

1 **BEFORE THE ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EXAMINERS**

2 **In the Matter of:**

3 **Renee E. Siegel, LISAC-0966,**  
4 **Licensed Independent Substance Abuse**  
5 **Counselor,**  
6 **In the State of Arizona.**

7 **RESPONDENT**

**CASE NO. 2018-0064**

**RELEASE FROM**  
**CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER**

8 The Board received a request from Respondent to release them from the terms and  
9 conditions of the Consent Agreement and Order dated April 26, 2018. After consideration, the  
10 Board voted to release Respondent from the terms and conditions of the Consent Agreement  
11 and Order dated April 26, 2018.


12 **ORDER**

13 **GOOD CAUSE APPEARING, IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

14 Respondent is hereby released from all terms and conditions of the Consent Agreement  
15 and Order dated April 26, 2018.

16 Dated this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2018.

17 By:

18   
19 **TOBIN ZAVALA, Executive Director**  
20 **Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners**

21 **ORIGINAL** of the foregoing filed

22 This 18<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2018, with:

23 Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners  
24 1740 W. Adams St., Suite 3600  
25 Phoenix, AZ 85007

**COPY** of the foregoing mailed via

26 Certified mail no. 948910090 00216043657164  
27 This 18<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2018, to:

28 Renee E. Siegel  
29 Address of Record  
30 Respondent



1 Consent Agreement.

2 4. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that upon signing this Consent  
3 Agreement and returning it to the Board's Executive Director, Respondent may not revoke their  
4 acceptance of this Consent Agreement or make any modifications to it. Any modification of this  
5 original document is ineffective and void unless mutually approved by the parties in writing.

6 5. The findings contained in the Findings of Fact portion of this Consent Agreement  
7 are conclusive evidence of the facts stated herein and may be used for purposes of determining  
8 sanctions in any future disciplinary matter.

9 6. This Consent Agreement is subject to the Board's approval, and will be effective  
10 only when the Board accepts it. In the event the Board in its discretion does not approve this  
11 Consent Agreement, this Consent Agreement is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value,  
12 nor shall it be relied upon or introduced in any disciplinary action by any party hereto, except  
13 that Respondent agrees that should the Board reject this Consent Agreement and this case  
14 proceeds to hearing, Respondent shall assert no claim that the Board was prejudiced by its  
15 review and discussion of this document or of any records relating thereto.

16 7. Respondent understands that once the Board approves and signs this Consent  
17 Agreement, it is a public record that may be publicly disseminated as a formal action of the  
18 Board, and that it shall be reported as required by law to the National Practitioner Data Bank.

19 8. Respondent further understands that any violation of this Consent Agreement  
20 constitutes unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(n) and may result in  
21 disciplinary action pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3281.

22 9. The Board therefore retains jurisdiction over Respondent and may initiate  
23 disciplinary action against Respondent if it determines that they have failed to comply with the  
24 terms of this Consent Agreement or of the practice act.

25 10. Although Respondent does not agree that all the Findings of Fact set forth in this

1 Consent Agreement are supported by the evidence, Respondent acknowledges that it is the  
2 Board's position that, if this matter proceeded to formal hearing, the Board could establish  
3 sufficient evidence to support a conclusion that certain of Respondent's conduct constituted  
4 unprofessional conduct. Therefore, Respondent has agreed to enter into this Consent  
5 Agreement as an economical and practical means of resolving the issues associated with the  
6 complaint filed against Respondent. Further, Respondent acknowledges that the Board may use  
7 the evidence in its possession relating to this Consent Agreement for purposes of determining  
8 sanctions in any further disciplinary matter.

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

10 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

11 1. Respondent is the holder of License No. LISAC-0966 for the practice of  
12 substance abuse counseling in Arizona.

13 2. Respondent is licensed by the Board as licensed independent substance abuse  
14 counselor, whose scope of practice is limited to substance abuse, chemical dependency and  
15 related problems.

16 3. Despite the clear constraints of Respondent's scope of practice, Respondent  
17 provided marital counseling to an adult male client ("Client").

18 4. In review of Client's behavioral health records, it is evident that Client not only  
19 requested marital counseling, but that Respondent provided marital counseling.

