## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY KENTUCKY BOARD OF LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS CASE NO. 2023-LPC-00027

KENTUCKY BOARD OF LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

TINA LEE ANN MOUNCE, LPCA, License No. 273912

٧.

RECEIVED PETITIONER

JUL 27 2023

Department of Professional Licensing RESPONDENT

## AGREED ORDER

The Kentucky Board of Licensed Professional Counselors (the "Board"), and Tina Lee Ann Mounce, LPCA, License Number 273912, ("Respondent") hereby agree as follows:

- 1. On May 11, 2023, the Board received Complaint No. 2023-LPC-00027 from Sharon Cornelius. (the "Complainant"). The Complainant alleges the Respondent, among other things, communicated with minors on social media in a distasteful manner due to a personal, emotionally-charged matter, and made threats to the complainant by using her position as a professional counselor, as well as other personal affiliations, to attempt to intimidate her. Complainant made additional allegations which were not included in the disciplinary recommendations of the Board as being issues over which the Board has jurisdiction and/or warranted discipline by the Board.
- 2. Respondent submitted a response to the complaint dated May 26, 2023. In her response, Respondent denies several of the allegations but makes admissions relating to the animosity between herself and the Complainant due to personal reasons, and also admits to making impulsive decisions during the period relating to this complaint. Further, the Respondent makes assurances of handling the impact of this personal crisis in a better manner now and that it will no longer impact her professionally.
- Instead of pursuing a formal administrative disciplinary hearing, the parties have mutually decided to resolve this matter with an informal settlement as authorized by 201 KAR 36:050. Section
   by means of this Agreed Order.

The Board and Respondent now therefore agree to this Agreed Order, which resolves Complaint No. 2023-LPC-00027 on the following terms and conditions:

- 4. 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.
- 5. The Board offers the following disciplinary sanctions, which are hereby agreed to by the Respondent, as follows:
  - a. The Respondent shall complete 3 hours of continuing education on ethics and professionalism, with proof of completion to be filed with the board within six (6) months of entry of this Agreed Order.
  - b. The Respondent shall complete 3 hours of continuing education on boundaries and social media awareness, with proof of completion to be filed with the board within six
     (6) months of entry of this Agreed Order.
  - c. The Respondent's Supervisor shall provide quarterly, written reports to the Board for the next twelve (12) months advising the Board of Respondent's progress in the areas of ethics, professionalism, boundaries, and social media awareness.
  - d. All costs for the Supervisor's written reports, and continuing education are to be paid by the Respondent unless they are otherwise covered by an employer.
- Respondent agrees to commit no violations of statutes and regulations governing
   Respondent's license to practice as a Licensed Professional Counselor Associate.
- 7. Respondent understands that by signing this Agreed Order she has waived her 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 her, 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 her mandatory certificate and as authorized by statute, regulation, and court decision.

- 8. Respondent acknowledges that this Agreed Order, after her 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 she 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.
- 9. Upon approval of this Agreed Order by the Board, the Board shall dismiss Complaint No. 2023-LPC-00027. 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.
- 10. Respondent recognizes that if this matter was to proceed to an Administrative Hearing, there may exist sufficient evidence to sustain a disciplinary action against her. Respondent nevertheless desires to settle this matter in an expeditious manner without resorting to an administrative hearing.
- 11. Respondent acknowledges that at all times she has had the opportunity to obtain legal counsel of her choosing.
- 12. 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.

13. 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.

14. 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.

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

HAVE SEEN AND AGREED:

TINA MOUNCE, LPCA

License No. 273912 Respondent

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Kentucky Board of Licensed Professional Counselors 7/24/23 Date

18-23

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the Agreed Order was mailed this 22 May of 2023 by electronic mail, and by regular first-class mail and to:

Tina Mounce, LPCA 800 Holly Lane Corbin, Kentucky 40701 tina.mounce3@yahoo.com Respondent

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And via electronic mail to:

Sara Boswell Janes, Staff Attorney III <u>Sara.janes@ky.gov</u> <u>Board Counsel</u>

Board Administrator

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