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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

BEFORE THE
NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF
LICENSED CLINICAL MENTAL
HEALTH COUNSELORS
Case No. 2499

IN THE MATTER OF:
)
Katherine Davis, LCMHC
Respondent
License No. 17709 & QS159576

CONSENT ORDER

THIS CAUSE, coming on to be heard and being heard before the North Carolina Board of Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors ["the Board"], regarding pending complaint number 2499; and

IT APPEARING to the Board that 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, exclusively for the purposes of this disciplinary proceeding and any future potential proceedings by, against, or involving the Board, that:

1. Respondent is a licensed clinical mental health counselor ["LCMHC"] and is subject to the Board's jurisdiction pursuant to the North Carolina Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors Act, Chapter 90, Article 24 of the North Carolina General Statutes.

2. The Board issued an associate counseling license to Respondent on June 17, 2022. On February 16, 2024, Respondent became a fully licensed counselor and currently is a licensed clinical mental health counselor ["LCMHC"], which license she renewed through June 30, 2027. Respondent became a Qualified Clinical Supervisor on March 3, 2026, which designation is active until March 31, 2028.

3. The Board's Ethics Review Committee found probable cause that Respondent engaged in the following conduct while licensed by the Board:

a. Client SW was a client of Ascend Recovery and of Respondent.
b. Client SW was discharged from Ascend Recovery on April 10, 2026.
c. Shortly after being discharged, Client SW contacted Respondent on her cell phone, and they exchanged personal communications.
d. Respondent resigned from Ascend Recovery in July 2026 and also began a romantic relationship with Client SW at or around that time.

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4. The Committee concluded that Respondent's conduct, as set forth in Paragraph 3 above, violated Sections A.5.c. and A.6.e of the American Counseling Association Code of Ethics (2014) ["ACA Ethics Code"] and N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-340 (a)(7) and (9) of the North Carolina Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors Act

5. In determining the appropriate disciplinary action and conditions for potential reinstatement, the Board considered the following mitigating factors:

a. Respondent has fully cooperated with the Board's investigation.
b. Upon receipt of a subpoena for documents, Respondent promptly provided the documents she had and tried to obtain the other documents from Ascend Recovery.
c. Respondent has repeatedly acknowledged that this was an error in judgment and shown remorse for this violation.

6. 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.

7. 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.

8. Respondent understands and agrees that this Consent Order must be presented to the Board for review and potential approval and shall be effective only after approval by the full Board and entered by signature of its Chairperson.

9. Respondent further agrees that presentation of this Consent Order to the Board for review and potential 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 if the Board rejects the Consent Order and a contested case hearing is required in this case.

10. Respondent has read this entire Consent Order, assents to its terms and conditions, and agrees not to contest the findings, conclusions, or order in any future potential proceedings by, against, or involving the Board. By entering into this Consent Order, Respondent is not making any admissions for any current or future proceedings, other than those by, against, or involving the Board.

11. 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 Respondent may be entitled by law.

12. Respondent waives the right to seek judicial review or to otherwise challenge the validity of this Consent Order in any court or before the Board in the future.

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13. Upon entry of the Consent Order, Respondent forever releases the State of North Carolina, the North Carolina Board of Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors, and all its members, officials, agents, counsel, 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.

14. Respondent understands that entry of this Consent Order as a public record, mandatory reporting, and its distribution may have adverse consequences in other contexts, which shall not be the basis for reconsideration of its terms in the future.

15. Respondent was not represented in connection with the execution of this Consent Order. The Board was represented in this Consent Order by Douglas Brocker of The Brocker Law Firm, P.A.

16. Respondent agrees to service of the fully executed Consent Order to the email she provided to the Board and waives service by any other method.

Based upon the record and the foregoing stipulations,

NOW, THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

I. Respondent surrenders her license to practice clinical mental health counseling in the State of North Carolina, license number 17709, which becomes effective on October 30, 2026. Respondent shall wind down her counseling practice, notifying her counseling clients and transferring them to other providers prior to the effective date.

II. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that she is not authorized to engage in any acts constituting the practice of clinical mental health counseling under the North Carolina Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors Act in this State or concerning residents of this State upon entry of the Consent Order, unless she obtains a license or privilege authorizing her to do so in the future. Respondent currently holds Licensed Clinical Addiction Specialist [“LCAS”] license number 28793 through March 31, 2027, and is authorized to continue to practice under her LCAS license in accordance with the rules and governing statutes of the North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board.

III. For the purposes of potential reinstatement, this surrender shall be treated as a revocation. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-340(g), Respondent is eligible to reapply for licensure after one year from the effective date of the surrender. If Respondent becomes eligible and seeks to reapply for license or seek reinstatement to practice clinical mental health counseling in North Carolina at any time in the future, Respondent will have to meet all the requirements for licensure and reinstatement in effect at the time of her application. Respondent also will have to demonstrate substantial reformation.

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IV. If Respondent satisfies the requirements in Paragraph III, the Board may impose conditions on Respondent's potential future licensure or reinstatement, including ones based on the stipulations contained herein.

V. The Board shall maintain this Consent Order as a public record pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §§132-1 and 90-340(f), shall submit a report to the National Practitioner Databank, 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. Other than this Consent Order, all documents obtained, collected, or compiled by the Board in this matter shall remain confidential pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-340(f).

CONSENTED TO BY:

NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF LICENSED
CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS

BY: Signed by: Yasmin Gay E414DBD989A3497... 10/23/2026

Dr. Yasmin Gay, LCMHCS Date
Board Chairperson

RESPONDENT:

Katherine Davis 10 / 13 / 2026

Katherine Davis Date

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