BEFORE THE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS

FOR THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of:	Case No. 19-12
GLORIA MALONE, Ph.D.	CONSENT AGREEMENT
Holder of License No. PSY-001082 for the Practice of Psychology in the State of Arizona	AND ORDER FOR VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF PSYCHOLOGIST LICENSE

On July 12, 2019 the Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners ("Board") met in open session to discuss the above-referenced case. Gloria Malone ("Respondent") was not present. After discussion, consideration, and deliberation, the Board voted to enter into a Consent Agreement in lieu of further administrative proceedings.

JURISDICTION

- 1. The Board is authorized to regulate the practice of psychology in Arizona pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-2061, *et seq*, and the rules promulgated thereunder, found in Arizona Administrative Code ("A.A.C." or "rules") at R4-26-101, *et seq*., to regulate and control the licensing of psychologists in the State of Arizona.
- 2. Respondent is the holder of license number PSY-001082 for the practice of psychology in the State of Arizona.
- 3. The Board has personal and subject matter jurisdiction over Respondent pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-2061, et seq., and the rules at A.A.C. R4-26-101, et seq.

RECITALS

Respondent understands and agrees that:

- 4. The Board and Respondent enter into this Consent Agreement and Order ("Consent Agreement") to promptly and judiciously resolve this matter, consistent with the public interest and the statutory requirements of the Board.
- 5. Respondent has the right to consult with an attorney prior to entering into this Consent Agreement.
 - 6. Respondent has a right to a public hearing concerning this case. She further

acknowledges that at such formal hearing she could present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. Respondent irrevocably waives her right to such a hearing.

- 7. Respondent irrevocably waives any right to rehearing or review or to any judicial review or any other appeal of this matter.
- 8. Respondent has agreed to enter into this Consent Agreement as an economical and practical means of resolving the issues alleged in the Complaint.
- 9. This Consent Agreement shall be subject to the approval by the Board and shall be effective only when signed by the Executive Director. In the event that the Board does not approve this Consent Agreement, it is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value and shall not be relied upon nor introduced in any action by any party, except that the parties agree that should the Board reject this Consent Agreement and this case proceeds to hearing, Respondent shall assert no claim that the Board was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this document or any records relating thereto.
- 10. The Consent Agreement, once approved by the Board, evidenced by the signature of the Executive Director or her designee and signed by the Respondent, shall constitute a public record that may be disseminated as a formal action of the Board and shall be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank.
- 11. Respondent voluntarily enters into this Consent Agreement for the purpose of avoiding the expense, uncertainty, and prolonged time involved in further administrative proceedings. The issues contained herein are resolved by settlement and not actually litigated. Any allegations and findings herein may not be used for res judicata or collateral estoppel effect in any subsequent civil proceedings for any claims of professional liability or negligence by or on behalf of Complainant(s).

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Gloria Malone	7	Date	
Respondent			

12. On June 26, 2019, the Board received Complaint No. 19-12 that alleged acts of unprofessional conduct that, if found by the Board to be factually supported, could justify the Board taking action against Respondent.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 13. The allegations in Complaint No. 19-12 raise issues concerning Respondent's ability to practice and allege that Respondent committed various statutory and ethical violations.
- 14. On or about June 24, 2019, a patient, G.C., and his wife arrived at Respondent's home office for a therapy appointment. When Respondent answered the door, she "was stumbling, was barefoot and her speech was extremely slurred and she appeared to be confused...she was incredibly drunk."
- 15. G.C. was concerned about Respondent's behavior so he and his wife decided to discontinue the session and left. G.C. had concerns about Respondent's welfare and called the police requesting a welfare check.
- 16. According to the police report, Respondent's "speech was slurred, mumbled and slow..." Respondent "was having difficulty standing and was very shaky on her feet. She needed to hold onto the door frame" as she spoke to the officers. Respondent explained to the officers that she was currently seeing a new patient. The new patient indicated that she was preparing to leave the session as Respondent "seemed out of it." Respondent was transported to the hospital for evaluation and testing and released later that day.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 17. The conduct and circumstances described in Complaint 19-12, if supported by the facts alleged, would constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to:
- A.R.S. § 32-2061(16)(o) for possibly practicing psychology while impaired or incapacitated to the extent and in a manner that jeopardizes the welfare of the client or patient or renders the psychological services provided ineffective.

<u>ORDER</u>

Pursuant to A.R.S. §32-2081(S) the Board has determined that the Respondent's

conduct in Case No. 19-12 warrants disciplinary action. Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the parties agree to the provisions and penalties imposed as follows:

- 18. Upon the effective date of this Consent Agreement for Voluntary Surrender, Respondent's license number PSY-00182 for the practice of psychology in the State of Arizona shall be surrendered. Once the surrender is effectuated, Respondent shall not practice psychology in the State of Arizona or hold herself out as a licensed psychologist in the State of Arizona. The effective date of this Consent Agreement for Voluntary Surrender is the date the Consent Agreement for Voluntary Surrender is accepted by the Board as evidenced by the signature of the Board's Executive Director.
- 19. **CONSIDERATION IN FUTURE ACTIONS**: Respondent understands that this Consent Agreement or any part thereof, may be considered in any future disciplinary action against her.
- 20. **FINAL RESOLUTION**: This Consent Agreement constitutes a final resolution of this disciplinary matter but does not constitute a dismissal or resolution of other matters currently pending before the Board, if any, and does not constitute any waiver, expressed or implied, of the Board's statutory authority or jurisdiction regarding any other pending or future investigations, actions or proceedings. Further, this Consent Agreement does not preclude any other agency, subdivision or officer of this State from instituting other civil or criminal proceedings with respect to the conduct that is the subject of this Consent Agreement.
 - 21. <u>TIME</u>: Time is of the essence with regard to this Consent Agreement.
- 22. <u>PUBLIC RECORD</u>: This Consent Agreement and Order is a public record that may be publicly disseminated as a formal action of the Board and shall be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank.

DATED this 12^{4} day of $\sqrt{4/4}$, 2019.

ARIZONA BOARD OF

PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS 2 3 4 5 Executive Director 6 ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed 7 This <u>12</u> day of July, 2019, with: 8 The Arizona State Board of Psychologist Examiners 1740 W. Adams St., Suite 3403 9 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 10 COPY mailed by US and certified postal service no. 7016-2140-0000-6959-3933 11 This 12 day of July, 2019, to: 12 Gloria Malone, Ph.D. 13 Address on Record Respondent 14 COPY of the foregoing emailed 15 This _12 day of July, 2019, to: 16 Jeanne M. Galvin, AAG 17 Arizona Attorney General's Office SGD/LES 18 2005 North Central Ave. 19 Phoenix, Arizona 85004 20 By: Jennifer Michaelsen 21

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