

KANSAS BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES REGULATORY BOARD

Eisenhower State Office Building
700 SW Harrison, Suite 420
Topeka, Kansas 66603-3240

In the Matter of)

Patricia J. Denton-Edwards)
LSCSW #4108)

Case No. 23-CS-0003)

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

Now, on this 11 day of July, 2023, the above-captioned matter comes before the Complaint Review Committee of the Kansas Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board ("Board") by agreement of Patricia J. Denton-Edwards ("Licensee") and the Kansas Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board for the purposes of resolving the above-captioned case.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Licensee hereby acknowledges the following facts:

1. Licensee was at all times relevant herein, a Licensed Specialist Clinical Social Worker (LSCSW) within the meaning of the Social Workers Licensure Act, K.S.A. 65-6321 et seq., and amendments thereto. The Board issued Licensee's LSCSW No. #4108 on October 24, 2011, and the license is set to expire on October 31, 2023.

2. On or about July 11, 2022, the Board received a complaint against Licensee from a licensed psychologist. The complainant had been asked to review two psychological evaluations performed by Licensee, which were court-ordered independent assessments of two individuals. The complainant expressed concerns about the validity of the results from the evaluations, as the psychological evaluations had been completed by Licensee, who was not a licensed psychologist. The complainant expressed concerns regarding whether Licensee had sufficient education or training to administer the specific tests that were part of the psychological evaluations.

3. On November 14, 2022, Licensee provided a response to Board investigators, stating that she provided "mental health assessments," rather than "psychological evaluations." Licensee states that her reports were mislabeled as "psychological evaluations" and when it was discovered that they were mislabeled, she withdrew them and reimbursed both parties for the cost of the assessments. Licensee states the accidental mislabeling was unintentional and due to a mistake when she "cut and pasted information from several documents" as she was forming one document to summarize the findings. Licensee states she recognizes that she is not licensed to provide psychological reports. As part of the assessments, Licensee stated she requested the

Millon Index of Personality Styles (MIPS), the Millon Clinical Multiaxial Inventory-IV (MCMI-IV), and the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory-2 (MMPI-2). Licensee stated she proctored the tests, but did not give instructions or guidance, and licensee stated the tests were administered and interpreted by psychologists at an online testing/interpretation site. Licensee provided an attachment and stated the attachment included the names of the psychologists who performed the testing and scoring.

4. The list of names in the attachment provided by Licensee included James Butcher Theodore Millon, and Seth Grossman, who purportedly were the licensed psychologists who tested and scored the MIPS, the MCMI-IV, and the MMPI-2 relevant to the two assessments referenced previously. However, Board investigators found that the three individuals listed in the attachment were creators or co-creators of the three tests, rather than the licensed psychologists who performed the testing and scoring.

5. Board investigators requested further clarifying information from Licensee, including the names of the licensed psychologists who interpreted the results of the psychological tests. On March 22, 2023, Licensee provided information that the results of the MMPI-2 were calculated by scoring software, rather than a licensed psychologist.

VIOLATIONS

The Board finds that Licensee, while a Licensed Specialist Clinical Social Worker, violated the following statute and regulation:

A. K.S.A. 65-6302. Definitions

(b) "Social work practice" means the professional activity of helping individuals, groups or communities enhance or restore their capacity for physical, social and economic functioning and the professional application of social work values, principles and techniques in areas such as psychotherapy, social service administration, social planning, social work consultation and social work research to one or more of the following ends: Helping people obtain tangible services; counseling with individuals, families and groups; helping communities or groups provide or improve social and health services; and participating in relevant social action. The practice of social work requires knowledge of human development and behavior; of social, economic and cultural institutions and forces; and of the interaction of all these factors. Social work practice includes the teaching of practicum courses in social work and includes the diagnosis and treatment of mental disorders as authorized under K.S.A. 65-6306 and 65-6319, and amendments thereto.

B. K.S.A. 65-6311. Grounds for suspension, limitation, condition, revocation or refusal to issue or renew license; procedure; licensure of applicant with felony conviction; requirements.

