Louisiana Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners

IN THE MATTER OF

COMPLAINT NUMBER: 18/19-31

WANDA MARTIN, PLPC

PROV. LICENSE PLPC NO: PLC 6465

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

WHEREAS, WANDA MARTIN ("MS. MARTIN") is a Provisional Licensed Professional Counselor ("PLPC"), and is subject to the jurisdiction and rules and regulations of the Louisiana Mental Health Counselor Licensing Act (La. R.S. 37:1101, et seq.), the Code of Conduct for Provisional Licensed Professional Counselors (LAC 46:LX § 2101, et seq.) and the rules regarding disciplinary proceedings (LAC 46:LX § 1301-1325, et seq):

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners ("LPCBE") by letter dated September 14, 2018, inquired as to MS. MARTIN's potential ownership in M&M Behavioral Health;

WHEREAS, by letter dated October 11, 2018, MS. MARTIN submitted a response to the letter of inquiry, wherein she admitted that she was the sole owner of M&M Behavioral Health Center, which is a private mental health provider;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the admission of Respondent and the administrative investigation, the respondent, WANDA MARTIN, has indicated her desire to resolve this matter through a Consent Agreement and Order provided for in LAC 46:LX § 1311 and LAC 46:LX § 3907;

WHEREAS, the Respondent, WANDA MARTIN, PLPC, has admitted the following:

 Respondent, WANDA MARTIN, is a Provisional Licensed Professional Counselor, provisionally licensed by the LPCBE to engage in the practice of mental health counseling in the State of Louisiana, as evidenced by PLPC Provisional License Number PLC 6465.

- 2. At all times pertinent to the facts of this case, WANDA MARTIN was actively engaged in the practice of mental health counseling at M&M Behavioral Health Center, LLC, located in Delhi, Louisiana.
- 3. WANDA MARTIN is the sole owner of M&M Behavioral Health Center, LLC, a mental health facility where she provided mental health counseling. She failed to disclose this issue to her current supervisor.
- 4. WANDA MARTIN admits that her actions were in violation of La. R.S. 37:1110(A)(3)(9), LAC 46:LX, §603(A)(6)(e)(f)(g)(h), and §803(A)(12).

WHEREAS, WANDA MARTIN had indicated her desire to resolve this matter through a Consent Agreement and Order;

WHEREAS, the undersigned Prosecutor for the LPCBE has communicated with WANDA MARTIN, who has indicated her desire to resolve this matter through a Consent Agreement and Order;

WHEREAS, the Respondent, WANDA MARTIN, agrees not to repeat the misconduct mentioned in this Consent Agreement and Order, and acknowledges that any further misconduct mentioned in this Consent Agreement and Order will be considered a violation of the terms of this Consent Agreement and Order and shall be cause for further disciplinary action. WANDA MARTIN further recognizes that any violation or failure of strict compliance with any of the terms and conditions set forth in this Consent Agreement and Order by MS. MARTIN shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause for the LPCBE to immediately suspend the license of MS. MARTIN to practice mental health counseling in the State of Louisiana for a period of up to two (2) years, as determined by the LPCBE at a regularly scheduled meeting of the LPCBE, without the need to institute new disciplinary proceedings against MS. MARTIN.

WHEREAS, Respondent, WANDA MARTIN, recognizes her right to have an Administrative Adjudication of the charges outlined in the complaint and notice letter, at which time MS. MARTIN would be entitled to be represented by legal counsel, to call witnesses, and to

present witnesses on her behalf in defense or in mitigation of the charges made, and to a decision thereon by the LPCBE based upon written findings of fact and conclusions of law in accordance with the Louisiana Administrative Procedures Act. MS. MARTIN nonetheless hereby waives her right to formal adjudication and, pursuant to La. R.S. 49:955(D), consents to the entry of the Consent Agreement and Order set forth hereinafter. MS. MARTIN also acknowledges that she hereby waives any rights to which she may be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act La. R.S. 49:951, et seq., or which she otherwise may be afforded by any law to contest her agreement to, or the force and effect of the LPCBE's investigation or this Consent Agreement and Order in any Court or other forum.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that in consideration of the foregoing and pursuant to the authority vested in the LPCBE by La. R.S. 49:955(D), the LPCBE orders and MS. MARTIN accepts the following administrative action, which is a final decision pursuant to La. R.S. 49:958:

