

RECEIVED APR 30 1999

BEFORE THE WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DENNIS M. HODGES
LICENSED SOCIAL WORKER
LICENSE NO. AP00938954

CONSENT AGREEMENT

TO: Dennis M. Hodges
R.R. 1, Box 279-A
Weston, West Virginia 26452

Comes now Dennis M. Hodges and the West Virginia Board of Social Work Examiners (hereinafter "the Board"), for the purpose of agreeing to disciplinary action which shall be taken against Mr. Hodges by the Board pursuant to W. Va. Code § 30-30-7(a)(3). As reflected in this document, the parties have reached an agreement concerning the proper disposition of this matter, and the Board approving such agreement, does hereby find and **ORDER** as follows:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Board is a State entity created by W. Va. Code § 30-30-1 et seq., and is empowered to regulate the practice of social work pursuant to W. Va. Code § 30-30-7.
2. Dennis M. Hodges is a Licensed Social Worker in the State of West Virginia and possesses License No. AP00938954.

3. Mr. Hodges, while acting in his capacity as a social worker, provided crisis counseling to Diana Gooding during the fall of 1995.

4. While acting as Ms. Gooding's therapist, Mr. Hodges loaned Ms. Gooding \$2,000.00.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. W. Va. Code § 30-30-7(a)(3) states that "[t]he board may refuse to issue or renew a license, or may suspend or revoke an existing license. . . . [if a social worker] [h]as been grossly negligent or exhibited unprofessional or unethical conduct in the practice of social work.

2. The 1990 National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics Part I, Subpart F, paragraphs 4 states as follows:

The social worker should avoid relationships or commitments that conflict with the interests of clients.

3. As indicated in the Findings of Fact, Mr. Hodges violated these sections when he engaged in the conduct described in Findings of Fact Nos. 3, and 4.

CONSENT

Dennis M. Hodges, by affixing his signature hereon, agrees to the following:

1. He acknowledges that he is aware of his option to pursue this matter through appropriate administrative and/or court channels, but intelligently, knowingly and voluntarily waives his right to do so.

2. He consents to the entry of the following Order affecting his license to practice social work in the State of West Virginia.

ORDER

On the basis of the foregoing, the Board hereby **ORDERS** that:

1. This Consent Agreement shall serve as a formal reprimand against Mr. Hodges.

2. During the next reporting period, Mr. Hodges shall complete twenty (20) hours of the required fifty (50) continuing education units in the areas of therapeutic relationships.

3. The parties recognize that this Consent Agreement is a public record.

4. The Board recognizes that this Agreement is a compromise of a disputed claim and is not to be construed as an admission of liability or culpability on the part of Mr. Hodges.

Entered this ~~29th~~ day of April, 1999.


DENNIS M. HODGES


SUSAN CASTO, CHAIRMAN