

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

CASE 2019-03

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

IN RE:

Dr. NICKOLAS JORDAN,
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 February 2020 meeting, pursuant to a statement of charges and notice of hearing issued by the Board, 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-October 2018, Respondent

was an Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Program Services in the Reich College of Education at Appalachian State University, an Associate Professor in its Department of Human Development and Psychological Counseling, and an American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy - approved supervisor.

3. During this time period, the complainant in this matter was a student in the Marriage and Family Therapy Program in the Department of Human Development and Psychological Counseling at Appalachian State University, worked in the Dean's office there, and was helping Respondent with writing a manuscript.
4. In late March 2019, Complainant filed a complaint with the Board alleging, *inter alia*, that the Respondent engaged in conduct which violated provisions 3.3, 3.7, 3.8, 4.1, 4.3, and 4.6 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. In May 2019, counsel for Respondent provided the Board a response to the complaint.
5. On October 23, 2019, following investigation, the Board provided Respondent and his counsel a statement of charges in this matter, including violations of the above ethics provisions, as well as of North Carolina General Statute 90-

270.60(a) and of 21 North Carolina Administrative Code 31.0609. On November 7, 2019, counsel for Respondent requested a formal hearing, and on February 6, 2020, the Board served a Notice of Hearing.

6. The Board has complied with all notice, procedural and other requirements relating to Respondent and this matter imposed by all applicable law.
7. The Board has jurisdiction over the person of the Respondent in this matter and over the subject matter of this proceeding.
8. The Respondent and the Board have agreed to resolve this matter by the Respondent's voluntary relinquishment of his license to practice marriage and family therapy, and the Board consents and agrees to such voluntary relinquishment, effective only upon approval by the Board and the signing of this Consent Order by both parties hereto.
9. By entering into this Consent Order, the Respondent does not admit any wrongdoing. The parties are entering into this Consent Order to avoid the delay, uncertainty, inconvenience and expense of conducting a hearing with respect to these matters.
10. Respondent expressly waives any right he 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.

11. 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.
12. 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.
13. The Respondent acknowledges that prior to signing this Consent Order he has been provided with legal advice concerning every aspect of this Consent Order from his attorney.
14. The Respondent acknowledges and agrees that he has entered into and signed this Consent Order voluntarily and without coercion or duress.
15. 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 or Acting Chair.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED as follows:

- I. Respondent's license to practice as a Marriage and Family Therapist is hereby voluntarily relinquished, pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 90-270.60(h). Respondent

shall turn in such license to the Board within seven (7) days of the Board's signing of this order;

II. Respondent shall not engage in the practice of marriage and family therapy, as defined in North Carolina General Statute 90-270.47(3b), at any time in the future unless and until he becomes relicensed; and

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

This the 26th of February, 2020.

CONSENTED TO BY:

North Carolina Marriage and Family
Therapy Licensure Board

By: 

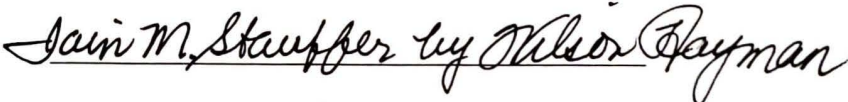
Tammy Whitten, Acting Chair

Date: February 26, 2020

The Respondent:

 2-20-20

Nickolas Jordan

 Justin M. Stauffer by Nelson Payman

Attorney for Respondent