

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA  
BOARD OF LICENSED  
PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

IN THE MATTER OF: )  
 )  
JUSTINA PRENATT, LPCA )  
Respondent. )  
No. 1641 )

**CONSENT ORDER**

THIS CAUSE, coming on to be heard and being heard before the North Carolina Board of Licensed Professional Counselors (“the Board”), at its meeting on January 26, 2018, pursuant to a charge letter issued by the Board on December 1, 2017, which is now pending; and

IT APPEARING to the Board that the Respondent has stipulated to certain facts and to the entry of a Consent Order in conformity therewith;

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED by the undersigned Respondent and the Board that:

1. Respondent was at all times relevant to this cause a licensed professional counselor associate and is subject to the Board’s jurisdiction pursuant to the North Carolina Licensed Professional Counselors Act, Chapter 90, Article 24 of the North Carolina General Statutes.
2. Respondent submitted an email, entitled “To Whom it May Concern,” which was included in a document entitled “Court Report, Court Ordered Investigation.” This document was presented to the Court in a family court proceeding regarding the complainant. In the email, Respondent describes a prior personal relationship with the complainant and Respondent states, “It is my opinion, in retrospect, that [complainant] qualifies for a diagnosis of a mental health disorder, most likely Borderline Personality Disorder, and that her abusive, reactionary, and inappropriate treatment of [DL], her family members, my family members and me were in alignment with typical behavioral symptoms of that diagnosis.” Respondent further states, “I share the possible theory of [complainant] having a mental health disorder, as it may be relevant to consider during the current proceedings of [complainant’s] accusations against [DL] and [DL2] regarding treatment of their children.” Respondent signs the email using her title, LPCA and her license number. Respondent had a personal relationship with the complainant and her family members and did not provide counseling services to the complainant or any of her family members at any point in time.
3. Respondent admits that her conduct as set forth above in paragraph number 2 violates: Sections C.2.a., C.6.b., C.6.d., E.5.a., and E.13.a., of the American Counseling Association Code of Ethics (2014); and N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 90-340 (a)(9), (a)(12) of the NC Licensed Professional Counselors Act.
4. The Board and Respondent wish to avoid the time and the costs associated with full litigation of this matter and, in lieu of any proceedings, enter into this Consent Order.

5. Respondent expressly waives notice of hearing, a hearing, the making of findings of fact and conclusions of law, and all further proceedings before the Board to which the Respondent may be entitled by law. Respondent further agrees that presentation of this Consent Order to the Board for approval shall not constitute improper ex parte communication between the Board and its counsel, or the Board and its staff, nor require the recusal of the members of the Board from consideration of this matter before the full Board, should a hearing be required in this case.

6. Respondent forever releases the State of North Carolina, the North Carolina Board of Licensed Professional Counselors, and all its members, officials, agents, representatives and employees, both past and present, in their individual or official capacities from any and all liability, suits, claims, and causes of action, arising prior to or as a result of the execution of this Consent Order.

7. Respondent waives the right to seek judicial review or to otherwise challenge the validity of this Consent Order in any court. Respondent understands and agrees that this Consent Order shall be effective only after approval by the full Board and signature of its Chairperson.

8. This Consent Order contains the entire agreement between the undersigned, there being no agreement of any kind, verbal or otherwise, which varies, alters, or adds to this Consent Order.

Based upon the record and the foregoing stipulations,

NOW, THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

I. Respondent's license with the NC Board of Licensed Professional Counselors is hereby REPRIMANDED.

II. Respondent shall complete three hours of continuing education coursework in the area of ethics and three hours of continuing education coursework in the area of diagnosis, which meet the requirements of 21 NCAC .0603. This continuing education coursework shall be done in person and not on line. Upon successful completion of this continuing education coursework, Respondent shall submit a certificate of completion provided by the continuing education sponsor to the Board. This requirement shall be in addition to the continuing education coursework required for all licensees under Board Rule .0603. All costs associated with this continuing education shall be borne by Respondent. Respondent shall complete this continuing education within six months of the execution of this Consent Order.

III. Respondent shall be supervised for a period of six months by a Board approved supervisor for one hour of individual face to face supervision for every 40 hours of counseling services provided with no less than one supervision session per month. This supervision shall begin after Respondent completes all of the supervision required as an LPCA. Respondent must file a new supervision contract and the supervisor must be approved by the Board prior to the beginning of the supervision for purposes of this Consent Order. The supervision contract must be filed with the Board office no

later than one month after the supervision she is required to receive as an LPCA is completed.

IV. Respondent's supervisor for purposes of this Consent Order shall submit a quarterly supervision report with the Board at the end of three months of supervision. At the conclusion of the six months of supervision, Respondent's Board approved supervisor shall submit a Final Supervision Report to the Board. Respondent must receive at least average ratings from her supervisor on all reports in order to be released from the supervision. Any costs and associated expenses of this supervision shall be borne by the Respondent.

V. Respondent shall provide this Consent Order to her current Board approved supervisor within one week of signing this Consent Order and to any subsequent supervisors, if applicable.

VI. Upon successful completion of the conditions set forth in Roman Numeral III through IV, Respondent may make a written request that the Board release her from supervision, which the Board shall grant so long as all conditions have been successfully completed.

VII. The failure of Respondent to abide by any provisions of this Consent Order, if proven true by a preponderance of the evidence following notice and an opportunity for hearing, shall result in the suspension, revocation, or other disciplinary action against Respondent's license, in the discretion of the Board.

VIII. The Board shall maintain this Consent Order as a public record pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §§132-1 and 90-340(f) and shall provide copies to the American Counseling Association and the National Board of Certified Counselors, and to other agencies or individuals as required by law.

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This the <sup>26<sup>th</sup></sup>~~25~~ day of January, 2018.

CONSENTED TO BY:

NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF  
LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

BY: Wayne Mixon 1-29-18  
Wayne Mixon date  
Board Chairperson

Justina Prenatt, LPCA  
Justina Prenatt, LPCA date  
Respondent 1-23-18