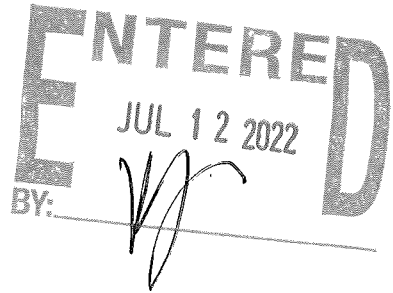


COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK
CASE NO. 22-09



IN RE: THE LICENSE TO PRACTICE SOCIAL WORK IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
HELD BY ELIZABETH JONES, LCSW, LICENSE NO. 253834

AGREED ORDER

Come now the Kentucky Board of Social Work (hereinafter "the board"), and Elizabeth Jones (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 January 10, 2019.
2. On or about March 7, 2022, the board received a written complaint filed by Ashley Boze (hereinafter "Ms. Boze"), stating that Licensee violated the provisions of 201 KAR 23:080 Sections 1, 2, 3 and 11 by engaging in a dual relationship with a client. The allegations included attending a Halloween party and other events with the client, providing the client with transportation, and exchanging correspondence with the client. The complaint also makes it clear that the client was one for whom the Licensee had provided direct therapeutic services.

3. On or about April 1, 2022, the Board received a response from Licensee in which she denied engaging in a dual relationship with the client but admitted to several interactions with the client at social gatherings outside of the clinical setting and to other lax boundaries with the client. Licensee notes that she practices in a small community and often such contact is unavoidable.

4. On June 9, 2022, following negotiation through counsel, 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 on June 14, 2022.

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 January 10, 2019, to the present, Licensee's Kentucky social work license was active and subject to regulation and discipline by the board.

2. Pursuant to 201 KAR 23:080 Sections 1, 2, 3 and 11, Licensee is prohibited from engaging in a dual relationship with a client.

3. Based upon the Stipulation of Facts, the licensee has engaged in conduct that violates the provisions of KRS 335.150(g) and 201 KAR 23:080 Sections 1, 2, 3 and 11. Accordingly, there are legal grounds for the parties to enter into this Agreed Order.

4. 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 to a voluntary suspension of her license to practice social work, as if revoked, for a period of one (1) year. Said suspension shall be probated for a period of three (3) years, during which time, my employer(s) shall be made aware of, and provided a copy of, the complaint filed herein and the resulting Agreed Order, to allow for appropriate mentorship, guidance and supervision at each place of employment.

2. Licensee SHALL NOT further violate any provision of KRS 335.010 – 335.160 and 201 KAR 23:080. Should any such violation occur, upon appropriate notice and findings of the Board, the beforementioned suspension shall be applied;

3. Licensee shall continue in individual counseling, wherein she shall explore boundary and dual relationship concerns for one (1) year from the date of entry of this Agreed Order and will provide proof of compliance directly to the Board, which shall include both attendance and a statement that said content area is being included in the services provided by the licensee's chosen therapist.

4. Licensee shall complete five (5) continuing education ethics credits, in addition to those regularly obtained pursuant to 201 KAR 23:075 Section 2 in the specific topic area of dual relationships with proof of attendance to be submitted to the Board no later than one (1) year from the date of entry of this Agreed Order.

5. 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).

6. 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.

7. 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.

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

9. 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.

10. 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.

11. 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 ____ day of _____ 2022.

LICENSEE:


ELIZABETH JONES

Date 01/29/ 2022

K. Kelly White Bryant

HON. KELLY WHITE BRYANT
Counsel for Licensee

FOR THE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK:

Anne Adcock DSW MSW CSW

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

Nicole S. Bearse

HON. NICOLE S. BEARSE
ATTORNEY, 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 17th day of July 2022, to:

Ms. Elizabeth Jones, LCSW
404 Sylvan Terrace
Hopkinsville, Kentucky 42240
Licensee

Hon. Kelly White Bryant
Stites & Harbison, PLLC
400 West Market Street
Suite 1800
Louisville, Kentucky 40202-3352

[Signature]
Board Administrator