

NORTH CAROLINA PSYCHOLOGY BOARD
Board Action
July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020

To date, during the fiscal year July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020, the following action has been taken or confirmed by the North Carolina Psychology Board pursuant to G.S. § 90-270.15 and G.S. § 90-270.16:

ASPENSON, DAVID O., Ph.D. - CONSENT ORDER was approved and signed on August 2, 2019. On February 7, 2019, Respondent entered into a Consent Order with the Board. One of the provisions of the Consent Order was for Respondent to undergo a fitness for practice evaluation. Based upon the review of the fitness for practice evaluation, the Board determined at the May 9, 2019 Board meeting that Respondent was not fit to practice psychology and revoked his license. If Respondent were to challenge the Board's determination, he would contend that the fitness to practice evaluation found him fit to practice under reasonable conditions. However, Respondent has decided to retire from practice. Respondent shall voluntarily RELINQUISH his license to practice psychology as of August 2, 2019 and the Board shall accept his relinquishment. The August 2, 2019 Consent Order dissolves, supersedes, and voids any prior action taken by the Board as a result of the Board's determination that Respondent was not fit to practice. Respondent is assessed \$300.00 in costs.

AUSTIN, WILLIAM, Ph.D. - CONSENT ORDER was approved and signed on November 7, 2019. Respondent admits that the described conduct constitutes violations of N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 90-270.15(a)(10) & (a)(19) of the North Carolina Psychology Practice Act, and constitutes violations of Standards 2.06(b) and 6.04(c) of the Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct. Respondent shall complete a minimum of four to six hours of tutorials. Within 30 days of execution of the Consent Order, Respondent shall submit a written plan to the Board in the event that any current or future health issues interfere with his psychology-related responsibilities, the plan shall include, specifically, how he will limit his practice, suspend his practice, or seek consultations, as appropriate. He shall update the plan on a regular basis as his health changes. Respondent shall keep the Board apprised of any action taken against his license to practice psychology in Colorado or in any other state in which he is licensed. Respondent is assessed \$300.00 in costs. This action taken by the Board shall constitute Remedial Action and shall not constitute disciplinary action.

BAKER, ANNETTE, PH.D. – ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION approved and signed on September 27, 2019. Respondent's license to practice psychology is hereby SUMMARILY SUSPENDED. The suspension is effective on October 15, 2019. The suspension shall remain in effect until the Board issues a Final Decision in this matter or until the parties enter into a Consent Order that is a final determination in this matter.

BERRY, CYNTHIA, M.A. - CONSENT ORDER was approved and signed on January 8, 2020. The Board's evidence would show that the described conduct constitutes violations of N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 90-270.15(a)(10) & (a)(14) of the North Carolina Psychology Practice Act, and constitutes violations of Standard 9.08(a) & (b) of the Ethical Principles of Psychologists and

Code of Conduct. Respondent contends that her use of the psychological tests in question does not constitute a violation of North Carolina law, or that she violated any of the Standards or Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct. Respondent shall successfully complete a minimum of two to four hours of tutorials. In addition to her current regular supervision, for a period of one year consisting of the completion of at least 20 psychological evaluations, Respondent shall receive face to face supervision with a psychologist at a minimum of one one-hour session per month during any month in which Respondent conducts any psychological testing. The supervisor will specifically supervise Respondent's psychological testing. Respondent is assessed \$300.00 in costs.

COOPER, CHARLES, Ph.D. - CONSENT ORDER was approved and signed on November 7, 2019. During the therapeutic relationship, Respondent did not maintain professional boundaries with Patient X in keeping with ethical practice. Respondent's boundary violations with Patient X resulted in emotional harm to Patient X and negatively impacted Patient X's perception of psychological services provided by Respondent, thus affecting her social functioning and personality issues. Respondent did not document the nature of these boundary violations in Patient X's record, nor did he document any discussions he had with Patient X regarding boundaries or ethical practice. Respondent's evidence would show that he structured the therapy intentionally in ways that Patient X requested and in an attempt to treat Patient X's mental health issues. Respondent has decided to retire permanently and will retire from practice not later than December 31, 2019. Respondent shall RELINQUISH his license to practice psychology and resign from his practice within five business days after transitioning his last long-term patient or on December 31, 2019, whichever comes first, and the Board shall accept his relinquishment. Respondent is assessed \$300.00 in costs.

DAUBS, CARLYN, Ph.D. CONSENT ORDER was approved and signed on September 27, 2019. Respondent admits that the described conduct if proven at a hearing constitutes violations of N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 90-270.15(a)(10) & (a)(14) of the North Carolina Psychology Practice Act, and constitutes violations of Standards 9.01(a), 9.02(a), and 9.08(a) of the Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct. Respondent shall successfully complete a minimum of four to six hours of tutorials. For a period of one year, Respondent shall receive face to face supervision with a psychologist licensed in North Carolina at a minimum of one one-hour session for every two weeks of practice of psychology. Respondent is assessed \$300.00 in costs.

LEAVER, CAMILLE, M.A. - CONSENT ORDER was approved and signed on January 8, 2020. Respondent admits that the described conduct constitutes violations of N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 90-270.15(a)(10), (a)(11), (a)(15), (a)(17) & (a)(18) of the North Carolina Psychology Practice Act, and Standards 3.04, 3.05, & 6.01 of the Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct. Respondent will voluntarily RELINQUISHES her license to practice psychology by no later than February 15, 2020, and the Board shall accept her relinquishment. Respondent shall terminate all of her clients prior to that date and shall transfer clients to other licensed mental health professionals, as appropriate. Should Respondent apply for relicensure in the future, she shall complete a minimum of ten to twelve hours of tutorials prior to applying for relicensure. Following relicensure, Respondent shall abide by the supervision requirements set forth in the Consent Order. Respondent is assessed \$300.00 in costs.

O'BRIEN, CATHERINE, M.ED. – FINAL DECISION denying Ms. O'Brien licensure at the Licensed Psychological Associate level was approved and signed on September 27, 2019.

RISHER, HOWARD BRANDON. M.A. - CONSENT ORDER was approved and signed on January 8, 2020. Respondent does not admit the described conduct, but Respondent acknowledges that the described conduct would constitute violations of N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 90-270.15(a)(10), (a)(11), (a)(15), (a)(17), (a)(18) & (a)(20) of the North Carolina Psychology Practice Act, and would constitute violations of Standards 3.04, 3.05, 3.06, 3.08, 6.01, 10.05, & 10.08 of the Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct. Respondent's license is REVOKED, effective January 31, 2020. No later than January 31, 2020, Respondent shall terminate psychological services to all of his patients/clients and shall make provisions for the appropriate transition of his patients/clients to another mental health professional, as appropriate. No later than January 31, 2020, Respondent shall also cease to engage in any other activities that meet the definition of the practice of psychology in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-270.2(8), including the supervision of other mental health professionals. Respondent is assessed \$300.00 in costs.