20 5. Through her written complaint response, Respondent acknowledges providing  
21 Client with marital counseling as follows:

22 a. Respondent and Client discussed Client's goals for treatment and Client  
23 shared that he wanted to figure out what he wanted to do with his marriage.

24 b. In line with his goal to address his ambivalence about his marriage, they  
25 discussed whether now might be a good time to have a meeting with Client's

1 wife to discuss couples counseling.

2 c. "We agreed that I would come to their marital home to see how they lived and  
3 discuss the possibility of future couple's therapy."

4 6. Aside from Respondent's acknowledgement that she provided marital counseling  
5 in this matter, Respondent's clinical documentation for Client contains no relation to substance  
6 abuse, chemical dependency or related issues.

7 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

8 1. The Board has jurisdiction over Respondent pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3251 *et seq.*  
9 and the rules promulgated by the Board relating to Respondent's professional practice as a  
10 licensed behavioral health professional.

11 2. The conduct and circumstances described in the Findings of Fact constitute a  
12 violation of A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(m), engaging or offering to engage as a licensee in activities  
13 that are not congruent with the licensee's professional education, training or experience.

14 3. The conduct and circumstances described in the Findings of Fact constitute a  
15 violation of A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(k), any conduct or practice that is contrary to recognized  
16 standards of ethics in the behavioral health profession or that constitutes a danger to the health,  
17 welfare or safety of a client, as it relates to the following section of the 2016 NAADAC Code of  
18 Ethics:

19 **Principle III-14, Boundaries of Competence:**

20 Addiction Professionals shall practice within the boundaries of their competence.

21 Competence shall be established through education, training, skills, and  
22 supervised experience, state and national professional credentials and  
23 certifications, and relevant professional experience.

24 **ORDER**

25 Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the parties agree to

1 the provisions and penalties imposed as follows:

2 1. Respondent's license, LISAC-0966, will be placed on probation for 12 months,  
3 effective from the date of entry as signed below.

4 2. Respondent shall not practice under their license, LISAC-0966, unless they are  
5 fully compliant with all terms and conditions in this Consent Agreement. If, for any reason,  
6 Respondent is unable to comply with the terms and conditions of this Consent Agreement, they  
7 shall immediately notify the Board in writing and shall not practice under their license until they  
8 submit a written request to the Board to re-commence compliance with this Consent  
9 Agreement. All such requests shall be pre-approved by the Board Chair or designee.

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

#### 14 Continuing Education

15 4. In addition to the continuing education requirements of A.R.S. § 32-3273, within  
16 12 months of the effective date of this Consent Agreement, Respondent shall take and pass a  
17 three semester credit hour graduate level behavioral health ethics course from an accredited  
18 college or university, pre-approved by the Board Chair or designee. Upon completion,  
19 Respondent shall submit to the Board an official transcript establishing completion of the  
20 required course.

#### 21 Early Release

22 5. After completion of the continuing education requirements set forth in this  
23 Consent Agreement, Respondent may request early release from the Consent Agreement if all  
24 other terms of the Consent Agreement have been met.

25 ...



1 and the period of probation shall be extended until the matter is final.

2 11. If Respondent currently sees clients in their own private practice, and obtains any  
3 other type of behavioral health position, either as an employee or independent contractor, where  
4 they provide behavioral health services to clients of another individual or agency, they shall  
5 comply with requirements set forth in paragraphs 12 through 14 below.

6 12. Within 10 days of the effective date of this Order, if Respondent is working in a  
7 position where Respondent provides any type of behavioral health related services or works in a  
8 setting where any type of behavioral health, health care, or social services are provided,  
9 Respondent shall provide the Board Chair or designee with a signed statement from  
10 Respondent's employer(s) confirming Respondent provided the employer(s) with a copy of this  
11 Consent Agreement. If Respondent does not provide the employer's statement to the Board  
12 within 10 days of the effective date, the Board will provide Respondent's employer(s) with a  
13 copy of the Consent Agreement.

