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OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EXAMINERS

BEFORE THE ARIZONA BOARD

In the Matter of:

Mustafa M. Moyenda, LPC-20716, Licensed Professional Counselor, In the State of Arizona.

RESPONDENT

CASE NO. 2023-0165

CONSENT AGREEMENT FOR VOLUNTARY SURRENDER

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), Mustafa M. Moyenda ("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:

- 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.

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- 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. Although Respondent does not agree that all the Findings of Fact set forth in this Consent Agreement are supported by the evidence, Respondent acknowledges that it is the Board's position that, if this matter proceeded to formal hearing, the Board could establish sufficient evidence to support a conclusion that certain of Respondent's conduct constituted unprofessional conduct. Therefore, Respondent has agreed to enter into this Consent Agreement as an economical and practical means of resolving the issues associated with the complaint filed against her. Further, Respondent acknowledges that the Board may use the evidence in its possession relating to this Consent Agreement for purposes of determining sanctions in any further disciplinary matter.
- 7. 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.

- 8. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that the acceptance of this Consent 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.
- 9. 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.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

- Respondent is the holder of License No. LPC-20716 for the practice of counseling in the State of Arizona.
- On 12/13/21, Respondent submitted an application for a licensed professional counselor license by endorsement.
- On the background questionnaire, Respondent answered "no" to question (2) regarding ever being the subject of any complaint, investigation or disciplinary action again a credential by any regulatory body.
- 4. Despite answering "no," Respondent disclosed a previous license suspension due to failure to pay Illinois State income tax on time.

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- 5. This information was verified by the National Practitioner Data Bank and the matter was subsequently signed off by Board staff.
 - 6. In 02/22, Respondent obtained his LPC license.
- 7. On 01/16/23, a complaint was submitted by Complainant regarding Respondent violating her personal boundaries.
 - 8. Complainant represented that on 08/28/22, Respondent sexually assaulted her.
- 9. Due to the alleged conduct having taken place in another state, the Board did not have jurisdiction to investigate the matter.
- 10. In 03/23, Board staff became aware that the State of Illinois Division of Professional Regulation Records took action against Respondent's LCPC license because he practiced outside the scope of his license in that he performed "tantric therapy" on patients.
- 11. Respondent's LCPC license in Illinois was permanently and voluntarily surrendered in 06/22.
- 12. Further review of Respondent's Illinois records showed a 04/21 complaint and notice of preliminary hearing for Respondent.
 - 13. The complaint in Illinois included the following information:
 - a. At all times relevant, Respondent worked at Eustress Therapy and Wellness ("ETW") in the state of Illinois.
 - In 04/16, Respondent introduced himself to client C.K. as a doctor who provided counseling and massage therapy.
 - c. During the initial visit, around 04/16, Respondent instructed C.K. to undress and lie underneath a sheet on a massage table since she needed to release sexual tension.
 - d. Around 05/16, during the second appointment, Respondent again instructedC.K. to undress and lie underneath a sheet onto a massage table.

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- e. Respondent then massaged C.K.'s inner thighs and genital area, and digitally penetrated C.K.'s vagina.
- f. Respondent wore only boxer briefs, and performed oral sex on C.K.
- g. Around 10/17/16, patient C.R. was present at ETW for a therapy session, and Respondent instructed C.R. to get undressed and lie down on a massage table.
- h. During the massage, Respondent touched C.R.'s buttocks and genital area with his hands over the undergarments.
- i. After the massage, Respondent stated it was a trial session for tantric therapy¹, and she needed to do "homework."
- j. Respondent then played a video of a couple engaging in sex acts and instructed C.R. to watch the video as homework.
- 14. The complaint in Illinois indicated Respondent's conduct would constitute the following state rules and ethics:
 - a. Engaging in dishonorable, unethical, or unprofessional conduct of a character likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public and violating the rules of professional conduct adopted by the Department.
 - b. Engaging in the sexual exploitation of clients.
 - Engaging in or condoning sexual harassment, that occurs in connection with professional activities or roles.
 - d. Engaging in any type of sexual or romantic intimacies with a client.

