1. Respondent shall not practice under his license, LISAC-11030, unless he is fully compliant with all terms and conditions in this Consent Agreement. If, for any reason, Respondent is unable to comply with the terms and conditions of this Consent Agreement, he shall immediately notify the Board in writing and shall not practice under his license until he submits a written request to the Board to re-commence compliance with this Consent

Agreement. All such requests shall be pre-approved by the Substance Abuse Credentialing Committee Chair or designee.

2. In the event that Respondent is unable to comply with the terms and conditions of this Consent Agreement, all remaining time frames shall be tolled and remain tolled until such time as he is granted approval to re-commence compliance with the Consent Agreement.

## Stayed Revocation

- 3. As of the effective date of this Consent Agreement, Respondent's license, LISAC-11030, shall be revoked. However, the revocation shall be stayed and Respondent's license shall be placed on probation for 12 months.
- 4. During the stayed revocation portion of the Order, if Respondent is noncompliant with the terms of the Order in any way, the stay of the revocation shall be lifted and Respondent's license shall be automatically revoked as set forth above.
- 5. If Respondent contests the lifting of the stay as it relates to this paragraph, Respondent shall request in writing, within 10 days of being notified of the automatic revocation of licensure, that the matter be placed on the Board agenda for the Board to review and determine if the automatic revocation of Respondent's license was supported by substantial evidence.
- 6. If the written request is received within 10 days of a regularly scheduled Board meeting, the request will not be heard at that meeting, but will be heard at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.
- 7. Pending the Board's review, Respondent's license shall be reported as revoked under review. Respondent may not work in any capacity as a licensed behavioral health professional pending the Board's review. The Board's decision and Order shall not be subject to further review.

#### Probation

8. Respondent's license, LISAC-11030, will be placed on probation, effective from the date of entry as signed below.

## Practice Restriction

9. While on probation, if Respondent changes employment, he shall only provide behavioral health services at an agency licensed as an outpatient clinic by the Department of Health Services, Office of Behavioral Health Licensing ("OBHL").

#### **Continuing Education**

- 10. 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 continuing education, including the NASW Staying Out of Trouble continuing education course or an equivalent course addressing current behavioral health documentation standards in Arizona. All required continuing education shall be pre-approved by the Substance Abuse Credentialing Committee Chair or designee. Upon completion, Respondent shall submit a certificate of completion of the required continuing education.
- 11. 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 take and pass a 2-4 semester credit hour undergraduate level behavioral health ethics course from an accredited college or university, pre-approved by the Substance Abuse Credentialing Committee Chair or designee. Upon completion, Respondent shall submit to the Board an official transcript establishing completion of the required course.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

# Provision of Clinical Supervision

12. Respondent shall not provide clinical supervision while subject to this Consent Agreement.

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Subject to the provisions set forth in paragraph 14, the Board imposes a civil 13. penalty against the Respondent in the amount of \$1,000.00.

- Respondent's payment of the civil penalty shall be stayed so long as Respondent 14. remains compliant with the terms of this Consent Agreement. If Board staff determines that Respondent is noncompliant with the terms of this Consent Agreement in any respect, with the exception of the tolling provision under Paragraph 2, the stay of the civil penalty payment shall be automatically lifted and payment of the civil penalty shall be made by certified check or money order payable to the Board within 30 days after being notified in writing of the lifting of the stay.
- Within 10 days of being notified of the lifting of the stay, Respondent may request 15. that the matter be reviewed by the Board for the limited purpose of determining whether the automatic lifting of the stay was supported by substantial evidence. If the Board receives the written request within 10 days or less of the next regularly scheduled Board meeting, the request will not be heard at that meeting, but will be heard at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. The Board's decision on this matter shall not be subject to further review.
- The Board reserves the right to take further disciplinary action against 16. Respondent for noncompliance with this Consent Agreement after affording Respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard. If a complaint is filed against Respondent for failure to comply with this Consent Agreement, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final and the period of probation shall be extended until the matter is final.
- Within 10 days of the effective date of this Order, if Respondent is working in a 17. position where Respondent provides any type of behavioral health related services or works in a setting where any type of behavioral health, health care, or social services are provided, Respondent shall provide the Substance Abuse Credentialing Committee Chair or designed

with a signed statement from Respondent's employer(s) confirming Respondent provided the employer(s) with a copy of this Consent Agreement. If Respondent does not provide the employer's statement to the Board within 10 days of the effective date, the Board will provide Respondent's employer(s) with a copy of the Consent Agreement.

