



KENTUCKY BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK

125 Holmes Street, Suite 310

Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Andy (502) 564-2350

Andy Beshear

Governor

May 20, 2021

Suzanne Hatton

917 Taborlake Court

Lexington KY 40502

RE: KBSW Case No. 20-25 Closed

Dear Ms.Hatton,

Enclosed for your records is your copy of the Agreed Order entered on May 20, 2021.

Sincerely,

/S/ Margaret Hazlette

Interim Executive Director

lat



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
KENTUCKY BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK
CASE NO. 20-25



IN RE: THE LICENSE TO PRACTICE SOCIAL WORK IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
HELD BY SUZANNE HATTON, CSW LICENSE NO. 253833

AGREED ORDER

Come the parties, the Kentucky Board of Social Work (the "Board") and Suzanne Hatton ("Licensee"), by and through the undersigned counsel, and both having been fully informed regarding the matters set forth herein and desiring to settle this matter without the necessity of a hearing on the merits, do hereby agree as follows:

STIPULATION OF FACTS

The parties stipulate the following facts, which serve as the factual bases for this Agreed Order:

1. At all relevant times, Suzanne Hatton, CSW, was licensed by the Board to practice social work within the Commonwealth of Kentucky and was subject to the laws and rules of Kentucky regulating the practice of social work as established in Kentucky Revised Statutes Chapter 335 and Kentucky Administrative Regulations 201 Chapter 23.
2. Licensee was approved by the board to practice clinical social work, under a valid supervision contract, with Christina Chaney, LCSW (hereinafter "Ms. Chaney") on 03/30/2019 in accordance with KRS 335.080(3), KRS 335.100(3) and 201 KAR 23:070.
3. Licensee informed the board that she was not compliant with meeting the requirement of 201 KAR 23:070 Sections 5 and 10 when she changed her employment in June of 2019 without submitting a new supervision contract to the Board for approval.

4. Licensee subsequently received one hundred and sixteen (116) total hours of individual and group supervision, from both Ms. Chaney and Kay Hubbard, LCSW (hereinafter "Ms. Hubbard") that was not under a valid board approved supervision contract between September 3, 2019 and February 5, 2021.

5. On February 4, 2021, Licensee submitted a new supervision contract, which was approved on February 5, 2021, allowing for supervision by Ms. Hubbard.

6. Subsequently, the Board's complaint committee reviewed the case file and recommended an agreed order to resolve this matter, in lieu of the issuance of a formal complaint and notice of evidentiary hearing. The Board approved the terms of the agreed order by unanimous vote.

STIPULATED CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The parties stipulate the following Conclusions of Law, which serve as the legal bases for this Agreed Order:

1. The Licensee's Kentucky social work license is subject to regulation and discipline by the Board.

2. Based upon the Stipulation of Facts, the Licensee has engaged in conduct which violates the provisions of KRS 335.100(3) and 201 KAR 23:070 Sections 5 and 10. Accordingly, there are legal grounds for the parties to enter into this Agreed Order.

3. Pursuant to KRS 335.150(1), the parties may fully and finally resolve this pending matter without the filing of a formal complaint and an evidentiary hearing by entering into informal resolution such as this Agreed Order.

4. On April 13, 2021, the board's complaint committee reviewed the case file and recommended an agreed order to resolve this matter, in lieu of the issuance of a formal complaint and notice of evidentiary hearing. The board approved the terms of the agreed order by unanimous vote.

AGREED ORDER

Based upon the foregoing Stipulation of Facts and Stipulated Conclusions of Law, and based upon their mutual desire to fully and finally resolve this pending investigation without an evidentiary hearing, the parties ENTER INTO the following AGREED ORDER:

1. Supervision hours accrued by Licensee between September 3, 2020 and February 4, 2021 shall not be counted toward the supervision requirements of 201 KAR 23:070 Section 8.
2. Licensee shall specifically follow all requirements of 201 KAR 23:070 in the future and shall not practice clinical social work when not under a valid board approved supervision contract.
3. Licensee SHALL NOT violate any further provisions of KRS 335.010 – 335.160.
4. Licensee freely and voluntarily enters into this Agreed Order, motivated by a desire to resolve the issues addressed herein, and has executed this Agreed Order only after a careful reading of it and consultation with an attorney, if she so desires, and a full understanding of all of its terms. The Licensee is fully aware of and expressly waives the right to contest charges in a formal hearing pursuant to KRS 335.155, the right to obtain judicial review of the Board's decision, and the right to appeal any final order of the board to the Franklin Circuit Court as otherwise allowed by KRS 335.155(3).

5. Licensee acknowledges the Board has jurisdiction over the Licensee and the conduct which precipitated this Agreed Order; that the Board has the legal power to take disciplinary action up to and including revocation of the license to practice social work in Kentucky; and the Licensee further acknowledges the Board shall retain jurisdiction over this matter until all terms and conditions set forth in this Agreed Order have been met to the satisfaction of the Board.

6. This Agreed Order is considered a public record as that term is used in KRS 61.800 to 61.850 and may be available for inspection at any time by any member of the public under the Kentucky Open Records Act.

7. This matter shall constitute disciplinary action which may be reportable under state or federal law to the National Practitioner Data Bank.

8. The Licensee expressly understands that any violation of the terms of this Agreed Order shall provide the legal basis for additional disciplinary action and shall constitute failure to comply with an order of the Board under KRS 335.150(1)(f), and for which the Board may impose additional penalties available under law after notice and an opportunity to be heard.

9. This Agreed Order shall be governed in all respects, whether as to validity, construction, capacity, performance or otherwise, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Furthermore:

a. Any dispute arising hereunder shall be settled by a state court of appropriate jurisdiction in Franklin County, Kentucky. The parties irrevocably consent to the personal jurisdiction and venue of such court.

b. This Agreed Order may not be modified except by a written agreement signed by the parties.

10. In consideration of execution of this Agreed Order, the Licensee, the Licensee's executors, administrators, successors and assigns, hereby release and forever discharge the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Board of Social Work, and each of its members, agents, and employees in their individual and representative capacities, from any and all manner of actions, causes of action, suits, debts, judgments, executions, claims and demands whatsoever, known and unknown, the Licensee ever had, now has, may have or claim to have against any or all of the persons or entities named in this paragraph arising out of or by reason of this investigation, this disciplinary action, this Agreed Order, or its administration.

Upon consideration of this Agreed Order, it is hereby ORDERED that the terms of this Agreed Order are approved and adopted.

SO ORDERED on this 20th day of May 2021.

HAVE SEEN AND AGREED:

KENTUCKY BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK

/S/ Jay Miller
Jay Miller, Ph.D., MSW, CSW
Chairman of the Board

April 21, 2021
Date

/S/ Nicole S. Bearse
Hon. Nicole S. Bearse
Attorney for the Board

April 21, 2021
Date

LICENSEE

Suzanne Hatton
Suzanne Hatton, LCSW
Licensee

05/10/21
Date

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the Agreed Order were mailed by regular first-class mail on this the 20th day of May 2021, to:

Ms. Suzanne Hatton
917 Taborlake Court
Lexington, Kentucky 40502
Licensee

[Signature]
Board Administrator