¹ Tantric Therapy is where touch is a powerful healing modality, by placing light touch which may or may not be of an erotic and sexual nature in order to stimulate pleasure in the body with the goal of circulating sexual/life force energy around the entire body and releasing the muscular tension and the body armor. https://psychosocialsomatic.com/tantra-therapy/

- 15. This timeline indicates Respondent was aware that a complaint against his Illinois license was being investigated at the time he completed his application with the Board.
- 16. Respondent misrepresented by omitting information regarding an investigation on his license that was ongoing at the time he filled out and submitted his Arizona license applicant.
- 17. Respondent also failed to notify the Board of the 06/22 action against his LCPC license in Illinois once the matter was concluded.
- 18. Furthermore, Respondent signed in his application a certifying statement, which included the following:
 - a. "I, [Respondent], certify under penalty of perjury that all information contained in my application, including all supporting documents, is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and with full knowledge that any false statements or misrepresentation made in this application may be grounds for refusal, subsequent revocation or suspension of my license(s), or other disciplinary action."
- 19. Respondent obtained his Arizona LPC license without the Board being able to take into consideration the allegations of unprofessional conduct against him, which may have prevented him from obtaining a license.
- 20. On 04/04/23, Board staff reached out to Respondent via email in order to schedule a telephonic investigative interview regarding his complaint, and notified him of his matter being scheduled to be heard at the following month's Board meeting.
- 21. A few hours later, Respondent responded, noting he will be forwarding Board staff's information to his attorney.
- 22. Board staff subsequently responded, noting a letter of representation would be required and that the interview would need to be conducted within the requested time frame.

23.	On 04/06/23,	Board sta	aff sent a	a follow	up	email,	inquiring	about	the	lack	C
response.											

- 24. On 04/12/23, Board staff followed up once again, noting a response had not been received, offering additional times for an interview to be scheduled, and mention that failure to participate in the investigative process may result in a violation.
- 25. Despite Respondent responding, he once again failed to schedule or participate in an investigative interview with Board staff.
- 26. On 04/25/23, Respondent's response to the Board's complaint was due, but Respondent failed to submit a response.
- 27. On 03/21/23, Respondent was mailed out a notice notifying him of the complaint to his address of record.
- 28. On 03/30/23, the envelope with Respondent's complaint was returned due to it not being able to delivered to the address of record.
- 29. On 03/30/23, the Board's Executive Director emailed Respondent a copy of the notice and complaint to his email on record, noting it had been returned.
- 30. On or around 04/03/23, Executive Director had a telephonic conversation with Respondent regarding submitting a change of name and address form.
- 31. On 04/18/23, Board staff had to email an electronic copy of his meeting notice due to Respondent's address still not being updated and his mail not being able to be delivered.
- 32. As of the date of this report, approximately a month after being notified, Respondent has not yet updated his personal address information with the Board as required.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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

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- 2. The conduct and circumstances described in the Findings of Fact constitute a violation of A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(II), being the subject of the revocation, suspension, surrender or any other disciplinary sanction of a professional license, certificate or registration or other adverse action related to a professional license, certificate or registration in another jurisdiction or country, including the failure to report the adverse action to the board. The action taken may include refusing, denying, revoking or suspending a license or certificate, the surrendering of a license or certificate, otherwise limiting, restricting or monitoring a license or certificate holder or placing a licensee or certificate holder on probation.
- 3. The conduct and circumstances described in the Findings of Fact constitute a violation of A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(c)(i), making any oral or written misrepresentation of a fact to sure or attempt to secure the issuance or renewal of a license.
- 4. The conduct and circumstances described in the Findings of Fact constitute a violation of A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(I), engaging in any conduct, practice or condition that impairs the ability of the licensee to safely and competently practice the licensee's profession.
- 5. The conduct and circumstances described in the Findings of Fact constitute a violation of A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(o), failing to furnish information within a specified time to the board or its investigators or representatives if legally requested by the board.
- 6. The conduct and circumstances described in the Findings of Fact constitute a violation of A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(ii), violating any federal or state law, rule or regulation applicable to the practice of behavioral health as it relates to:

A.A.C. R4-6-205, Change of Contact Information

ORDER

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

1	1. Respondent's license, LPC-20716, shall be surrendered to the Board, effective							
2	from the date of entry as signed below.							
3	2. The surrender shall be considered a revocation of Respondent's license.							
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5	PROFESSIONAL ACCEPTS, SIGNS AND DATES THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT							
6	May 5, 2023 Mustafa Molenda (May 5, 2023 05:59 PDT)							
7	Mustafa M. Moyenda Date							
8	BOARD ACCEPTS, SIGNS AND DATES THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT							
9								
10	By: May 5, 2023 TOBI ZAVALA, Executive Director Date							
11	Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners							
12	May F 2022							
13	ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed May 5, 2023 with:							
14	Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners							
15	1740 West Adams Street, Suite 3600 Phoenix, AZ 85007							
16	EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing sent electronically May 5, 2023							
17	to:							
18	Mona Baskin Assistant Attorney General							
19	2005 North Central Avenue Phoenix, AZ 85004							
20	Mustafa M. Moyenda							
21	Address of Record Respondent							
22	Sara Stark							
23	Chelle Law 5425 E Bell Rd Ste 107							
24	Scottsdale, AZ 85254 Attorney for Respondent							
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