(a) The board may refuse to issue, renew or reinstate a license, may condition, limit, revoke or suspend a license, may publicly or privately censure a licensee or may impose a fine not to exceed \$1,000 per violation upon a finding that a licensee or an applicant for license:

(9) has been found to have engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by applicable rules and regulations adopted by the board.

C. K.A.R. 102-2-7. Unprofessional Conduct. Any of the following acts by a licensee or an applicant for a social work license shall constitute unprofessional conduct:

(j) offering to perform or performing services clearly inconsistent or incommensurate with one's training, education, and experience and with accepted professional standards for social work.

However, Licensee and Board mutually desire to enter a Consent Agreement and Order ("Agreement") in lieu of adjudicative proceedings at this time.

WHEREFORE, Licensee consents to the following interim conditions:

a. Licensee shall obtain three (3) extra continuing education hours in ethics beyond the biennial requirement, taken in-person or on-line, within 90 days of the effective date of this Consent Agreement and Final Order. Licensee shall provide documentation sufficient to demonstrate completion of these extra continuing education hours to the Board's investigator no later than 90 days from the effective date of this Consent Agreement and Order.

b. Licensee shall consult with a licensed psychologist for six (6) hours, on the topic of appropriateness of administering and proctoring tests and scope of practice/testing limitations for a social worker. This requirement shall be completed within six (6) months of the effective date of this Consent Agreement and Order. Licensee shall provide documentation sufficient to demonstrate completion of these hours to the Board's investigator no later than six (6) months from the effective date of this Consent Agreement and Order.

c. Licensee shall be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred in satisfying the terms of the Consent Agreement.

d. Evidence of Licensee's breach, violation, or failure to comply with any of the above conditions will result in the Board filing a separate Report of Alleged Violation against Licensee, for failure to comply with a lawful order of the Board. Licensee will be provided notice and opportunity to be heard, to determine whether Licensee has in fact breached, violated, or failed to comply with any condition. Licensee understands and agrees that her Licensed Specialist Clinical Social Work license could be suspended until such time as Licensee can demonstrate compliance with all terms and conditions of this Consent Agreement and Order to the satisfaction of the Board.

e. Licensee acknowledges an affirmative duty to notify the Board within ten (10) days of any changes in personal or professional status that would inhibit compliance with any condition of this Consent Agreement and Order.

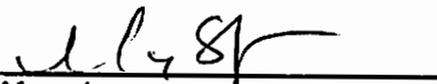
f. This Consent Agreement and Order will be reported to other licensing boards or entities, it is public record in the custody of the Board, and it can only be modified by a further order or writing of the Board.

g. Licensee shall submit to the Board's investigator at its offices at 700 SW Harrison, Suite 420, Topeka, Kansas, 66603, any and all documents evidencing compliance with the terms and conditions required by this Consent Agreement and Order.

WHEREFORE, the Board further agrees that, so long as Licensee complies with the above conditions, the Board will not initiate further disciplinary action against Licensee in relation to violations of K.S.A. 65-6311(a)(9) or K.A.R. 102-2-7(j) as a result of this proceeding.

WHEREFORE, the foregoing provisions are consented to, are hereby made the Order of the Kansas Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board and become effective on the date indicated in the Certificate of Service below.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Mary Jones
Chairperson, Complaint Review Committee
On behalf of the Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board

APPROVED AND CONSENTED TO:


Patricia J. Denton-Edwards, Licensee

6/29/23
Date

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that on this 11 day of ~~June~~^{July} 2023, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Consent Agreement Order was placed in the U.S. mail, first-class postage prepaid, addressed to:

Patricia J. Denton-Edwards



And by e-mail to: Jeremy.Dorsey@ks.gov

Jeremy Dorsey
Disciplinary Counsel for the Board of the Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board
503 S. Kansas Ave.
Topeka, KS 66603
758-296-5543



Staff,
Kansas Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board