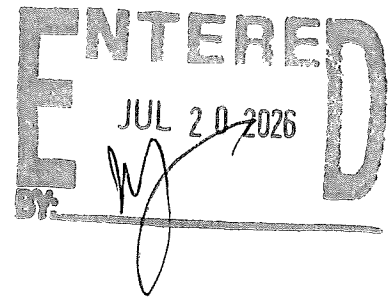




KENTUCKY BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK
125 Holmes Street, Suite 310
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
(502) 564-2350



Andy Beshear
Governor

Marc Kelly
Executive Director

**Commonwealth of Kentucky
Board of Social Work
Agency Case Nos. 2025-11 and 13**

**Commonwealth of Kentucky,
Board of Social Work**

Complainant

Order

**Tara Fields, LCSW
(Lic. No. 258136)**

Respondent

* * * * *

The Kentucky Board of Social Work, having met on July 20, 2026, and having voted on the above-styled case, hereby adopts and incorporates the attached Settlement Agreement as an Order of the Board.

It is so ordered,

Dated this 20th day of July, 2026.

Kentucky Board of Social Work

By: Hank Cecil, LCSW
Hank Cecil, LCSW, Chair

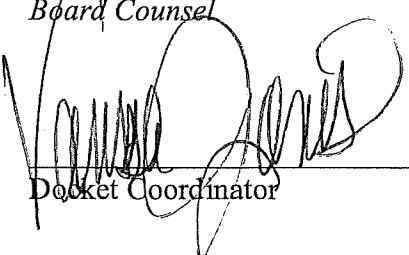
Certificate of Service

I hereby certify a true and accurate copy of the foregoing Order and Settlement Agreement was served by e-mail or was mailed as indicated below by first-class postage prepaid, this 20th day of July, 2026, to:

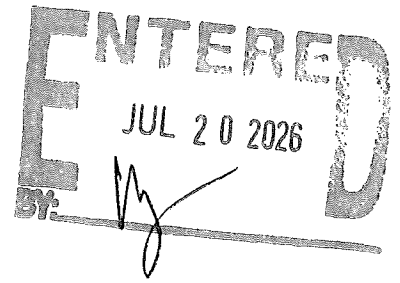
Tara Fields, LCSW
102 Pineland Lane
Brandenburg, Kentucky 40108
(E-mail: TFields@T4Therapy.org)
Respondent

Benjamin J. Weigel, Attorney at Law
O'Bryan, Brown & Toner, PLLC
401 South Fourth Street, Suite 2200
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
(E-mail: wiegelb@obtlaw.com)
Attorney for Respondent

Mark R. Brengelman, Attorney at Law
306 West Main Street
The McClure Building, Suite 503
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
(E-mail: Mark@MarkRBrengelmanPLLC.attorney)
Board Counsel



Docket Coordinator



**Commonwealth of Kentucky
Board of Social Work
Case Nos. 2025-11 and 2025-13**

**In Re: The License to Practice Social Work in the Commonwealth of Kentucky
held by Tara Fields, LCSW, License No. 258136**

Settlement Agreement

The Kentucky Board of Social Work ("the Board"), and Tara Fields, LCSW ("the Respondent"), based upon their mutual desire to resolve fully and finally this pending matter in an expeditious manner, without the need for filing a Notice of Administrative Hearing & Order and Formal Complaint pursuant to KRS Chapters 13B and KRS 335.155, hereby enter the following Settlement Agreement and Agreed Order ("Settlement Agreement"):

Stipulation of Jurisdiction

The parties stipulate to the following jurisdiction:

1. The Respondent was duly licensed by the Board to practice social work within the Commonwealth of Kentucky, License No. 258136 upon issuance of her license on June 28, 29, 2023;
2. The Respondent's Kentucky social work license was active and subject to regulation and discipline by the board.

