

1 **BEFORE THE ARIZONA BOARD**
2 **OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EXAMINERS**

3 **In the Matter of:**

4 **Jessica L. Martin, LCSW-16341,**
5 **Licensed Clinical Social Worker,**
6 **In the State of Arizona.**

7 **RESPONDENT**

CASE NO. 2023-0073
CONSENT AGREEMENT
FOR VOLUNTARY SURRENDER

8 In the interest of a prompt and speedy settlement of the above captioned matter,
9 consistent with the public interest, statutory requirements and responsibilities of the Arizona
10 State Board of Behavioral Health Examiners (“Board”), and pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 32-3281(F)
11 and 41-1092.07(F)(5), Jessica L. Martin (“Respondent”) and the Board enter into this Consent
12 Agreement, Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order (“Consent Agreement”) as a final
13 disposition of this matter.

14 **RECITALS**

15 Respondent understands and agrees that:

16 1. Any record prepared in this matter, all investigative materials prepared or
17 received by the Board concerning the allegations, and all related materials and exhibits may be
18 retained in the Board’s file pertaining to this matter.

19 2. Respondent has the right to a formal administrative hearing at which Respondent
20 can present evidence and cross examine the State’s witnesses. Respondent hereby irrevocably
21 waives their right to such formal hearing concerning these allegations and irrevocably waives
22 their right to any rehearing or judicial review relating to the allegations contained in this Consent
23 Agreement.

24 3. Respondent has the right to consult with an attorney prior to entering into this
25 Consent Agreement.

1 4. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that upon signing this Consent
2 Agreement and returning it to the Board's Executive Director, Respondent may not revoke their
3 acceptance of this Consent Agreement or make any modifications to it. Any modification of this
4 original document is ineffective and void unless mutually approved by the parties in writing.

5 5. The findings contained in the Findings of Fact portion of this Consent Agreement
6 are conclusive evidence of the facts stated herein between only Respondent and the Board for
7 the final disposition of this matter and may be used for purposes of determining sanctions in any
8 future disciplinary matter.

9 6. This Consent Agreement is subject to the Board's approval, and will be effective
10 only when the Board accepts it. In the event the Board in its discretion does not approve this
11 Consent Agreement, this Consent Agreement is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value,
12 nor shall it be relied upon or introduced in any disciplinary action by any party hereto, except
13 that Respondent agrees that should the Board reject this Consent Agreement and this case
14 proceeds to hearing, Respondent shall assert no claim that the Board was prejudiced by its
15 review and discussion of this document or of any records relating thereto.

16 7. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that the acceptance of this Consent
17 Agreement is solely to settle this Board matter and does not preclude the Board from instituting
18 other proceedings as may be appropriate now or in the future. Furthermore, and
19 notwithstanding any language in this Consent Agreement, this Consent Agreement does not
20 preclude in any way any other state agency or officer or political subdivision of this state from
21 instituting proceedings, investigating claims, or taking legal action as may be appropriate now or
22 in the future relating to this matter or other matters concerning Respondent, including but not
23 limited to violations of Arizona's Consumer Fraud Act. Respondent acknowledges that, other
24 than with respect to the Board, this Consent Agreement makes no representations, implied or

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

3 8. Respondent understands that once the Board approves and signs this Consent
4 Agreement, it is a public record that may be publicly disseminated as a formal action of the
5 Board, and that it shall be reported as required by law to the National Practitioner Data Bank.

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

7 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

8 1. Respondent is the holder of License No. LCSW-16341 for the practice of Social
9 Work in the State of Arizona.

10 2. On 09/02/21, Respondent timely self-reported to the Board that she was charged
11 with five class 4 felonies for child abuse.

12 3. Police records and hospital record indicated Respondent brought Child to the
13 hospital with various bodily injuries.

14 4. On 08/11/22, Respondent signed a plea agreement pleading guilty to Child
15 Abuse A.R.S. § 13-3623(B)(3), a class 6 designated non-dangerous felony and domestic
16 violence offense.

17 5. On 09/30/22, Respondent was convicted of one count of Negligent Abuse of a
18 Child (DV), a class 6 felony in violation of A.R.S. § 13-3623(B)(3).

19 6. The factual basis for the please was that, under circumstances other than those
20 likely to produce death or serious physical injury, Respondent failed to timely obtain medical
21 care for a minor child in her care.

22 7. On Respondent's 08/26/22 LCSW renewal application she answered yes to the
23 background question regarding engagement in behavioral health services within the past five
24 years.

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1 8. In 09/21, Respondent received inpatient and outpatient services for behavioral
2 health issues and alcohol use.

3 9. Since 02/22, Respondent has been seeing Psychologist for behavioral health
4 and alcohol use.

5 10. On 12/21/22, Board staff attempted to conduct an in-person interview with
6 Respondent regarding the Board complaint.

7 11. During the interview, Board staff believed Respondent was in an impaired state
8 and Board staff was unable to conduct the interview, subsequently terminating the interview.

9 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

10 1. The Board has jurisdiction over Respondent pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3251 *et seq.*
11 and the rules promulgated by the Board relating to Respondent's professional practice as a
12 licensed behavioral health professional.

13 2. The conduct and circumstances described in the Findings of Fact constitute a
14 violation of A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(a), being convicted of a felony. Conviction by a court of
15 competent jurisdiction or a plea of no contest is conclusive evidence of the conviction

16 3. The conduct and circumstances described in the Findings of Fact constitute a
17 violation of A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(l), engaging in any conduct, practice or condition that impairs
18 the ability of the licensee to safely and competently practice the licensee's profession.

19 **ORDER**

20 Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law, the parties agree to
21 the provision and penalties imposed as follows:

22 1. Respondent's license, LCSW-16341, shall be surrendered to the Board, effective
23 from the date of entry as signed below.

24 2. The surrender shall be considered a revocation of Respondent's license.

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