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competent, and ethical psychological services.*

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November 21, 2013

Ashley E. Sovereign, PsyD, LP
366 Selby Ave S, Ste. 306
St. Paul, MN 55102

Dear Dr. Sovereign:

This letter is notification that the Minnesota Board of Psychology Complaint Resolution Committee has completed its review of your compliance with the Agreement for Corrective Action, dated June 20, 2013, and has determined that you have successfully completed the corrective action agreed upon. Therefore, the complaint referenced in the Agreement is dismissed.

Because the Agreement for Corrective Action is a public document, a copy of this letter will be included in your public licensure file to reflect your compliance with and completion of the Agreement

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. Bramley", written over a circular scribble.

Joshua Bramley
Compliance Specialist

**BEFORE THE MINNESOTA
BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY
COMPLAINT RESOLUTION COMMITTEE**

In the Matter of the License of
Ashley E. Sovereign, Psy.D., L.P.
License Number: LP4805

**AGREEMENT FOR
CORRECTIVE ACTION**

This agreement is entered into by and between Ashley E. Sovereign, Psy.D., L.P. (“Licensee”), and the Complaint Resolution Committee of the Minnesota Board of Psychology (“Committee”) pursuant to the authority of Minn. Stat. § 214.103, subd. 6(a). Licensee and the Committee hereby agree as follows:

FACTS

1. This agreement is based upon the following facts:
 - a. From September 2010 until May 2011, Licensee provided professional supervision to Supervisee #1 for the practice of psychology. Supervision was primarily comprised of discussing Supervisee #1’s clients, clinical treatment planning, and navigating the challenges of providing services to a client population of abused children.
 - b. On at least one occasion, Licensee and Supervisee #1 discussed Supervisee #1’s personal life. Supervisee #1 presented to a supervision meeting distraught from having recently ended a long term relationship. Licensee and Supervisee #1 engaged in crisis intervention and discussed how Supervisee #1 would manage her caseload.
 - c. In December 2011, Licensee received an email message from Supervisee #1, asking if they could be friends. Licensee invited Supervisee #1 to her home for dinner with her family. At the conclusion of the evening, Supervisee #1 asked if Licensee would consider a dating relationship, to which Licensee responded that she would need time to think it over and consult with colleagues.

d. Ultimately, Licensee and Supervisee #1 went on four or five dates between February and March 2012. Licensee and Supervisee #1 went to dinner, movies, and on several occasions, to Licensee's home. During this time period, Licensee and Supervisee hugged and kissed each other on several occasions.

2. The Committee views Licensee's practices to be a violation of Minnesota Statutes section 148.941, subd. 2(a)(3) and Minnesota Rule 7200.5700 (unprofessional conduct), and Minnesota Rules 7200.5400 and 7200.4900, subp. 8 (physical intimacies with former supervisee within two years of the last professional contact), and Licensee agrees that the conduct cited above occurred and constitutes a reasonable basis in law and fact to justify the corrective action described in paragraph 3 below.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

3. Licensee agrees to address the conduct referenced in paragraphs 1 and 2 by taking the following corrective action:

a. ***Boundaries Course.*** Within 30 days of the effective date of this agreement, Licensee shall arrange to enroll in an individualized professional boundaries training course. The Committee will provide Licensee with a list of pre-approved courses and instructors. If the Committee and Licensee concur that there is sufficient reason for Licensee not to enroll in any of the courses the Committee has listed, Licensee shall, within 30 days of the date of this agreement, submit to the Committee for approval, a syllabus, that includes goals, objectives, assignments, projects, methods and frequency of evaluation, etc., for a similar individualized professional boundaries training course. Licensee shall also submit the course instructor's *curriculum vitae* to the Committee for its approval of the instructor. The instructor shall be either a licensed psychologist or have a doctoral degree in psychology. Licensee shall

complete the individualized professional boundaries training course within twelve (12) months of the effective date of this agreement. All fees for the course shall be paid by Licensee. Successful completion of the boundaries course shall be determined by the Committee.

b. ***Report on Boundaries Course From Licensee.*** Within 30 days of completing the professional boundaries course referenced above, Licensee shall submit a report to the Committee which provides and addresses:

1) The dates Licensee began and completed the boundaries training course;

2) A brief statement of the topics covered in the professional boundaries training course;

