

**BEFORE THE MINNESOTA
BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY**

In the Matter of
Mary Steitz, M.A., L.P.
License No. LP2429

**STIPULATION AND
CONSENT ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by Mary Steitz, M.A., L.P. (Licensee), and the Minnesota Board of Psychology (Board) as follows:

1. During all times herein, Licensee has been and now is subject to the jurisdiction of the Board from which she holds a license to practice psychology in the State of Minnesota.

FACTS

2. For the purpose of this stipulation, the Board may consider the following facts as true:

a. Between 1984 and March of 2003, Licensee provided individual therapy to client #1.

b. During the course of the therapeutic relationship, client #1 offered and Licensee accepted substantial monetary bonuses for the treatment she provided to client #1.

c. During the course of the therapeutic relationship, Licensee and her partner engaged in social activities with client #1.

d. During the course of the therapeutic relationship, Licensee arranged for client #1 to sell her car to Licensee's partner.

REGULATIONS

3. The Board views Licensee's practices as described in paragraph 2 above to be in violation of statutes and rules enforced by the Board. While Licensee disputes the allegations in

paragraph 2, Licensee agrees that if true, the conduct cited above constitutes a violation of Minn. Stat. § 148.98 (2004) (code of conduct); Minn. Stat. § 148.941, subd. 2(a)(1) (2004) (violation of statute or rule Board is empowered to enforce); Minn. Stat. § 148.941, subd. 2(a)(3) (2004), and Minn. R. 7200.5700 (unprofessional conduct); Minn. R. 7200.4900, subp. 7a (exploitation); and Minn. R. 7200.4810 (impaired objectivity) and would provide a reasonable basis in law and fact to justify the disciplinary action provided for in the order.

REMEDY

4. In the interest of settling this matter and avoiding the necessity of further proceedings, Licensee and the Committee hereby agree that upon this stipulation and all of the files, records, and proceedings herein, and without further notice or hearing herein, Licensee consents that the Board may make and enter an order as follows:

a. Licensee shall **VOLUNTARILY SURRENDER** her license to practice psychology in Minnesota. Within 30 days of the date the terms of this Stipulation and Consent Order are adopted and implemented by the Board, Licensee shall surrender to the Board all State licenses and certificates by delivering them personally or by first-class mail to Pauline Walker-Singleton, Executive Director, Minnesota Board of Psychology, 2829 University Avenue SE, Suite 320, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414.

b. Licensee shall not practice, attempt to practice, offer to practice, or advise or hold herself out as authorized to practice psychology in Minnesota and shall not use the title psychologist or any designation which indicates licensure as a psychologist.

c. Upon Licensee's surrender of her license to practice psychology in Minnesota, the Board agrees to close its file in this matter.

d. Should Licensee reapply for licensure as a licensed psychologist in Minnesota, the complaints against Licensee shall be reopened and Licensee shall appear before a Board Complaint Resolution Committee to discuss the issues raised by these complaints, as well as any complaints received subsequent to the termination of Licensee's license. Further, should Licensee reapply for licensure as a licensed psychologist in Minnesota, she must meet the requirements for licensure in effect at the time of that application. At the time of application, Licensee shall demonstrate by clear and convincing evidence that she is capable of practicing psychology in a fit, competent, and ethical manner and with reasonable skill and safety to clients. Licensee shall not be relicensed in Minnesota until further order of the Board, which may include conditions and/or restrictions on Licensee's license.

e. If any due date required by this Stipulation and Consent Order 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. If Licensee shall fail, neglect, or refuse to fully comply with each of the terms, provisions, and conditions herein, the Committee shall schedule a hearing before the Board. The Committee shall mail Licensee a notice of the violation alleged by the Committee and of the time and place of the hearing. Licensee shall submit a response to the allegations at least three days

prior to the hearing. If Licensee does not submit a timely response to the Board, the allegations may be deemed admitted.

At the hearing before the Board, the Committee and Licensee may submit affidavits made on personal knowledge and argument based on the record in support of their positions. The evidentiary record before the Board shall be limited to such affidavits and this Stipulation and Consent Order. Licensee waives a hearing before an administrative law judge and waives discovery, cross-examination of adverse witnesses, and other procedures governing administrative hearings or civil trials.

