COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BOARD OF LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS AGENCY CASE NO. 2020-LPC-00016 ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION NO. 2021-KBLPC-00003

KENTUCKY BOARD OF LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

COMPLAINANT

v.

LEEANN HORTON, LPCC

RESPONDENT

FINAL ORDER

This matter came before the Kentucky Board of Licensed Professional Counselors (the "Board") regarding disciplinary action by the Board under KRS 335.540 and KRS 335.545 against the Respondent, Leeann Horton, LPCC (the "Respondent") for the violation of multiple provisions of the Code of Ethics, including engaging in a sexual relationship with a former client. On March 29, 2023, the Hearing Officer entered a Recommended Order stating a five-year suspension of the Respondent's license is appropriate for her violation of several provisions of the Code of Ethics in light of the circumstances and all available evidence, and despite the recommended dismissal of several counts. Respondent timely filed exceptions to the Recommended Order.

Therefore, having considered the administrative record and Respondent's exceptions to the Recommended Order, the Board hereby **ORDERS** as follows:

- 1. The Hearing Officer's Recommended Order is hereby adopted;
- 2. Respondent's LPCC License No. 173210 is SUSPENDED for five (5) years; and
- 3. The effective date of this Final Order shall be 30 days from the date it is signed by the Chair of the Board; and,

4. Under KRS 13B140(1) and KRS 335.550, this Final Order may be appealed to the Franklin Circuit Court within 30 days after this order is mailed and delivered by personal service.

ORDERED AND ENTERED this 5th day of May, 2023.

Dr. Hannah Coyt, Chair / Kentucky Board of Licensed **Professional Counselors**

May 5, 2023 Date

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served by electronic means and certified mail, return receipt requested, on the 5th day of May, to the following:

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Hon. Eden Davis Stephens Office of Administrative Hearings 500 Mero Street, 218 NC Frankfort, Kentucky 40601 Eden.Stephens@ky.gov Hearing Officer Via email

Board Administrator

May 5, 2023

Date