3) A detailed discussion of what Licensee has learned from the boundaries training course, including Licensee's comprehension and knowledge of boundary issues, as well as various ethical issues encountered in practice, and how this course will affect her practice in the future;

4) A detailed discussion of each boundary violation that occurred regarding the circumstances described in the Facts section of this agreement, including (a) how Licensee came to violate these boundaries; (b) the manner in which Licensee violated these boundaries; (c) the specific harm to specific individuals that resulted or could have resulted from the boundary violations; and (d) how Licensee now believes the boundary violations could have been averted;

5) A detailed discussion of the specific ways this course will affect Licensee's practice in the future;

6) Licensee's reasons for believing she is capable of conducting herself in a fit, competent, and ethical manner in the practice of psychology; and

7) Any other information Licensee believes would assist the Committee in its ultimate review of this matter.

c. ***Report on Boundaries Course From Instructor.*** Within 60 days of completing the professional boundaries course referenced above, Licensee shall cause to be submitted to the Committee a report from the instructor of the professional boundaries course. This report shall address:

1) The extent of Licensee's participation in the course; and

2) The instructor's assessment of Licensee's knowledge obtained from the course and opinion as to Licensee's recognition of boundary issues and Licensee's ethical fitness to engage in the practice of psychology.

4. If any due date required by the Agreement for Corrective Action is not met, the Committee may fine Licensee \$100 per violation. Licensee shall pay the fine and correct the violation within five days after service on Licensee of a demand for payment and correction. If Licensee fails to do so, the Committee may impose additional fines not to exceed \$500 per violation. The total of all fines may not exceed \$5,000. Licensee waives the right to seek review of the imposition of these fines under the Administrative Procedure Act, by *writ of certiorari* under Minn. Stat. § 480A.06, by application to the Board, or otherwise. Neither the imposition of fines nor correction of the violation will deprive the Board of the right to impose additional discipline based on the violation.

5. No condition imposed as a remedy by this Agreement for Corrective Action shall be used as a continuing education activity for the purpose of renewal of Licensee's license to practice psychology.

OTHER INFORMATION

6. Licensee understands that this agreement does not constitute disciplinary action.

7. Upon Licensee's satisfactory completion of the corrective action referenced in paragraph 3, the Committee agrees to dismiss the complaint(s) referenced in paragraph 1. Licensee agrees that the Committee shall be the sole judge of satisfactory completion. Licensee understands and further agrees that if, after dismissal, the Committee receives additional complaints similar to the facts in paragraph 1, the Committee may reopen the dismissed complaint(s).

8. If Licensee fails to complete the corrective action satisfactorily, or if the Committee receives additional complaints similar to the facts described in paragraph 1, the Committee may, at its discretion, reopen the investigation and proceed according to the Board's practice act and Minn. Stat. chs. 214 and 14. In any subsequent proceeding, the Committee may use as proof of the facts of paragraph 1 Licensee's agreements herein. Licensee agrees that failure to complete corrective action satisfactorily constitutes failure to cooperate under Minn. Stat. § 148.941, subd. 4, and may subject Licensee to disciplinary action by the Board.

9. Licensee has been advised by Committee representatives that she may choose to be represented by legal counsel in this matter and has so chosen Peter G. Van Bergen, Esq., Cousineau McGuire Chartered. The Committee is represented by Benjamin R. Garbe, Assistant Attorney General.

10. This agreement shall become effective upon execution by the Committee and shall remain in effect until the Committee dismisses the complaint, unless the Committee receives additional information that renders corrective action inappropriate. Upon receipt of such information, the Committee may, at its discretion, proceed according to the Board's practice act and Minn. Stat. chs. 214 and 14.

11. Licensee understands and acknowledges that this agreement and any letter of dismissal are classified as public data.

12. Licensee hereby acknowledges having read and understood this agreement and having voluntarily entered into it. This agreement contains the entire agreement between the Committee and Licensee, there being no other agreement of any kind, verbal or otherwise, which varies the terms of this agreement.

LICENSEE

COMPLAINT RESOLUTION COMMITTEE


ASHLEY E. SOVEREIGN, PSY.D., L.P.


JEFFREY LEICHTER, PH.D., L.P.
Committee Chair

Dated: 3-24-13

Dated: 6/20/13