At the hearing, the Board will determine whether to impose additional disciplinary action, including additional conditions or limitations on Licensee's practice, or suspension or revocation of Licensee's license.

6. This stipulation shall not in any way limit or affect the authority of the Board to temporarily suspend Licensee's license under Minn. Stat. § 148.941, subd. 3, or to initiate contested case proceedings against Licensee on the basis of any act, conduct, or omission of Licensee justifying disciplinary action occurring before or after the date of this Stipulation and Consent Order which is not related to the facts, circumstances or requirements referenced herein.

7. In the event the Board at its discretion does not approve this settlement or a lesser remedy than indicated in this settlement, then, and in that event, this stipulation is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value and shall not be relied upon nor introduced by either party to this stipulation, except that Licensee agrees that should the Board reject this stipulation and this case proceeds to hearing, Licensee will assert no claim that the Board was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this stipulation or of any records relating to this matter.

8. Any appropriate court may, upon application of the Board, enter its decree enforcing the order of the Board.

9. Licensee has been represented in this matter by Attorneys Kent G. Harbison and Cindy Moyer. The Complaint Review Committee was represented by Nathan W. Hart, Assistant Attorney General.

10. Licensee waives all formal hearings on this matter and all other procedures before the Board to which Licensee may be entitled under the Minnesota or United States constitutions, statutes, or rules and agrees that the order to be entered pursuant to the stipulation shall be the final order herein.

11. Licensee hereby knowingly and voluntarily waives any and all claims against the Board, the Minnesota Attorney General, the State of Minnesota and their agents, employees and representatives which may otherwise be available to Licensee under the Americans With Disabilities Act or the Minnesota Human Rights Act relative to the action taken or authorized against Licensee's license to practice psychology under this stipulation.

12. Licensee hereby acknowledges that she has read, understands, and agrees to this stipulation and has freely and voluntarily signed the stipulation without threat or promise by the Board or any of its members, employees, or agents. When signing the stipulation, Licensee acknowledges she is fully aware the stipulation is not binding unless and until it is approved by the Board. The Board may either approve the Stipulation and Consent Order as proposed, approve the Stipulation and Consent Order subject to specified change, or reject it. If the changes are acceptable to Licensee, the stipulation will then take effect and the order as modified will be issued. If the changes are unacceptable to Licensee or the Board rejects the stipulation, it will be of no effect except as specified herein.

13. This Stipulation and Consent Order constitutes a disciplinary action against Licensee.

14. This Stipulation and Consent Order is a public document and will be sent to all appropriate data banks.

15. This stipulation contains the entire agreement between the parties there being no other agreement of any kind, verbal or otherwise, which varies this stipulation.

BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY

COMPLAINT RESOLUTION
COMMITTEE

Mary G. Steitz
MARY STEITZ, M.A., L.P.

Licensee

Dated: 2/18, 2006

Myrla Seibold, Ph.D. L.P.
MYRLA SEIBOLD, Ph.D., L.P.

Dated: _____, 2006

Scott Terhune, Ph.D. L.P.
SCOTT TERHUNE, Ph.D., L.P.

Dated: 14 March, 2006

Susan L. Ward
SUSAN WARD

Dated: 15 March, 2006

ORDER

Upon consideration of this stipulation and all the files, records, and proceedings herein,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the license of Licensee is **VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED** and that all other terms of this stipulation are adopted and implemented by the Board this 10th day of March, 2006.

MINNESOTA BOARD

OF PSYCHOLOGY



PAULINE WALKER-SINGLETON
Executive Director

AG: #1538169-v1

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BY U.S. MAIL

**Re: In the Matter of Mary Steitz, M.A., L.P.
License No. LP2429**

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF RAMSEY)

TAMMIE L. REEVES, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That at the City of St. Paul, County of Ramsey and State of Minnesota, on March 24, 2006, s/he caused to be served the STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER, by depositing the same in the United States mail at said city and state, true and correct copy(ies) thereof, properly enveloped with prepaid first-class postage, and addressed to:

CINDY MOYER
FREDRIKSSON & BYRON PA
200 S SIXTH ST STE 4000
MINNEAPOLIS MN 55402-1425

Tammie L. Reeves
TAMMIE L. REEVES

Subscribed and sworn to before me

this 27th day of March, 2006.

Sandra A. Bush
NOTARY PUBLIC

AG: #1581084-v1