14 13. If Respondent is not employed as of the effective date of this Order, within 10  
15 days of accepting employment in a position where Respondent provides any type of behavioral  
16 health related services or in a setting where any type of behavioral health, health care, or social  
17 services are provided, Respondent shall provide the Board Chair or designee with a written  
18 statement providing the contact information of their new employer and a signed statement from  
19 Respondent's new employer confirming Respondent provided the employer with a copy of this  
20 Consent Agreement. If Respondent does not provide the employer's statement to the Board  
21 within 10 days, as required, Respondent's failure to provide the required statement to the Board  
22 shall be deemed a violation of A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(n) and the Board will provide Respondent's  
23 employer(s) with a copy of the Consent Agreement.

24 14. If, during the period of Respondent's probation, Respondent changes  
25 employment, resigns, is involuntarily terminated, resigns in lieu of termination, or goes on



1 extended leave of absence for whatever reason that may impact their ability to timely comply  
2 with the terms of probation, Respondent shall, within 10 days of the aforementioned acts, inform  
3 the Board of their change of employment status. After the change and within 10 days of  
4 accepting employment in a position where Respondent provides any type of behavioral health  
5 related services or in a setting where any type of behavioral health, health care, or social  
6 services are provided, Respondent shall provide the Board Chair or designee a written  
7 statement providing the contact information of their new employer(s) and a signed statement  
8 from Respondent's new employer(s) confirming Respondent provided the employer(s) with a  
9 copy of this Consent Agreement. If Respondent does not provide the employer's statement to  
10 the Board within 10 days, as required, Respondent's failure to provide the required statement to  
11 the Board shall be deemed a violation of A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(n) and the Board will provide  
12 Respondent's employer(s) with a copy of the Consent Agreement.

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

16 16. Prior to the release of Respondent from probation, Respondent must submit a  
17 written request to the Board for release from the terms of this Consent Agreement at least 30  
18 days prior to the date they would like to have this matter appear before the Board. Respondent  
19 may appear before the Board, either in person or telephonically. Respondent must provide  
20 evidence that they have successfully satisfied all terms and conditions in this Consent  
21 Agreement. The Board has the sole discretion to determine whether all terms and conditions of  
22 this Consent Agreement have been met and whether Respondent has adequately demonstrated  
23 that they have addressed the issues contained in this Consent Agreement. In the event that the  
24 Board determines that any or all terms and conditions of this Consent Agreement have not been  
25 met, the Board may conduct such further proceedings as it determines are appropriate to

1 address those matters.

2 17. Respondent shall bear all costs relating to probation terms required in this  
3 Consent Agreement.

4 18. Respondent shall be responsible for ensuring that all documentation required in  
5 this Consent Agreement is provided to the Board in a timely manner.

6 19. This Consent Agreement shall be effective on the date of entry below.

7 20. This Consent Agreement is conclusive evidence of the matters described herein  
8 and may be considered by the Board in determining appropriate sanctions in the event a  
9 subsequent violation occurs.

10 **PROFESSIONAL ACCEPTS, SIGNS AND DATES THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT**

11 Renee E. Siegel 4-24-18  
12 Renee E. Siegel Date

13 **BOARD ACCEPTS, SIGNS AND DATES THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT**

14 Dated this 26<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018.

15  
16 By: Tobi Zavala  
17 TOBI ZAVALA, Executive Director  
18 Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners

19 **ORIGINAL** of the foregoing filed  
20 This 26<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018 with:

21 Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners  
22 1740 West Adams Street, Suite 3600  
23 Phoenix, AZ 85007

24 **COPY** of the foregoing mailed via Interagency Mail  
25 This 26<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018, to:

26 Marc Harris  
Assistant Attorney General  
2005 North Central Avenue

1 Phoenix, AZ 85004

2 **COPY** of the foregoing mailed via

Certified mail no. 94890090002700491424384

3 This 26th day of April, 2018, to:

4 Renee E. Siegel  
5 Address of Record  
6 Respondent

6 **COPY** of the foregoing mailed via Mail

This 26th day of April, 2018 to:

7 Steven Perlmutter  
8 9141 East Hidden Spur Trail  
9 Scottsdale, AZ 85255  
10 Attorney for Respondent

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