Stipulated Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law

The parties stipulate to the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, which serve as the legal bases for this Settlement Agreement:

3. Pursuant to KRS 335.150(1)(d), a social worker may be disciplined for being incompetent or negligent in the practice of social work, and pursuant to 201 KAR 23:080 § 9(1),

a social worker may be disciplined for failing to hold communications with a client in confidence;

4. The Respondent admits that the Respondent has violated KRS 335.150(1)(d) by being negligent in the practice of social work by violating the applicable standard of care, and the Respondent further admits the Respondent has violated 201 KAR 23:080 § 9(1) for failing to hold communications with a client in confidence;

5. These violations involve the Respondent unilaterally communicating by sending more than one text message with the ex-spouse, B.P., whose identity is known to the Respondent, of a current client for purposes of encouraging the ex-spouse, B.P., to engage in co-parenting support and/or family therapy with the Respondent's client, where B.P. was not a client or patient of the Respondent and had not contacted the Respondent or otherwise evidenced any willingness to be so involved with the Respondent's current client;

6. These violations also involve the Respondent communicating in person with the ex-spouse, K.B., whose identity is known to the Respondent, of a current client for the purposes of encouraging the ex-spouse, K.B., to engage in co-parenting with the Respondent's client, where this interaction occurred in a public setting at a public school wrestling event which the Respondent later followed up with K.B. by text messages inviting K.B. to the Respondent's current client's next therapy session, where K.B. was not a client or patient of the Respondent and had not contacted the Respondent or otherwise evidenced any willingness to be so involved with the Respondent's current client;

7. Accordingly, there are legal grounds for the parties to enter into this Settlement Agreement;

8. 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 Settlement Agreement.

Agreed Order

Based upon the foregoing Stipulation of Facts and Stipulated Conclusions of Law, and based upon their mutual desire to resolve fully and finally this pending matter without an evidentiary hearing, the parties enter into the following Settlement Agreement and Agreed Order:

1. Respondent agrees to pay to the Board an administrative fine in the amount of \$1,000.00 per each of two (2) violations (total: \$2,000.00) with \$1,900.00 to be fully probated and with the other \$100.00 to be paid within sixty (60) days of the date of entry of an order by the Board adopting this Settlement Agreement by certified check or money order made payable to the "Kentucky State Treasurer" and mailed or delivered to the Board in care of "ATTN: Marc Kelly, Executive Director" at the Kentucky Board of Social Work, 125 Holmes Street, Suite 310, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-8303 (E-mail: Marc.Kelly@ky.gov) and shall include on the payment the Agency Case Numbers above; any amount(s) not paid by the due date shall incur a \$250.00 late fee for each period of 30 days that the payment(s) is delinquent starting with the 31st day after the due date and for every 30 days thereafter until paid in full, including any late fee(s); if any single payment is received by the Board after its due date, the Board may in addition to the late fee above consider any balance remaining, if any, immediately due and payable;

2. The Respondent shall provide to the Board's Executive Director, legible, accurate proof of completion of one or more Board-approved continuing education course(s), totaling at least four (4.0) hours in duration, on the topic(s) of medical and mental health confidentiality and the standard of care in dealing with collateral persons and other third-party persons, and

such proof of completion shall be filed with the Board within ten (10) days of completion of the continuing education course(s). Such course(s) shall be completed within six (6) months from the date entry of an order of the Board adopting this Settlement Agreement and at the Respondent's expense, and the Respondent acknowledges that those mandated hours are in addition to those required for renewal of licensure;

3. The Respondent is hereby reprimanded in writing per KRS 335.150(1), with this Settlement Agreement constituting the written reprimand;

4. The Respondent shall not further violate any provision of KRS 335.010-335.160 and 201 KAR 23:080;

5. The Respondent permanently and irrevocably waives the Respondent's right to appeal from this Settlement Agreement, notwithstanding any provision of KRS Chapter 335 or other relevant statute or regulation.

6. The Respondent has had the opportunity to seek the advice from competent counsel of Respondent's choosing. No coercion has been exerted upon the Respondent, nor have any promises been made other than those reflected in this Agreement. The Respondent knowingly and voluntarily enters into this Settlement Agreement, motivated only by a desire to resolve the issues addressed herein, and has executed this Settlement Agreement only after a careful reading of it, and consultation with a competent attorney of the Respondent's own choosing if the Respondent so desires, and a full understanding of all of its terms. The Respondent 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 counsel at the Respondent's expense, the right to present evidence on the Respondent's behalf, the right to compulsory process to secure the attendance of witnesses, the right to testify on the Respondent's own behalf, the right to

receive written findings of fact and conclusions of law supporting the Board's decision on the merits of the Formal Complaint, 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). All of these rights are being knowingly, voluntarily, and freely waived by the Respondent with acceptance and execution of this agreement by the Respondent;

7. The Respondent acknowledges the Board has jurisdiction over the Respondent and the conduct that precipitated this Settlement Agreement; that the Board has the legal power to take disciplinary action up to and including revocation of the Respondent's license to practice social work in Kentucky and the issuance of an administrative fine; and the Respondent further acknowledges the Board shall retain jurisdiction over this matter until all terms and conditions set forth in this Settlement Agreement have been met to the satisfaction of the Board;

