

1 **BEFORE THE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS**
2 **FOR THE STATE OF ARIZONA**
3

4 In the Matter of)
5 **PETER M. YOUNG, VI, Ph.D.,**)
6 Holder of License No. 1977)
7 for the Practice of Psychology)
8 in the State of Arizona)

Case No. 04-18
**CONSENT AGREEMENT,
FINDINGS OF FACT,
CONCLUSIONS OF LAW,
AND ORDER**

9 On October 2, 2004, Peter M. Young, VI, Ph.D. ("Licensee") appeared before the Arizona Board of
10 Psychologist Examiners ("Board") for an informal interview regarding Case No. 04-18. The Board voted to
11 offer Licensee the opportunity to enter into the following Consent Agreement.

12 **CONSENT AGREEMENT**

13 1. The Board and Licensee enter into this Consent Agreement in order to promptly and
14 judiciously resolve this matter, consistent with the public interest and the statutory requirements of the Board.

15 2. Pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 32-2081(G), and 41-1092.07(F)(5), the Board will adopt the Findings
16 of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order set forth below.

17 3. Licensee has the right to consult with an attorney prior to entering into this Consent
18 Agreement. He has read and understands the Consent Agreement, Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and
19 Order, and makes this agreement freely and voluntarily. He irrevocably waives his right to a hearing,
20 rehearing, or judicial review.

21 4. The Consent Agreement and Order will be effective when signed by the Board's Executive
22 Director. The Consent Agreement, Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order are a public record.

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25 Peter M. Young VI
26 Peter M. Young, VI, Ph.D.

BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS
OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA
By Maxine McCarthy
Maxine McCarthy
Executive Director

27 27 Oct 04
28 Date

October 22, 2004
Date

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FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners ("Board") is authorized to regulate the practice of psychology in Arizona pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 32-2061, *et seq.*

2. Peter M. Young, VI, Ph.D. ("Licensee") is the holder of License No. 1977 for the practice of psychology in the State of Arizona.

3. Licensee was a lieutenant colonel employed as a clinical psychologist on active duty for nearly 15 years in the United States Air Force. The events described here occurred while Licensee was stationed at a military treatment facility at Mountain Home Air Force Base in Idaho.

4. In October, 2002, Licensee began a 12 Step program for a "sex and love addiction."

5. From October, 2002 to February, 2003, Licensee admitted to struggling with depression related to his sexual addiction and recent marital separation.

6. On February 28, 2003, Licensee left work without informing his superior due to massive stress from a session with a female client.

7. On March 4 and 5, 2003, Licensee's superior removed him from his position and the chief of hospital services put Licensee's credentials in abeyance, meaning a temporary removal of his clinical privileges for 30 days. The Notice of Abeyance of Clinical Privileges stated that "This action is being taken in response to recent statements by patients, clinic staff, and colleagues indicating a lack of sound judgment and lack of insight to patient issues."

8. On March 17 through 20, 2003, Licensee was seen for a formal Commander Directed Mental Health Evaluation. The report of the evaluation issued on April 18, 2003 cited that the reasons for referral were "talking about his 'sex, love addiction' to subordinates, disclosing his addiction to a first sergeant while consulting on a squadron member, telling a patient that he could not continue to see him because his 'personal stuff was too close to mine,' disclosing to a colleague a 'feeling of lust' toward a patient to the extent he could not finish the work day."

9. On March 20 and 21, 2003, a peer review of Licensee's performance was conducted. The peer review summary concluded in part:

- a) The review indicated Dr. Young was not completing many of his intake assessments at the initial appointment. While completed at the second intake

1 session, the pattern is concerning and may indicate Dr. Young's personal issues
2 would have a negative impact on his duty performance.

3 b) A pattern appears to be present in the clinical work of Dr. Young that he interjects
4 his personal beliefs and personal problems into his patient therapeutic treatment. In
5 the case of his Christian beliefs, it appears this serves his needs and not necessarily
6 the patients. In taking a very Christian perspective, it is not one the patient seems
7 to have sought and in some cases seems to have diverted their treatment. It also
8 appears that in some cases, clinical issues were missed or not fully attended to by
9 Dr. Young because of his focused or directed Christian treatment approach. In one
10 instance, where Dr. Young appears to have interjected his personal problem (love
11 sex addiction), patient safety was compromised. ...The inserting of his personal
12 religious beliefs and personal problems into clinical treatment is a violation of the
13 APA Code of Ethics, is not the standard of care for a clinical psychologist and led
14 to a compromise of patient safety.

