

1 **BEFORE THE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS**  
2 **FOR THE STATE OF ARIZONA**

3 **In the Matter of:** )  
4 **Scott Keeling Torrez** ) **COMPLAINT NO. T-23-05**  
5 )  
6 **An Unlicensed Individual** ) **CEASE AND DESIST ORDER**  
7 **in the State of Arizona** )  
8 **Respondent** )

9 On September 1, 2023, the Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners (“Board”) met in  
10 open session for the purposes of determining whether grounds existed to issue a Cease and  
11 Desist Order to Scott Keeling Torrez ("Respondent"). Respondent did not appear.

12 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

13 1. Respondent has never held a license with the Board to practice psychology or  
14 behavior analysis in the State of Arizona.

15 2. In March of 2023, the Board received information from a parent  
16 (“Complainant”) who is engaged in custody proceedings in a Georgia court, alleging that  
17 Respondent, who resides and works in Arizona, submitted an affidavit to the Court regarding  
18 services that Respondent previously provided to the Complainant’s minor children through a  
19 previous employer from 2021-2022. Respondent’s affidavit, dated December 17, 2021,  
20 indicated in part that, “My name is Dr. Scott Keeling-Torrez: Behavioral Analyst, BHT,  
21 Psychologist, PhD...” This affidavit was submitted to the Court by the opposing party during  
22 the timeframe that Respondent was providing services to the children in his position as a  
23 Behavioral Health Technician (BHT) with a behavioral health agency.

24 3. On July 19, 2023, the Board’s Complaint Screening Committee (“Committee”)  
25 reviewed the complaint. Respondent and his attorney were present and answered questions. The  
26 Committee expressed concern that the Respondent falsely represented that he was a  
27 psychologist and a behavior analyst in the affidavit prepared for the Court. Also, the Committee  
28 noted that Respondent incredulously represented that the affidavit was prepared by the opposing  
party’s attorney and that he signed the affidavit without reviewing it. The Committee also

1 expressed concerned that Respondent made no attempt to correct the misrepresentations in the  
2 affidavit. Specifically, Respondent never supplied a corrected affidavit or any other written  
3 documentation to the family court clarifying that he is not licensed as a behavior analyst or  
4 psychologist. After deliberation, the Committee voted to forward the complaint to the full board  
5 for further review based on potential violations of A.R.S. § 32-2084 and A.R.S. § 32-2091.12.

6 4. On September 1, 2023, the Board reviewed the complaint. Respondent was not  
7 present. The Board discussed the fact that Respondent still had not submitted a corrected  
8 affidavit to the court despite being made aware of this concern by the Committee. After  
9 discussion and deliberation, the Board voted to issue Respondent a Cease & Desist Order for  
10 holding himself as a psychologist and behavior analyst in the State of Arizona.

### 11 **VIOLATIONS**

12 The use of the designations “psychologist” and “behavior analyst” used by Respondent  
13 in the documentation reviewed for Complaint no. T-23-05 constitutes a violation of A.R.S. §  
14 32-2084(C)(1), “It is a class 2 misdemeanor for a person not licensed pursuant to this chapter  
15 to: Use the designation "psychology", "psychological" or "psychologist"; and A.R.S. § 32-  
16 2091.12(C), “It is a class 2 misdemeanor for a person who is not licensed pursuant to this  
17 article to use any combination of words, initials and symbols that leads the public to believe the  
18 person is licensed to practice behavior analysis in this state.”

### 19 **ORDER**

20 Under the authority set forth in A.R.S. § 32-3227(C), the Board orders Respondent to  
21 immediately Cease and Desist from holding himself out as a psychologist and behavior analyst  
22 until such time he is licensed to do so. If Respondent continues to engage in such activity in  
23 violation of the Board’s statutes and rules, the Board may pursue injunctive relief pursuant to  
24 A.R.S. § 32-2083 and/or A.R.S. § 32-2091.11.

25 DATED this 7 day of September, 2023

26 ARIZONA BOARD OF  
27 PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS

28 By: Heidi Herbst Paakkonen  
Heidi Herbst Paakkonen  
Executive Director

1 **ORIGINAL** filed electronically  
2 this 7 day of September 2023, with:

3 The Arizona State Board of Psychologist Examiners  
4 1740 West Adams St., Suite 3403  
5 Phoenix, Arizona 85007

6 **COPY** of the foregoing sent by regular USPS mail  
7 this 7 day of September 2023, to:

8 Scott Keeling Torrez  
9 Address on Record  
10 Respondent

11 **COPY** mailed by regular USPS mail  
12 this 7 day of September 2023, to:

13 Michael Tamou, Esq.  
14 3820 W. Happy Valley Rd.  
15 Suite 141-475  
16 Glendale, AZ 85310  
17 Attorney for Respondent

18 **COPY** of the foregoing via email ([jeanne.galvin@azag.gov](mailto:jeanne.galvin@azag.gov))  
19 this 7 day of September 2023, to:

20 Jeanne M. Galvin  
21 Assistant Attorney General  
22 2005 North Central Ave. SGD/LES  
23 Phoenix, Arizona 85004  
24 Attorney for the State of Arizona

25 By: Jennifer Michaelson  
26  
27  
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