

Consent Agreement between Andrew W. Ward and the State of Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, Marriage and Family Therapist Board

**CONSENT AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
ANDREW W. WARD
AND THE
STATE OF OHIO COUNSELOR, SOCIAL WORKER, MARRIAGE AND
FAMILY THERAPIST BOARD**

This CONSENT AGREEMENT is entered into by and between ANDREW W. WARD, hereinafter, "WARD," and the STATE OF OHIO COUNSELOR, SOCIAL WORKER, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST BOARD, hereinafter "BOARD," the state agency charged with enforcing Chapter 4757 of the Ohio Revised Code and all rules promulgated therein.

WARD hereby acknowledges that he has read and understands this CONSENT AGREEMENT and has voluntarily entered into it without threat or promise by the BOARD or any of its members, employees or agents.

WARD is fully aware of his rights, including his right to be advised by counsel and his right to a hearing pursuant to Chapter 119 of the Ohio Revised Code on the issues which are the subject of this CONSENT AGREEMENT.

This CONSENT AGREEMENT contains the entire agreement between the parties, based on the Board's investigation, there being no other agreement of any kind, verbal or otherwise, which varies the terms of this CONSENT AGREEMENT. This CONSENT AGREEMENT is entered into on the basis of the following stipulations, admissions and understandings:

1. WARD is a social worker (S.0901170) licensed to practice social work in the State of Ohio, and is subject to the laws and rules of Ohio regulating the practice of social work as outlined in Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4757 and Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 4757. WARD received his social work license on August 11, 2009.
2. WARD renewed his social work license through August 11, 2013. In May 2012, WARD was audited for compliance with continuing education requirements. The BOARD did not receive proof of the required continuing education. On April 29, 2013, WARD communicated with a Board representative and stated that he would like to surrender his license as opposed to completing the audit requirements. WARD'S failure to comply with the audit requirement constitutes a violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 4757.36(C) (1) and Ohio Administrative Code Section 4757-11-01 (C)(20)(b).
3. WARD admits the allegation referenced in paragraph 2 above.

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Wherefore, in consideration of the foregoing and mutual promises hereinafter set forth, and in lieu of any other formal disciplinary proceedings, WARD knowingly and voluntarily agrees with the BOARD to the following terms and conditions:

The BOARD will allow WARD to surrender his social work license in lieu of other potential disciplinary action.

It is hereby agreed by and between both parties that this CONSENT AGREEMENT hereby settles all issues concerning this matter.

By his signature on this CONSENT AGREEMENT, WARD acknowledges that in the event the BOARD, in its discretion, does not approve this CONSENT AGREEMENT, this settlement offer is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value and shall not be relied upon or introduced in any disciplinary action or appeal by either party. WARD agrees that should the BOARD reject this CONSENT AGREEMENT and if this case proceeds to hearing, he will assert no claim that the BOARD was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this CONSENT AGREEMENT or of any information relating thereto.

WARD hereby releases the members of the BOARD, its officers and employees, jointly and severally, from any and all liability arising from the matter within.

This CONSENT AGREEMENT shall be considered a public record as that term is used in Section 149.43 of the Ohio Revised Code. Pursuant to 42 USC Section 132a-73(b), 5 USC Section 552a, 45 CFR part 61, and Ohio Revised Code 3123.41 et seq., the BOARD may be required to provide WARD'S social security number to requesting governmental agencies. The BOARD shall incorporate this CONSENT AGREEMENT into a formal journal entry at its May 2013, meeting.

This CONSENT AGREEMENT shall take effect upon the date of the Board Chair's signature below:


Andrew W. Ward, LSW


Mary J. Venrick, LSW, LPC
Chair, Counselor, Social Worker, Marriage and Family Therapist Board

4/29/2013
Date

5-16-13
Date