- 18. If Respondent is not employed as of the effective date of this Order, within 10 days of accepting employment in a position where Respondent provides any type of behavioral health related services or in a setting where any type of behavioral health, health care, or social services are provided, Respondent shall provide the Substance Abuse Credentialing Committee Chair or designee with a written statement providing the contact information of his new employer and a signed statement from Respondent's new employer confirming Respondent provided the employer with a copy of this Consent Agreement. If Respondent does not provide the employer's statement to the Board within 10 days, as required, Respondent's failure to provide the required statement to the Board shall be deemed a violation of A.R.S. § 32-3251(12)(n) and the Board will provide Respondent's employer(s) with a copy of the Consent Agreement.
- 19. If, during the period of Respondent's probation, Respondent changes employment, resigns, is involuntarily terminated, resigns in lieu of termination, or goes on extended leave of absence for whatever reason that may impact his ability to timely comply with the terms of probation, Respondent shall, within 10 days of the aforementioned acts, inform the Board of his change of employment status. After the change and within 10 days of accepting employment in a position where Respondent provides any type of behavioral health related services or in a setting where any type of behavioral health, health care, or social services are provided, Respondent shall provide the Substance Abuse Credentialing Committee Chair or designee a written statement providing the contact information of his new employer(s) and a signed statement from Respondent's new employer(s) confirming Respondent provided the

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employer(s) with a copy of this Consent Agreement. If Respondent does not provide the employer's statement to the Board within 10 days, as required, Respondent's failure to provide the required statement to the Board shall be deemed a violation of A.R.S. § 32-3251(12)(n) and the Board will provide Respondent's employer(s) with a copy of the Consent Agreement.

- Respondent shall practice substance abuse counseling using the name under 20. which he is licensed. If Respondent changes his name, he shall advise the Board of the name change as prescribed under the Board's regulations and rules.
- Prior to the release of Respondent from probation, Respondent must submit a 21. written request to the Board for release from the terms of this Consent Agreement at least 30 days prior to the date he would like to have this matter appear before the Board. Respondent may appear before the Board, either in person or telephonically. Respondent must provide evidence that he has 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 he has 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 conduct such further proceedings as it determines are appropriate to address those matters.
- Respondent shall bear all costs relating to probation terms required in this 22. Consent Agreement.
- Respondent shall be responsible for ensuring that all documentation required in 23. this Consent Agreement is provided to the Board in a timely manner.
  - This Consent Agreement shall be effective on the date of entry below. 24.

1	25. This Consent Agreement is conclusive evidence of the matters described herein
2	and may be considered by the Board in determining appropriate sanctions in the event a
3	subsequent violation occurs.
4	PROFESSIONAL ACCEPTS, SIGNS AND DATES THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT
5	(Allm / Med 5/13/14
6	Calvin J. Nez
7	BOARD ACCEPTS, SIGNS AND DATES THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT
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9	Dated this 2 hold day of July 2018
10	By: DEBRA RINAUDO, Executive Director
11	Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners Tobi Zavala, Interim Executive Vivec to
12	Tobi Cavala, Interim Checulius
13	ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed This 2 day of Guly , 2019 with:
14	Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners
15	3443 N. Central Ave., Suite 1700 Phoenix, AZ 85012
16	COPY of the foregoing mailed via Interagency Mail
17	This 2 not day of, 2018, to:
18	Marc H. Harris Assistant Attorney General
19	1275 West Washington Phoenix, Arizona 85007
20	COPY of the foregoing mailed via
21	Certified mail no. 7014 0510 0001 3723 8370,  This 2 hd day of
22	Calvin J. Nez
23	Address of Record Respondent
24	
25.	Tobi Zavala, Assistant Director