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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS FOR THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of

Mark Magier, Psy.D.,

Holder of License No. PSY-004010 For the Practice of Psychology In the State of Arizona. Case No. 18-08

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER FOR PROBATION, PRACTICE MONITOR AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

In the interest of a prompt and judicious settlement of the above-captioned matter before the Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners ("Board") and consistent with public interest, statutory requirements and responsibilities of the Board and pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-2061 *et seq.*, and A.R.S. § 41-1092.07(F)(5), Mark Magier, Psy.D. ("Respondent"), holder of License No. PSY-004010 and the Board enter into this Consent Agreement, Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order ("Consent Agreement") as final disposition of this matter.

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-004010 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 of A.A.C. R4-26-101, et seq.

RECITALS

Respondent understands and agrees that:

- 4. The Board and Respondent enter into the 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. He further acknowledges that at such formal hearing he could present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. Respondent irrevocably waives his right to such a hearing.
- 7. Respondent irrevocably waives any right to rehearing or review or to any judicial review or any other appeal to this matter.
- 8. This Consent Agreement shall be subject to the approval by the Board and shall be effective only when approved by the Board and 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 In the event that the Board does not approve this Consent Agreement, it is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value and shall not be relied upon nor introduced in any action by any party, except the parties agree that should the Board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.
- 9. The Consent Agreement, once approved by the Board and signed by the Respondent and the Board's Executive Director, shall constitute a public record which may be disseminated as a formal action of the Board and shall be reported to the National Practitioner Data Base.
- 10. 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 professional liability or negligence by or on behalf of Complainant, Complainant's Family, or Representatives.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. In October 2017, Complainant was ordered by the Maricopa County Superior Court to undergo a psychological evaluation.
- 2. Complainant contacted Respondent soon thereafter to discuss engaging him to conduct the evaluation. Initially, Respondent agreed to conduct the evaluation for a fee of \$2,500, after application of what Respondent asserts is his 50% discount for Complainant's status as a veteran.
- 3. On January 10, 2018, the Maricopa County Superior Court appointed Respondent to conduct a psychological evaluation of the Complainant.
- 4. Subsequently, after receiving the court order appointing him, Respondent felt that the nature and scope of the evaluation was more extensive than he initially believed. As a result, he informed the Complainant that he would have to raise his fee from \$2,500 to \$5,000, which again constituted a veteran discount fee according to Respondent.
- 5. Respondent informed Complainant that he could not move forward without a retainer.
- 6. Over the ensuing weeks, Respondent called and texted Complainant multiple times a day to schedule the evaluation and to make arrangements for payment of the retainer. Complainant's VA therapist has confirmed that Respondent called Complainant four times during a thirty minute session.
- 7. Respondent explains that he was making multiple contacts as he had been told by Complainant that she did not always have her phone with her at work and, at other

times did not receive calls or texts therefore, Complainant asked him to call or text until they connected.

- 8. On January 8, 2018, Complainant received a text from Respondent seeking a loan of \$50,000.00 for a friend of Respondent.
- 9. Respondent has admitted to sending that text, but claims it was a mistake and that Complainant had accidently been included as a recipient on the text intended for his personal, non-client acquaintances.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to:

- a. A.R.S. § 32-2061(16)(o) engaging in activities as a psychologist that are unprofessional by current standards of practice.
- b. A.R.S. § 32-2061(16)(dd) Violating an ethical standard adopted by the Board as it pertains to the American Psychological Association Ethical Principles of Psychologist and Code of Conduct, 5.06 In-Person Solicitation and 6.04 Fees and Financial Arrangements.

ORDER

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the parties agree to provisions and penalties imposed as follows:

- 1. Respondent's license is placed on probation for a minimum period of twelve (12) months from the effective date of this Consent Agreement and Order. The effective date of this Consent Agreement and Order is the date is it signed by the Board's Executive Director.
- 2. Respondent shall engage, at his cost, a Practice Monitor, pre-approved by the Board. Respondent shall consult, in person, with the Practice Monitor twice monthly for at least two (2) hours each session. The Practice Monitor shall provide the Board a written

(Page 4,)

summary of the consultations with Respondent quarterly. The Respondent shall not have a prior business or familial relationship with the Practice Monitor.

