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## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY Department of Professional Licensing KENTUCKY BOARD OF LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS CASE NO. 2022-LPC-00031

KENTUCKY BOARD OF LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

PETITIONER

V.

RAYMOND EDWARD SHERIDAN, LPCA, License No. 242729

RESPONDENT

## AGREED ORDER

The Kentucky Board of Licensed Professional Counselors (the "Board"), and Raymond Edward Sheridan, LPCA, license number 242729, ("Respondent") hereby agree as follows:

- On July 28, 2022, the Board received Complaint No. 2022-LPC-00031 from Kelly R. Kelley. Ms. Kelley states in her complaint that Mountain Comprehensive Care Center was notified on July 18, 2022, that Respondent was sexually involved with a client and had been for over the past year.
- The complaint also alleges that the client provided an email that indicated an inappropriate sexual relationship with Respondent.
- The complaint also alleges that Mountain Comprehensive Care Center met with Respondent to discuss its notification of an inappropriate sexual relationship with a client, and he made an admission.
- The complaint further states Respondent was dismissed from employment with Mountain Comprehensive Care Center.
- The complaint further alleges that Respondent admitted to a relapse in a sexual addiction, that he suffered a mental health crisis and was thereafter treated.

- 3. Respondent submitted a response to the complaint, which was received by the Board on or about September 14, 2022. In his response, Respondent affirms the information stated in the complaint is accurate and accepts responsibility for his actions. Respondent states he is prepared to accept the consequences of his actions, including a loss of his license. Respondent advised the Board he is in therapy for treatment of his addiction and began attending an addiction recovery group, as well as initiated accountability measures with friends and pastoral care. Respondent showed remorse for the violation of the Code of Ethics and the Board is in appreciation of the Respondent's honesty in regards to the admissions he has made.
- 4. Based on the Respondent's admission to the allegations in the complaint, at its regularly scheduled meeting of October 21, 2022, the Board voted to offer an informal settlement in lieu of referral for an investigation into the allegations in the complaint, as authorized by 201 KAR 36:050. Section 4. Settlement by Informal Proceedings, which may be entered into at any time during the complaint management process.
- 5. The Board has determined that disciplinary action under the following statutes and regulations to be appropriate: KRS 335.540(1)(g); 201 KAR 36:040 Section 1(2)(b), (c), (d), and (f); and 201 KAR 36:040 Section 2(19). Respondent agrees the Board may take disciplinary action against him for the above-described violations.
- 6. Instead of pursuing a disciplinary hearing, the parties have mutually decided to resolve any potential disciplinary action by means of this Agreed Order.

The Board and Respondent now therefore agree to this Agreed Order, which resolves Complaint No. 2022-LPC-00031 on the following terms and conditions:

- 7. Respondent shall execute and return a copy of this Agreed Order to the Board within thirty (30) days of receipt of the Agreed Order or it shall be null and void, and the Board may institute further disciplinary action.
- 8. Respondent's LPCA license shall be revoked, and Respondent shall be ineligible to reapply for licensure for five (5) years. Before being eligible to reapply for licensure, Respondent shall be required to complete personal therapy related to sex addition with evidence to the Board of completion by the provider; and the Respondent shall be required to practice under supervision for two (2) years upon reinstatement.
- Respondent agrees to commit no violations of statutes and regulations governing his license to practice as a Licensed Professional Counselor Associate.
- 10. Respondent acknowledges the seriousness of the allegations contained within Complaint No. 2022-LPC-00031 and agrees that the allegations contained therein are wholly inappropriate between a Licensed Professional Counselor Associate and a client.
- 11. Respondent understands that by signing this Agreed Order he has waived his hearing rights, which specifically include any right to a hearing, including the right to be present with counsel, to subpoena witnesses and to confront those against him, and the right to appeal the Board's decision as entered in this Agreed Order and the full panoply of rights of hearing and appeal related to his mandatory certificate and as authorized by statute, regulation, and court decision.
- 12. Respondent acknowledges that this Agreed Order, after his execution of same, shall be presented to the Board with a recommendation for approval from the Board's Counsel at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board following receipt of the executed agreement. The Agreed Order shall not become effective until it has been

approved by the Board and endorsed by the Chair of the Board. Respondent understands the Board is under no obligation to accept or reject this Agreed Order, and hereby waives any right he may have had to challenge, based upon the presentation of this Agreed Order to the Board, the impartiality of the Board to hear an administrative action if this Agreed Order is rejected. If this Agreed Order is rejected by the Board, it shall be regarded as null and void, and of no effect. No statement or term contained in this Agreed Order will be regarded as evidence in any subsequent disciplinary hearing, nor shall any inference be taken from Respondent's willingness to enter into this Agreed Order.

- 13. Upon approval of this Agreed Order by the Board, the Board shall dismiss Complaint No. 2022-LPC-00031. Any violation by Respondent of the terms of this agreement shall be grounds for further action by the Board, including but not limited to the reopening of this complaint.
- 14. Respondent recognizes that if this matter was to proceed to an Administrative Hearing, there may exist sufficient evidence to sustain a disciplinary action against him. Respondent nevertheless desires to settle this matter in an expeditious manner without resorting to an administrative hearing.
- 15. Respondent acknowledges that at all times he has had the opportunity to obtain legal counsel of his choosing.
- 16. Respondent acknowledges, once adopted by the Board, this Agreed Order is considered a public document, available for inspection at any time by any member of the public under the Kentucky Open Records Act. Further, Respondent understands the Board is free to make any use it deems appropriate of the contents of this Agreed Order, which shall include the Board's ability to share the content of this Agreed Order with any

governmental or professional board or organization, publication of a summary in the Board's newsletter, reporting under federal law, and availability via the Board's web site.

17. All parties and their undersigned representatives warrant and represent that they have the requisite power and authority to enter into this Agreed Order and to effectuate the purposes herein, and that this Agreed Order shall be legally binding and enforceable against each party in accordance with terms of the Agreed Order.

18. This Agreed Order shall be governed in all respects by the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Any disputes arising under this Agreed Order shall be resolved in the Circuit Court of Franklin County, Kentucky; the parties' consent and agree to the *in personam* jurisdiction of such Court.

19. This Agreed Order may not be modified except by a written agreement executed by all parties.

HAVE SEEN AND AGREED:

Baymond Edward Sheridan, LPCA,

License No. 242729

Respondent

Kentucky Board of Licensed

**Professional Counselors** 

12/13/2022

Date

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the Agreed Order was mailed this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December 2022 by electronic mail, and on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2022, mailed by regular first-class mail and to:

Raymond Edward Sheridan

Respondent

And via electronic mail to:

Sara Boswell Janes, Staff Attorney III
Department of Professional Licensing
Public Protection Cabinet
Office of Legal Services
500 Mero Street
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

**Board Counsel** 

**Board Administrator**