

1 **BEFORE THE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS**

2 **FOR THE STATE OF ARIZONA**

3 **In the Matter of:**

4 **Ronnie Manns**

5 **An Unlicensed Individual**
6 **in the State of Arizona**

7 **Respondent**
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)
) **COMPLAINT NO. T-24-02**
)

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) **CEASE AND DESIST ORDER**
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9 On August 2, 2024, 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 Ronnie Manns ("Respondent"). Respondent did not appear.

12 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

13 1. Respondent has never held a license with the Board to practice psychology in the
14 State of Arizona. Additionally, Respondent does not hold a license with the Arizona Board of
15 Behavioral Health Examiners or any current certifications with the Arizona Department of
16 Education.

17 2. In April of 2024, the Board received information from a Licensed Professional
18 Counselor alleging that Respondent was holding himself out as a psychologist and practicing
19 psychology/psychotherapy without a license in the State of Arizona. The information received
20 indicated, “In researching options for providers, I came across the website for Ronnie Manns,
21 PsyD.... His website claims that he is a therapist and is practicing in the state of AZ, however, I
22 was unable to find him in the licensure database. I am concerned that he may not be practicing
23 within his scope of knowledge or training and wanted to bring this concern to the attention of the
24 board. In addition, according to his resume, he is listed as an NP. I also did an NP search...and
25 there is no record of him being licensed to practice. I have attached a copy of the resume he sent
26 me when I asked for additional information related to his training and licensure.”

27 3. The top of Respondent’s resume states, “Dr. Ronnie Manns, NP, PsyD,
28 FAICHP”; “Neuropsychologist” was listed below Respondent’s name.

1 4. The Board’s investigation revealed that Respondent owns a business called A
2 Twist of Faith Inc.; filing documents with the Arizona Corporation Commission indicated that
3 the business was established in 2020 by Respondent and is based in Maricopa, Arizona. The
4 website for Respondent’s business advertises that he provides both psychological and
5 counseling services in Arizona. Furthermore, Respondent’s Facebook business profile contains
6 a post that states, “A Twist of Faith Counseling and Therapy is now offering Neuropsychology
7 services. Neuropsychology is a combination of neurology, psychology, and psychiatry to better
8 understand how the brain defines your normal which defines your behavior.” Respondent’s
9 LinkedIn profile states he provides “Assessments, evaluation, and treatment of all kinds of
10 crisis, military and civilian.”

11 5. On July 17, 2024, the Board’s Complaint Screening Committee (“Committee”)
12 reviewed the complaint. Respondent was not present. The Committee expressed concern that
13 Respondent has falsely represented that he is a neuropsychologist and “NP”. The Committee
14 also expressed concerned that, despite notification of this complaint and submitting a response,
15 Respondent is still advertising for and appears to be providing psychological/therapy services
16 for which he is not authorized to provide. After deliberation, the Committee voted to forward
17 the complaint to the full board for further review based on potential violations of A.R.S. § 32-
18 2084.

19 6. On August 2, 2024, the Board reviewed the complaint. Respondent was not
20 present. The Board reiterated the Committee’s concerns, noting that Respondent has used the
21 Psy.D. designation almost exclusively in his online content; however, in review of the
22 documentation Respondent supplied with this response, there is no information to reflect that he
23 holds a Psy.D. degree and therefore, is misrepresenting his credentials. After discussion and
24 deliberation, the Board unanimously voted to issue Respondent a Cease & Desist Order.
25 Additionally, the Board accepted the Committee’s recommendation to issue referrals to the
26 Arizona Attorney General’s Office and the Arizona State Board of Nursing in its effort to
27 protect the public.
28

1 **VIOLATIONS**

2 Respondent’s conduct as set forth above constitutes a violation of A.R.S. § 32-2084,
3 which provides, in part, that it is a class 2 misdemeanor for a person not licensed to:

- 4 a. (A): Engage in the practice of psychology.
- 5 b. (C)(1): Use the designation "psychology", "psychological" or "psychologist";
- 6 c. (C)(2): Use any combination of words, initials and symbols that leads the public to
7 believe the person is licensed to practice psychology in this state.

8 **ORDER**

9 Under the authority set forth in A.R.S. § 32-3227(C), the Board orders Respondent to
10 immediately Cease and Desist from practicing psychology in the State of Arizona and holding
11 himself out as a psychologist until such time he is licensed to do so. If Respondent continues to
12 engage in such activity in violation of the Board’s statutes and rules, the Board may pursue
13 injunctive relief pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-2083.

14 DATED this 6 day of August, 2024.

15 ARIZONA BOARD OF
16 PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS

17 By: Heidi Herbst Paakkonen
18 Heidi Herbst Paakkonen
19 Executive Director

20 **ORIGINAL** filed electronically
21 this 6 day of August 2024, with:

22 The Arizona State Board of Psychologist Examiners
23 1740 West Adams St., Suite 3403
24 Phoenix, Arizona 85007

25 **COPY** of the foregoing sent by email and certified mail no. 9589071052701952583273
26 this 6 day of August 2024, to:

27 Ronnie Manns
28 Address on Record / Email Address on Record
Respondent

COPY of the foregoing via email (jeanne.galvin@azag.gov)
this 6 day of August 2024, to:

1 Jeanne M. Galvin
2 Assistant Attorney General
3 2005 North Central Ave. SGD/LES
4 Phoenix, Arizona 85004
5 Attorney for the State of Arizona

6 By: Jennifer Michaelson
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