BEFORE THE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS FOR THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of:

Case No. 20F-2009-PSY

Rachele Elisa "Barrie" Wagner, Psy.D.,

Holder of License No. PSY-003269 (Summarily Suspended)
For the Practice of Psychology
In the State of Arizona.

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND CONSENT AGREEMENT FOR SURRENDER OF PSYCHOLOGIST LICENSE

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), Rachele Elisa "Barrie" Wagner, Psy.D. ("Respondent"), holder of License No. PSY-003269 and the Board enter into this Consent Agreement for Voluntary Surrender ("Consent Agreement") as the 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-003269 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 this 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 to this matter.
- 8. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that the acceptance of this Consent Agreement is solely to settle this Board matter and does not preclude the Board from instituting other proceedings as may be appropriate now or in the future.
- 9. Respondent understands that this Consent Agreement does not constitute a dismissal or resolution of any other matters currently pending before the Board, if any, and does not constitute any waiver, express or implied, of the Board's statutory authority or jurisdiction regarding any other pending or future investigation, action or proceeding.
- 10. Furthermore, and notwithstanding any language in this Consent Agreement, this Consent Agreement does not preclude in any way any other state agency or officer or political subdivision of this state from instituting proceedings, investigating claims, or taking legal action as may be appropriate now or in the future relating to this matter or other matters concerning Respondent, including violations of the practice act. Respondent acknowledges that, other than with respect to the Board, this Consent Agreement makes no representations, implied or otherwise, about the views or intended actions of any other state agency or officer or political subdivision of the state relating to this matter or other matters concerning Respondent.
 - 11. 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 Board's 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.

- 12. The Consent Agreement, once approved by the Board and signed by the Respondent and the 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 Bank.
- 13. Although Respondent does not agree that all the Findings of Fact set forth in this Consent Agreement are supported by the evidence, Respondent acknowledges that it is the Board's position that, if this matter proceeded to formal hearing, the Board could establish sufficient evidence to support a conclusion that certain of Respondent's conduct constituted unprofessional conduct.
- 14. 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).

FINDINGS OF FACT

- Respondent is a licensed psychologist in the State of Arizona, license number 3269.
 She has been licensed in Arizona since August 17, 1998.
- 2. On October 3, 2019, the Board received information from an anonymous person alleging that Dr. Wagner had been admitted to a behavioral health facility pursuant to a court-ordered evaluation. The specifics of Respondent's condition and the allegations supporting the court-ordered evaluation are contained within the Board's files.

- 3. On October 23, 2019, the Board reviewed the pending complaint against Respondent and voted to summarily suspend Respondent's license, as emergency action was necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare. Additionally, the Board moved the matter to a formal hearing before the Office of Administrative Hearings to keep the suspension in place until such time Dr. Wagner undergoes a fitness for duty evaluation by a Board-approved provider and is cleared to safely practice psychology.
- 4. Following the summary suspension of her license, Respondent was readmitted to Valleywise Behavioral Health (Maryvale) on November 5, 2019, after a court-ordered petition was filed alleging that Respondent was engaging in behavior that some could conclude demonstrate that she is not safe to practice psychology, the specifics of which are contained in the Board's files.
- 5. On December 13, 2019, Respondent entered into an Interim Consent Agreement and Order for Voluntary Suspension of License, which specified that the suspension of Respondent's license would continue until she completes a fitness for duty evaluation within forty-five (45) days of the effective date of the Interim Consent Agreement and that evaluation determines that Respondent is safe to practice psychology, with or without certain limitations.
- 6. On June 5, 2020, at its public meeting, the Board reviewed the results of the evaluator's ("Neuropsychologist") report dated January 31, 2020, which opined that Respondent is not fit to return to the practice of psychology currently and that additional testing is recommended. The Board moved to issue an Interim Order for Respondent to complete the additional testing recommended in the evaluator's report.
- **7.** After reviewing the Interim Order, Respondent elected to voluntarily surrender her psychologist license.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-2061(16)(1), 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 ineffective.

ORDER

Pursuant to A.R.S. §32-2081(S) the Board has determined that the Respondent's conduct in Complaint No. 20F-2009-PSY 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:

- 1. Upon the effective date of this Consent Agreement, Respondent's license number PSY-003269 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 is the date the Consent Agreement is accepted by the Board as evidenced by the signature of the Board's Executive Director.
- 2. Respondent has read and understands this Consent Agreement as set forth herein, and has had the opportunity to discuss this Consent Agreement with an attorney or has waived the opportunity to discuss this Consent Agreement for the purpose of avoiding the expense and uncertainty of an administrative hearing.
- 4. Respondent understands that she has the right to a public administrative hearing concerning each and every allegation set forth in the above-captioned matter, at which administrative hearing she could present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. By entering into this Consent Agreement, Respondent freely and voluntarily relinquishes all rights to such administrative hearing, as well as all rights of rehearing, review, reconsideration, appeal, judicial review or any other administrative and/or judicial action, concerning the matters set forth herein. Respondent affirmatively agrees that this Consent Agreement shall be irrevocable.
- 5. Respondent understands that this Consent Agreement, or any part thereof, may be considered in any future disciplinary action against her or in any future decision regarding re-

7

13 14

15

16 17

18

19 20

21

22 23 24

25 26

27 28 licensure.

- 6. The parties agree that this Consent Agreement does not const tute a dismissal or resolution of other matters currently pending before the Board, if any, and doe not constitute any waiver, expressed or implied, of the Board's statutory authority or jurisdiction regarding any other pending or future investigation, action or proceeding. Respondent also understands that acceptance of the 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 tl at is subject of this Consent Agreement. The parties agree that this Consent Agreement is a final a ljudication of case 20F-2009-PSY.
- 7. Respondent understands that the foregoing Consent Agreemen shall not become effective unless and until adopted by the Board and executed on behalf of the Board. Any modification to this original document is ineffective and void unless mutually approved by both parties in writing.
- 8. Respondent understands that this Consent Agreement is a public record and may be publicly disseminated as a formal action of the Board and shall be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank.

August DATED this ______ day of ___

> Arizona Board of Psychologist Exam ners

spondent

Heidi Herbst Paakk men Executive Director

Hudi Horbst Paartonen

ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed This 14 day of August, 2020 with:

1	The Arizona State Board of Psychologist Examiners 1740 West Adams Street, Suite 3403
2	Phoenix, Arizona 85007
3	COPY mailed by US Regular & Certified Mail, No. <u>9489009000276155201879</u>
4	This <u>14</u> day of <u>August</u> , 2020 to:
5	Barrie Wagner, Psy.D.
6	Address on Record
7	COPY of the foregoing emailed
8	This <u>14</u> day of <u>August</u> , 2020, to:
9	Jeanne M. Galvin Assistant Attorney General
10	Office of the Attorney General
11	2005 North Central Ave., SGD/LES Phoenix, AZ 85004
12	Attorney for the Board
13	0.1.0
14	By perintellulum
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	