

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

CASE 2020-08
AND 2020-09

IN A MATTER
BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY LICENSURE BOARD

IN RE:

CHRISTINE SCHNEIDER,
Respondent

CONSENT ORDER

THIS CAUSE coming to be heard and being heard before the North Carolina Marriage and Family Therapy Licensure Board (the "Board") at its August 5, 2021 meeting, pursuant to a statement of charges, which charges are pending; and

IT APPEARING to the Board that the Respondent has stipulated to certain facts and to the entry of a Consent Order in conformity therewith;

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED by the undersigned Respondent and the Board that:

1. Respondent was at all times relevant to this matter a licensed marriage and family therapist and is subject to the Board's jurisdiction pursuant to the Marriage and Family Therapy Licensure Act, Chapter 90, Article 18C of the North Carolina General Statutes.
2. During the time period including July 2020, Respondent was engaged in the practice of marriage and family therapy in the state of North Carolina.

3. During July 2020, Respondent was employed by a non-profit child advocacy group where she conducted a therapy session without having an updated consent.
4. Upon realizing the session had been conducted without an updated consent, Respondent requested and received a back-dated consent.
5. On August 5 and 6, 2020, the executive director and Respondent's supervisor at the non-profit child advocacy group, respectively, filed complaints with the Board arising out of Respondent's above conduct.
6. Respondent, through counsel, provided the Board with a response to the complaints on September 24, 2020, denying violation of her ethics.
7. After investigation, on March 16, 2021, the Board provided Respondent and her counsel a statement of charges in this matter, including violations of sections 1.2 and 3.5 of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Code of Ethics (2015), which standards have been adopted by North Carolina General Statute 90-270.60(a)(9) and 21 NCAC 31.0609.
8. Respondent and her counsel met with the Board's Ethics Committee, by video-conferencing, on April 16, 2021, and have subsequently agreed to resolution of this matter by consent in order to avoid the time and expense of a hearing before the full

Board.

9. The Board has complied with all notice, procedural and other requirements relating to Respondent and this matter imposed by all applicable law.

10. The Board has jurisdiction over the person of the Respondent in this matter and over the subject matter of this proceeding.

11. The Respondent and the Board have agreed to resolve this matter by these provisions: (a) the Respondent's LMFT license will be placed on probation for a period of two (2) years; (b) she will have monthly supervision meetings with a Board-approved supervisor, with monthly supervision reports submitted to the Board on a Board-approved form; and (c) she will take six (6) hours of continuing education beyond the standard requirement in each of the next two (2) years, three (3) in consent for treatment and three (3) in clinical judgment.

12. If Respondent fails to comply with any of the terms contained herein, the Board may take disciplinary action against her pursuant to N. C. Gen. Stat. 90-270.60.

13. Respondent expressly waives any right she may have to a hearing in this matter, to the making of finding of facts and conclusions of law and to any judicial review of this matter.

14. The Respondent forever releases the State of North Carolina, the Board, and all its members, officials, agents and

representatives, both past and present, in their individual or official capacities from any and all liability, suits, claims, and causes of action, arising prior to or as a result of the execution of this Consent Order.

15. This Consent Order contains the entire agreement between the parties, there being no agreement of any kind, verbal or otherwise, which varies, alters or adds to this Consent Order.

16. The Respondent acknowledges that prior to signing this Consent Order she has been provided with legal advice concerning every aspect of this Consent Order from her attorney.

17. The Respondent acknowledges and agrees that she has entered into and signed this Consent Order voluntarily and without coercion or duress.

18. The Respondent acknowledges and agrees that this Consent Order will become effective on the date it is signed and dated by the Board's Chair.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED as follows:

I. Respondent's license to practice as a Marriage and Family Therapist is hereby placed on probation for a period of two (2) years;

II. Respondent shall engage in monthly supervision meetings during the probationary period with a supervisor pre-

approved by the Board for this matter, with monthly supervision reports submitted to the Board on a Board-approved form;

III. Respondent shall take six (6) hours of continuing education beyond the standard requirement in each of the next two (2) years, three (3) in consent for treatment and three (3) in clinical judgment; and

IV. The Board shall maintain this Consent Order as a public record pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 90-270.60(f).

This the 1 of July, 2021.

CONSENTED TO BY:

North Carolina Marriage and Family
Therapy Licensure Board

By:


Sandra Vander Linde, Chair

Date:

8-6-21

The Respondent:

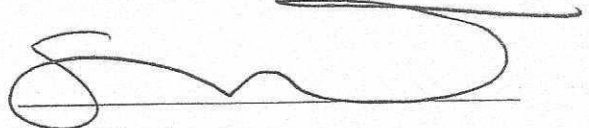
 LMFT

Christine Schneider

7/5/21

Suzanne Walker,
Counsel for Respondent

Date:


7/6/21