

BEFORE THE  
NORTH CAROLINA MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY LICENSURE BOARD

In Re:	)	
	)	
KATIE KEE, LMFT,	)	CONSENT ORDER
LICENSE NO. 1223	)	
	)	
RESPONDENT	)	
	)	

A complaint having been filed against Respondent with the North Carolina Marriage and Family Therapy Licensure Board and after investigation, the Board had probable cause to find that Katie Kee, LMFT License No. 1223 (hereinafter, "Respondent") has violated provisions of the Code of Ethics for Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, in that the complainant alleged that Respondent has engaged in a sexual relationship with a client, continued to counsel that client while in a sexual relationship with him, and remains in a sexual relationship with that client after terminating their therapeutic relationship. Respondent, with the advice of counsel, has chosen not to contest these allegations and to waive her right to a hearing before the Board, as set forth below.

The Board's Ethics Committee and Executive Director met informally with Respondent and her Counsel on September 24, 2014, and discussed the matters at issue in this case; and it further appearing that it would serve the ends of justice that a Consent Order be entered which will resolve this matter, and to that end, with the consent of all parties, the Board hereby enters the following Order:

IT IS, BY CONSENT, HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Respondent's license to practice marriage and family therapy is hereby revoked, effective immediately upon approval of this Order by the Board as evidenced by its signing by the Board's Chair.
2. Respondent acknowledges her right to a formal hearing before the Board to resolve this matter and waives said right by consenting to the terms of this Consent Order. Further, Respondent waives her right to a hearing before the Board after having had a full and fair opportunity to consult with counsel and having exercised that right. Respondent acknowledges her right to judicial review of the Board's Order revoking her license to practice marriage and family therapy and waives said right by consenting to the terms of this Consent Order.

3. Respondent shall immediately notify her existing clients of her ceasing the practice of marriage and family therapy in a manner that is consistent with the AAMFT Code of Ethics, including proper termination and referral. Any termination letters to her clients would be reviewed by the Board Ethics Chair prior to delivery. Respondent will remove her website from the internet, and remove any web-based or other media advertising. Respondent will submit an affidavit to the Board that she has ceased the practice of marriage and family therapy within 3 days of the effective date of revocation.

4. Respondent may apply to the Board for a license to practice marriage and family therapy two years from the effective date of this order, set forth below. If Respondent applies for a license to practice marriage and family therapy, she shall, within the three months prior to making said application, obtain a fitness to practice evaluation under the following conditions:

- a) The evaluation shall be at Respondent's expense;
- b) The evaluator must be approved by the Board in advance;
- c) The evaluator shall be a licensed marriage and family therapist qualified to perform such an evaluation, as determined by the Board;
- d) The evaluator cannot be a marriage and family therapist who is a current or former therapy provider of the Respondent, or a current or former supervisor of the Respondent;
- e) Once the evaluator is approved by the Board, the Board will submit to the evaluator the information required in the evaluation;
- f) Respondent consents for the Board to provide the evaluator with redacted copies of the complaint, texts, emails and therapy notes relating to the present complainant, and any other information relating to Respondent on file with the Board;
- g) Respondent shall allow the evaluator to access Respondent's treatment provider, if any, and that provider's records;
- h) The examination may include psychological testing;
- i) The evaluation will be provided to the Board.

Respondent agrees and acknowledges that the Board's decision to grant her a license to practice marriage and family therapy is contingent, in part, upon findings by the evaluator that Respondent is fit to practice and free of any impairment, and in part upon the Board's review and agreement with the evaluator's findings that Respondent is fit to practice marriage and family therapy and free of any impairment. Respondent further agrees and acknowledges that the Board is neither obligated nor bound to accept the evaluator's findings or conclusions. Respondent further agrees that, if the Board issues the Respondent a license to practice marriage and family

therapy, it may restrict Respondent's practice privileges based upon any recommendations in this evaluation or upon other information available to it.