- 1. The PLPC Provisional License (formerly Counselor Intern registration) of WANDA MARTIN to be engaged in the practice of mental health counseling in the State of Louisiana, as evidenced by PLPC Provisional License Number PLC 6465 shall be, and is hereby REPRIMANDED and by the Consent Order, and upon MS. MARTIN's acceptance of, and strict compliance with, the following terms and conditions.
- 2. MS. MARTIN shall obtain six (6) continuing education hours in ethics approved by the National Board of Certified Counselors ("NBCC"), the American Counseling Association ("ACA"), or the Louisiana Counseling Association ("LCA"). The continuing education hours must be completed before her provisional licensure renewal date of October 31st, 2019, or before her application for LPC licensure may be reviewed. These continuing education hours must be completed in ADDITION to all standard renewal requirements for PLPC provisional licensure.
- 3. MS. MARTIN shall pay legal costs associated with the Complaint in the amount of \$1,200.00 within two (2) years from the date that all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order, which payment shall be made by certified check or money order. The payment(s) shall be made on a quarterly basis, in accordance with due dates established by the Board, and with the first payment due within thirty (30) days from the date that all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order. There shall be no prepayment penalty.

- 4. MS. MARTIN shall pay a fine as authorized by La. R.S. 37:1106(D) for the above referred violations in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) within two (2) years from the date that all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order, with payments to be made by certified check or money order. The payment(s) shall be made on a quarterly basis, in accordance with due dates established by the Board, and with the first payment due within thirty (30) days from the date that all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order. There shall be no pre-payment penalty.
- 5. Any violation or failure of strict compliance with any of the terms and conditions set forth in this Consent Agreement and Order by MS. MARTIN shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause for the LPCBE to immediately suspend the license of MS. MARTIN to practice mental health counseling in the State of Louisiana for a period of up to two (2) years, as determined by the LPCBE.
- 6. By agreeing to the terms of this Consent Agreement and Order, MS. MARTIN waives all rights to appeal this adjudication.

THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER shall take effect immediately upon adoption by the LPCBE and are a matter of public record. The terms of this Consent Agreement and Order may be published and reported in, including but not limited to, the LPCBE Newsletter and website, the National Board for Certified Counselors, and the National Practitioners Data Bank (NPDB).

THE ADMISSIONS AND FINDINGS CONTAINED HEREIN are intended solely for the purpose of resolving the case at hand or in connection with other matters before the LPCBE involving Respondent.

ORDER

| The Lo | uisiana Licens | ed Professional | Counselors 1 | Board of Examiners, | having examined | |
|--|----------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------|--|
| the Consent Agreement and Order, Case No. 18/19-31, adopts the Consent Agreement and Order | | | | | | |
| in the matter or | ı | | , 2019. | | | |
| DATE |) this | day of | | _, 2019, at Baton Ro | uge, Louisiana. | |

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I, James R. Raines, serving as Prosecutor, do hereby acknowledge negotiation and preparation of this Consent Agreement and Order in order to resolve, with prejudice, all matters for which WANDA MARTIN, PLPC, could be charged under Complaint Number 18/19-31; and further certify that this Consent Agreement and Order is consistent with the evidence, adequately addresses the complaint and represents a true and correct statement of that which could be proven at a hearing of this matter.

James R. Raines Date

I, WANDA MARTIN, PLPC, make these acknowledgements and waivers in support of a final disposition of the pending investigation of Complaint Number 18/19-31 by Consent Agreement and Order ("Order") pursuant to La. R.S. 49:955(D), in lieu of the institution and prosecution of formal administrative proceedings, and accordingly consent to the entirety of the Order set forth hereinbefore and further waive any right to which I may be entitled under the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act or any other law to contest, in any court, by agreement to this Order. By my subscription hereto, I also hereby authorize the Prosecutor to present this Order to the LPCBE for its consideration and to disclose to and discuss with the LPCBE the nature and results of the investigation of this matter. I herein waive any objection to such disclosure based on due process of law under either the State or Federal Constitution or under State statutory law, including La. R.S. 49:960. I expressly acknowledge that the disclosure of such information to the LPCBE shall be without prejudice to the Prosecutor's authority to file a formal Administrative Complaint, or the LPCBE's capacity to adjudicate such Administrative Complaint, should the LPCBE Board decline to approve this Consent Agreement and Order. I further acknowledge my awareness that should the LPCBE approve this Consent Agreement and Order that the Consent Agreement and Order will become a matter of public record.

| be bound by its terms and conditions. | ve read the Consent Agreement and Order, understand it, and agree to conditions. |
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| DATED: 1/14/19 3/anda Spatin WANDA MARTIN | WANDA MARTIN |
| SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this III day of Autory Cubic Notary Cubic MARIE B. MIKRONIS MARIE B. MIKRONIS Commission Expires. Sept. 7, 2021 | , 2019, at National Marie B. MIKRONIS MARIE B. MIKRONIS |