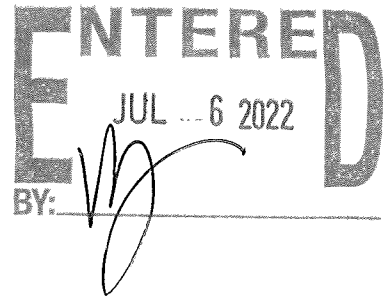


COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK
CASE NO. 21-70



IN RE: THE LICENSE TO PRACTICE SOCIAL WORK IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
HELD BY LAURA McGRANAHAN, CSW, LICENSE NO. 255260

AGREED ORDER

Come now the Kentucky Board of Social Work (hereinafter "the board"), and Laura McGranahan (hereinafter "Licensee"), and, based upon their mutual desire to fully and finally resolve this pending matter in an expeditious manner, without the need for filing a formal complaint and notice of evidentiary hearing pursuant to KRS 335.155, hereby ENTER INTO the following **AGREED ORDER**:

STIPULATION OF FACTS

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

1. Licensee was duly licensed by the board to practice social work within the Commonwealth of Kentucky upon issuance of her license on September 29, 2020.
2. On or about November 8, 2021, the Board received a written complaint filed by Lydia Watson (hereinafter "Complainant"), stating that Licensee had been disorganized in the scheduling of her sessions and had violated confidentiality by holding a telehealth session from her cell phone in a manner that allowed for potential public interface with that technology.
3. On or about January 14, 2022, and March 3, 2022, the Board received responses from Licensee in which she stated the scheduling of sessions, her use of technology as related to

recordkeeping, journaling and telehealth sessions, and the specific telehealth session called into question by the complainant.

4. On March 8, 2022, 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. During the period from September 29, 2020 to the present, Licensee's Kentucky social work license was active and subject to regulation and discipline by the board.

2. Pursuant to KRS 335.150(1) and 201 KAR 23:080, Licensee has a duty to follow all statutes and regulations related to the competent practice of social work, including the Code of Ethical Conduct.

3. Pursuant to KRS 335.158(1)(b), Licensee has a duty to maintain confidentiality when conducting telehealth sessions.

4. Based upon the Stipulation of Facts, the licensee has engaged in conduct from which a violation of the provisions of KRS 335.150(1)(d)(e) and (g), KRS 335.158(1)(b) and 201 KAR 23:080, Section 9 could be established by the Board. Accordingly, there are legal grounds for the parties to enter into this Agreed Order.

5. Pursuant to KRS 335.150(4), 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.

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 matter without an evidentiary hearing, the parties ENTER INTO the following AGREED ORDER:

1. The licensee agrees:
 - a. That she shall complete a three (3) hour continuing education course on telehealth ethics within the next twelve (12) months and provide a certificate of completion to the Board;
 - b. To a six (6) month suspension of her license, which shall be probated for a period of one (1) year. Should Licensee be determined or found to have any further violations of any provision of KRS 335.010 – 335.160 and 201 KAR 23:080 by way of an official Board proceeding, said suspension shall be immediately invoked;
 - c. That she shall not utilize telehealth technology of any type while in a location that does not ensure the full privacy of the client at any time in the future; and
 - d. That she will only utilize a version of Google Docs that is HIPAA compliant for storing client data, and that includes a Business Associate Agreement (BAA).
2. 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 of her choosing should she so desire, and a full understanding of all of its terms; that she 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).

3. Licensee acknowledges the board has jurisdiction over the licensee and the conduct that precipitated this Agreed Order; that the board has the legal power to take disciplinary action up to and including revocation of the licensee's 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.

4. This Agreed Order is considered a public document, available for inspection at any time by any member of the public under the Kentucky Open Records Act.

5. This matter shall constitute disciplinary action that may be reportable under state or federal law.

6. 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.

7. 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.

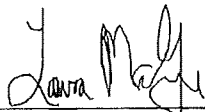
b. This Agreed Order may not be modified except by a written agreement signed by the parties.

8. In consideration of execution of this Agreed Order, Licensee, her 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.

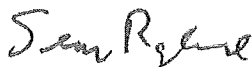
Upon consideration of this Agreed Order, it is hereby ORDERED that the terms of this Agreed Order are approved and adopted.

SO ORDERED on this 10th day of July 2022.

LICENSEE:



LAURA McGRANAHAN

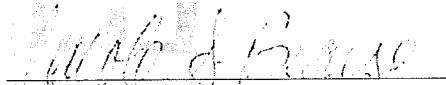


HON. SEAN RAGLAND
Counsel for Licensee

FOR THE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK:



ANNE ADCOCK, DSW, MSW, CSW
CHAIR, KENTUCKY BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK

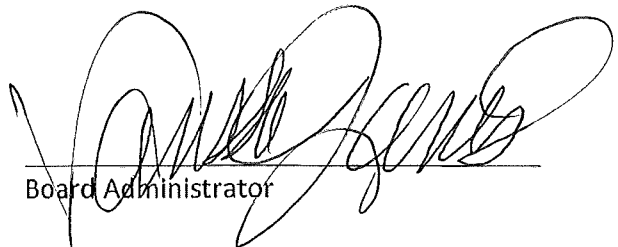


HON. NICOLE S. BEARSE
Counsel, Board of Social Work

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the Agreed Order were mailed by regular first-class mail
on this 10th day of July 2022, to:

Hon. Sean Ragland
Phillips Parker Orberon & Arnett, PLC
716 West Main Street, Suite 300
Louisville, Kentucky 40202


Board Administrator