BEFORE THE ARIZONA BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EXAMINERS

In the Matter of:

Lori A. Park, LCSW-12565, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, In the State of Arizona.

RESPONDENT

CASE NOS. 2022-0085 and 2022-0096

DECREE OF CENSURE

In the interest of a prompt and speedy settlement of the above captioned matter, consistent with the public interest, statutory requirements and responsibilities of the Arizona State Board of Behavioral Health Examiners ("Board"), and pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 32-3281(F) and 41-1092.07(F)(5), Lori A. Park ("Respondent") and the Board enter into this Consent Agreement, Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order ("Consent Agreement") as a final disposition of this matter.

RECITALS

Respondent understands and agrees that:

- 1. Any record prepared in this matter, all investigative materials prepared or received by the Board concerning the allegations, and all related materials and exhibits may be retained in the Board's file pertaining to this matter.
- 2. Respondent has the right to a formal administrative hearing at which Respondent can present evidence and cross examine the State's witnesses. Respondent hereby irrevocably waives their right to such formal hearing concerning these allegations and irrevocably waives their right to any rehearing or judicial review relating to the allegations contained in this Consent Agreement.
- Respondent has the right to consult with an attorney prior to entering into this Consent Agreement.

- 4. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that upon signing this Consent Agreement and returning it to the Board's Executive Director, Respondent may not revoke their acceptance of this Consent Agreement or make any modifications to it. Any modification of this original document is ineffective and void unless mutually approved by the parties in writing.
- 5. The findings contained in the Findings of Fact portion of this Consent Agreement are conclusive evidence of the facts stated herein between only Respondent and the Board for the final disposition of this matter and may be used for purposes of determining sanctions in any future disciplinary matter.
- 6. This Consent Agreement is subject to the Board's approval, and will be effective only when the Board accepts it. In the event the Board in its discretion does not approve this Consent Agreement, this Consent Agreement is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value, nor shall it be relied upon or introduced in any disciplinary action by any party hereto, except that Respondent agrees that should the Board reject this Consent Agreement and this case proceeds to hearing, Respondent shall assert no claim that the Board was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this document or of any records relating thereto.
- Agreement is solely to settle this Board matter and does not preclude the Board from instituting other proceedings as may be appropriate now or in the future. Furthermore, and notwithstanding any language in this Consent Agreement, this Consent Agreement does not preclude in any way any other state agency or officer or political subdivision of this state from instituting proceedings, investigating claims, or taking legal action as may be appropriate now or in the future relating to this matter or other matters concerning Respondent, including but not limited to violations of Arizona's Consumer Fraud Act. Respondent acknowledges that, other than with respect to the Board, this Consent Agreement makes no representations, implied or

otherwise, about the views or intended actions of any other state agency or officer or political subdivision of the state relating to this matter or other matters concerning Respondent.

- 8. Respondent understands that once the Board approves and signs this Consent Agreement, it is a public record that may be publicly disseminated as a formal action of the Board, and that it shall be reported as required by law to the National Practitioner Data Bank.
- 9. Respondent further understands that any violation of this Consent Agreement constitutes unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(n) and may result in disciplinary action pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3281.
- 10. The Board therefore retains jurisdiction over Respondent and may initiate disciplinary action against Respondent if it determines that they have failed to comply with the terms of this Consent Agreement or of the practice act.

The Board issues the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- Respondent is the holder of License No. LCSW-12565 for the practice of Social Work in the State of Arizona.
- Since 03/19, Respondent has been providing behavioral health services to

 Client.
 - 3. Client's goals for therapy were to manage her anxiety and decrease pain.
- A large number of Client's progress notes include discussions around
 Complainant 1 and how Client feels Complainant 1 is a narcissist and that she does not want any contact with Complainant 1.
- 5. During an 08/23/21 session, Licensee and Client discussed possibly signing a release of information authorizing Respondent to speak with Complainant 1, but Client refused to sign a release for fear other information from her records would be shared with Complainant 1.

- 6. This 08/23/21 note also indicated Respondent drafted an email based on what Client wanted and Client gave Respondent permission to send.
 - 7. On 08/23/21, Respondent sent the following email to Complainant 1:
 - a. Respondent introduced herself as Client's therapist.
 - Respondent has offered to intervene since Complainant 1 has not abided by Client's request for no contact.
 - c. Client would like Complainant 1 to be aware that she does not read her letters, check the emails, or listen to the voicemails left for her.
 - d. Client has no desire for family therapy and wants Complainant 1 to leave her alone.
 - e. If Complainant 1 cares about Client's wellbeing, please respect her wishes and respect her boundaries.
 - f. Respondent will not be emailing Complainant 1 again and asked Complainant1 to not reply as she will get no response back.
 - g. Respondent recommends Complainant 1 finds a new way to deal with her past that does not involve Client as it is now only Complainant 1's journey.
- 8. Despite Client giving Respondent verbal permission during the therapy session to send this email and Respondent documenting this in the progress note, Licensee did not obtain a required written authorization to speak to Complainant 1 regarding Client.
- 9. During an investigative interview, Respondent acknowledge her wrongdoing and that she should not have contacted Complainant 1 without a release of information, but she was trying to help advocate for Client.

ORDER of CENSURE

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the parties agree to the provisions and penalties imposed as follows:

1	1. Respondent is hereby censured, which is an official action against their license			
2	for their conduct as set forth in the Findings of Fact.			
3	2.	2. This Consent Agreement shall be effective on the date of entry below.		
4	3.	3. This Consent Agreement is conclusive evidence of the matters described herein		
5	and may be considered by the Board in determining appropriate sanctions in the event a			
6	subsequent violation occurs.			
7				
8	PROFESSIONAL ACCEPTS, SIGNS AND DATES THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT			
9	26	Lori Park , mssa Lesu	Dec 14, 2022	
10	Lori A. Parl	<	Date	
11	BOARD ACCEPTS, SIGNS AND DATES THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT			
12	By: M	1.7.1	Dec 14, 2022	
13	-	OBI ZAVALA, Executive Director	Date	
14	Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners			
15	ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed Dec 14, 2022 with:			
16				
17	Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners 1740 West Adams Street, Suite 3600 Phoenix, AZ 85007			
18				
19	EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing sent electronically Dec 14, 2022 to:			
20	Mona Baskin Assistant Attorney General 2005 North Central Avenue Phoenix, AZ 85004 Lori A. Park Address of Record			
21				
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Respondent