8. The Respondent acknowledges that, once adopted by the Board, this Settlement Agreement is considered a public document, available for inspection at any time by any member of the public under the Kentucky Open Records Act. Further, the Respondent understands that the Board is free to use this Settlement Agreement in any manner not prohibited by statute or administrative regulation;

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

10. In exchange for the Board's agreement to settle its claims against Respondent, and for other valuable consideration named in this Settlement Agreement, the Respondent and the Respondent's executors, administrators, successors and assigns, hereby release and forever discharge the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Board, and the Board's members, employees,

attorneys, contractors, and other agents of the Board, in their official, individual, representative, and personal capacities, from any and all manner of actions, causes of action, suits, debts, judgments, executions, claims and demands whatsoever, known and unknown, in law or equity, that the Respondent 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 Settlement Agreement, or any fact or occurrence up to the date of entry by the Board of this Settlement Agreement;

11. It is hereby agreed between the parties that this Settlement Agreement shall be presented to the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting. The Respondent acknowledges that the Board is free to accept or reject this Agreement and that if it is rejected by the Board, a formal disciplinary hearing on the accusation against the Respondent may be rescheduled thereafter. The Respondent waives any right the Respondent might have to challenge the Board's impartiality or competence to conduct a disciplinary hearing on the basis of the negotiation and drafting of this Settlement Agreement. If the Settlement Agreement is not accepted by the Board, it shall be regarded as null and void. Admissions by the Respondent in the Settlement Agreement will not be permitted as evidence against the Respondent at the subsequent disciplinary hearing. Any term or condition of this Settlement Agreement shall not be permitted as evidence for or against the Board at any subsequent disciplinary hearing. No inferences shall be made from the Respondent's or the Board's willingness to enter into this Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement shall not be submitted for Board consideration until after it has been agreed to and executed by the Respondent. The Settlement Agreement shall not become effective until it has been approved by the Board and signed by a

member of the Board. The date of entry of an Order of the Board adopting this Settlement Agreement shall be the effective date of the Settlement Agreement;

12. The Respondent expressly understands any violation of the terms of this Settlement Agreement 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, including judicial enforcement against the Respondent in the circuit court of venue. The parties agree the Franklin Circuit Court shall be the sole forum for the adjudication in court of any disputes arising from this Settlement Agreement or its execution. The parties further agree any such disputes shall be adjudicated by application of the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Notwithstanding the above, the parties agree any alleged failure of the Respondent to comply with any term or condition of this Settlement Agreement may result in a subsequent Notice of Administrative Hearing and Show Cause Order being filed by the Board under KRS Chapters 13B and 335 stating the alleged failure to comply; the parties further agree the Board may not proceed under 201 KAR 23:150 § 1-5, but may proceed directly to 201 KAR 23:150 § 6 if the Board or its Executive Director or its designee warrants the issuance of an administrative charge against the Respondent for the alleged failure to comply with any term or condition of this Settlement Agreement. The Respondent agrees to pay the Board reasonable attorney's fees if the Board prevails, in whole or in part, in any such legal proceeding to enforce or to defend any aspect of this Settlement Agreement whether in an administrative hearing before the Board or in the Franklin Circuit Court;

13. The Respondent agrees to permit and cooperate with the Board, its members, agents, and employees to monitor the Respondent's compliance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement;

14. This Settlement Agreement consists of eight (8) pages and embodies the entire agreement between the Board and the Respondent. This Settlement Agreement shall constitute a binding contract between the Respondent and the Board. The Respondent shall not rescind, revoke, or withdraw this Settlement Agreement following the Respondent's execution thereof and prior to its presentation to the Board for approval. It may not be altered, amended, or modified without the express written consent of both parties.

Upon consideration of this Settlement Agreement, it is hereby ordered the terms of this Settlement Agreement are approved and adopted.

So ordered on this 22nd day of June 2026.

The Respondent:



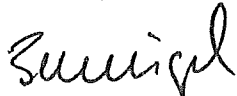
Tara Fields, LCSW

The Respondent

Date June 22, 2026.

For the Board of Social Work:

Chair, Kentucky Board of Social Work



Benjamin J. Weigel, Attorney at Law
Attorney for the Respondent

Date 6/23 2026.



Mark R. Brengel, Attorney at Law
Board Counsel