15 c) It appears Dr. Young's personal issues were having a negative impact on his ability
16 to practice and supervise his junior psychologist. ...As a result, patient care is
17 being compromised due to significant delinquent documentation.

18 10. On April 2, 2003, Licensee's provider privileges were suspended.

19 11. On May 19 and 27, 2003, Licensee underwent an ordered neuropsychological evaluation.

20 12. On December 9, 2003, Licensee's clinical privileges/practice were restricted and reduced

21 "due to a medical/mental health condition that adversely affected his ability to practice within acceptable
22 standards of care, and to provide ethical, safe patient care."

23 13. In April 2004, Licensee resigned from the United States Air Force with an honorable
24 discharge, in lieu of a hearing and possible Under Other Than Honorable Condition discharge.

25 14. On April 23, 2004, the Board received a Report of Incident letter from the United States
26 Department of the Air Force notifying the Board of Licensee's restriction and reduction of clinical
27 privileges and opened investigation. Based on the information received from the United States Air
28 Force, the Board opened an investigation regarding Licensee.

15 15. On June 4, 2004, the Board considered and discussed the allegations and information in
16 this case and issued an interim order on June 11, 2004 that required Licensee have his cognitive, social,
17 emotional and mental functioning evaluated by Dr. Ralph Earle.

18 16. On July 27, 2004, the Board received Dr. Earle's psychological evaluation report. Dr.
19 Earle recommended that Licensee continue to work for six months with therapists who understand or
20 have special competence in the sexual addiction/sexual offender area. Dr. Earle further recommended

1 that Licensee be involved in either a Sex Addiction Anonymous or Sexaholic group, and that he have a
2 sponsor during the six months. A boundary-training program, sex offender treatment around
3 exhibitionism identifying Licensee's offending cycle and gaining insights about appropriate healthy
4 interventions, as well as monitoring on a monthly basis with the possibility of evaluation at the end of
5 the six month period were also recommended.

6 17. On October 2, 2004, the Board conducted an informal interview with Licensee at which
7 time Licensee agreed to accept the terms and conditions of the Order as set forth in this Consent
8 Agreement.

9 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

10 1. The Board of Psychologist Examiners of the State of Arizona possesses jurisdiction over
11 the subject matter hereof and Peter M. Young, VI, Ph.D.

12 2. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute a violation of A.R.S. §32-
13 2061(A)(13)(l)(Practicing psychology while impaired or incapacitated to the extent and in a manner that
14 jeopardizes the welfare of the client or renders the psychological services provided ineffective); and
15 A.R.S. §32-2061(A)(13)(o)(Providing services that are unnecessary or unsafe or otherwise engaging in
16 activities as a psychologist that are unprofessional by current standards of practice.
17

18 **ORDER**

19 Based on the foregoing Consent Agreement, Findings of Fact, and Conclusions of Law, **IT IS HEREBY**
20 **ORDERED** that Peter M. Young, VI, Ph.D. shall not practice psychology in Arizona, as defined by
21 A.R.S. § 32-2061(A)(8), nor hold himself as out as permitted to practice psychology in Arizona, until he
22 appears before the Board and demonstrates by appropriate means his fitness to practice with regard to
23 the issues of his religious beliefs and sexual addiction. If Licensee requests inactive status or allows his
24 license to lapse, any reactivation or granting of a new license shall be subject to terms of probation
25 which would be determined by the Board at that time. Further, Licensee shall not use his Arizona
26 license to practice psychology in any other jurisdiction.
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DATED this 1st day of November, 2004.

BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS
OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

By: Maxine McCarthy
Maxine McCarthy
Executive Director
1400 West Washington Street, Ste. 235
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
(602) 542-8162

COPY of the foregoing mailed by Certified Mail

No. 7000 1670 0009 3607 5912
this 2nd day of November, 2004 to:

Peter M. Young, VI, Ph.D.
Address of record

COPY of the foregoing sent by interagency/regular mail

this 2nd day of November, 2004 to:

Nancy J. Beck, Assistant Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General, Civil/LES
1275 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Shari S Courtney