5. If Respondent applies to the Board for a license to practice marriage and family therapy, she shall submit an application for a license and pay the application fee of \$200.00. In addition to the requirements for licensure set forth in the Board's rules and statutes, Respondent must show that, from the effective date of this order to the date she submits her license application, she obtained all of the continuing education hours needed to maintain licensure. In addition, she must also show that she completed six (6) additional hours of continuing education in the area of dual relationships/professional boundaries. Respondent shall appear for an interview with the Board as part of her application process. With her application form Respondent shall supply the Board the name of an impartial AAMFT Approved Supervisor, who will agree to provide ongoing supervision to Respondent as set forth below. The Board must approve this supervisor prior to Respondent engaging said Supervisor's services.

6. If the Board issues a new license to the Respondent, she shall obey all laws, and all rules, regulations, and ethical requirements involving the practice of marriage and family therapy.

7. Respondent agrees that if the Board grants Respondent's application for a license to practice marriage and family therapy, she will be on probationary status for a period of at least two years to commence on her first day of practice. She shall inform all prospective clients of her probationary status prior to entering into a contract for services. Respondent shall inform prospective clients that information about her probationary status is available from the Board.

8. Respondent shall work under the supervision of the AAMFT and Board-approved Supervisor for the period she is on probationary status. Respondent shall have a minimum of one (1) hour per week of face to face supervision during the first year of probation in every week in which she has therapeutic contact with a client. The Supervisor shall report the supervision to the Board once per month, unless an issue arises that needs to be reported sooner. The Supervisor shall make a recommendation concerning ongoing supervision after the first year of probation. After this first year, the Board will review the recommendation to determine what level of supervision would be appropriate for the remaining year of probation.

9. Respondent shall share with the Supervisor the redacted documentation concerning this complaint and consents for the Board to release any other documentation from her Board file that would be relevant to the issues for which she is being supervised.

10. The Respondent will provide the Supervisor a copy of this Consent Order.

11. The Supervisor will specifically work with Respondent on ethics issues and professional boundaries. Respondent agrees to allow the Supervisor to communicate freely with the Board.

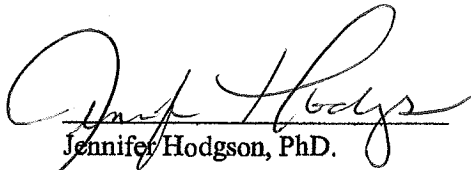
12. At the end of two year probationary period, if Respondent has not complied with this Consent Order, or the Supervisor's reports indicate that a longer period of probation is warranted, the Board shall review this matter and make further determinations as to required ongoing probationary status. Respondent shall receive copies of all recommendations from her Supervisor, and shall have the opportunity to present information to the Board concerning removing her probationary status. The Board shall provide the Respondent with at least fifteen days' notice of its intention to consider the question of whether Respondent should remain on probationary status.


13. During the probationary period Respondent shall notify the Board in writing of any change in her residence or practice address within ten (10) days of the change.

14. Respondent agrees that if she fails to comply with any of the terms of this Consent Order as set forth above, then such a failure shall constitute a breach of this Consent Order and unprofessional conduct and shall be grounds, after any required notice and hearing, for the Board to annul, suspend, or revoke her license and deny any application that she might make in the future for termination of the suspension of her license or for reinstatement of any privileges thereunder.

15. Respondent acknowledges that this Consent Order is a matter of public record and subject to disclosure requirements under state and federal law.

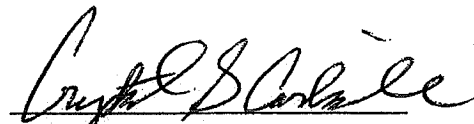
This 24<sup>th</sup> day of November 2014.

  
Jennifer Hodgson, PhD.  
Chairperson, NCMFTLB  
APPROVED FEBRUARY 5, 2015

  
Barry H. Bloch  
Assistant Attorney General, NCDOJ  
Counsel to the NC Marriage & Family  
Therapy Licensing Board

CONSENTED TO:

  
Katie Kee

  
Crystal S. Carlisle  
Counsel to Ms. Kee