- 3. Within ten (10) days of the effective date of this Consent Agreement and Order, the Respondent shall select one of the following Practice Monitors:
 - Deborah Lewis, Ph.D.
 1313 E. Osborn Rd.
 Ste. 100
 Phoenix, AZ 85014
 602-799-6281
 - b. Christopher Nicholls, Ph.D. 9965 North 95th Street Ste. 101 Scottsdale, AZ 85258-4594 480-998-2303
 - c. Bhupin Butaney, Ph.D.
 14354 North Frank Lloyd Wright Blvd.
 Ste. 1
 Scottsdale, AZ 85260-8844
 480-993-3463
- 4. Within three (3) days of the selection of the Practice Monitor, the Respondent shall notify the Board of the Practice Monitor he has engaged pursuant to this Order.
- 5. Prior to the termination of probation, Respondent shall complete continuing education, pre-approved by the Board's Executive Director for a total of eighteen (18) hours. The continuing education shall address the APA Ethics Code violations identified above and shall not be counted toward the continuing education hours required for the renewal of Respondent's license. Respondent shall provide proof of completion of the continuing education hours to the Board within fourteen (14) days of the completion of the continuing education hours.
- 6. Respondent shall petition the Board for release from this agreement upon the expiration of the twelve (12) month probationary period. The Board shall release

Respondent from this Consent Agreement upon Respondents showing compliance with all terms of this probation as determined by the Board.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Respondent understands that the foregoing Consent Agreement shall not become effective unless and until adopted by the Board of Psychologist Examiners and executed on behalf of the Board. The effective date of the Consent Agreement is the date it is signed by the Executive Director. Any modifications to this original document is ineffective and void unless mutually approved by the parties in writing.

<u>CONSIDERATION IN FUTURE ACTIONS</u>: Respondent understands that this Consent Agreement or any part thereof, may be considered in any future disciplinary action against him.

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.

TIME: Time is of the essence with regard to this Consent Agreement

<u>COSTS</u>: The Respondent shall be responsible for all costs incurred as a result of his compliance with this Consent Agreement.

NON-COMPLIANCE: If Respondent fails to comply with the terms of this Consent Agreement, the Board shall properly institute proceedings for noncompliance with this Consent Agreement, which may result in suspension, revocation, or other disciplinary

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Proposed Consent Agreement and Order

and/or remedial actions. Violation of this Order is a violation of A.R.S. § 32-2061(16)(aa), which is "violating a formal Board order, consent agreement, term of probation or 2 3 stipulated agreement." 4 PUBLIC RECORD: This Consent Agreement and Order is public record that may 3 be publicly disseminated as a formal action of the Board and shall be reported to the 6 National Practitioner Data Bank. DATED this 27th day of march 2019. 8 11 10 Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners 11 1.2 Mark Magier, Psy D. 13 Jenna Jones Respondent Executive Director 14 15 ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed this 16 That of March , 2019 with: 17 The Arizona State Board of Psychologist Examiners 18 1740 West Adams Street, Suite 3403 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 19 20 COPY mailed by Certified Mail, No. 70162146 0006959 3896 this 27 day of Morch 2019, to: 21 22 Mark Magier, Psy.D. Address on Record 23 COPY of the foregoing mailed 24 this 27th day of March, 2019, to: 25 Charles S. Hover, III 26 Renaud Cook Drury Mesaros, PA 27 One N. Central, Stc. 900 Phoenix, AZ 85004 NAUD COOK 28 (Page 7,)

	1
1	Attorneys for Mark Magier, Ph.D.
2	COPY of the foregoing mailed this and day of March, 2019, to:
3	
4	Jeanne M. Galvin
5	Assistant Attorney General
6	Office of the Attorney General 2005 North Central Ave., SGD/LES
7	Phoenix, AZ 85004
8	Attorneys for the Board
9	By Heather Breadlus
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