BEFORE THE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS

FOR THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of

Case No. 16-10 Case No. 16-23

Barrie Wagner, Psy.D. Holder of License No. 3269 for the Practice of Psychology in the State of Arizona

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND CONSENT AGREEMENT

On March 17, 2017, the Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners ("Board") met in open session to discuss the above-referenced cases. Barrie Wagner, Psy.D. ("Licensee"), was present with her attorney, Flynn P. Carey. After discussion, consideration, and deliberation, the Board voted to enter into a Consent Agreement in lieu of commencing an Initial Review.

JURISDICTION

- 1. The Board is the state agency authorized pursuant to Arizona Revised Statute ("A.R.S.") § 32-2061 *et. seq.*, and the rules promulgated thereunder, found in the 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. Licensee holds a license to practice as a psychologist in the State of Arizona, License number 3269, issued August 17, 1998, pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-2071 *et seq.*
- 3. The Board has personal and subject-matter jurisdiction over Licensee pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-2061 *et seq*.

CONSENT AGREEMENT

Licensee understands and agrees that:

- 4. The Board and Licensee 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. The Board has jurisdiction over Licensee and the subject matter pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-2061, et. seq.
- 6. Licensee has the right to consult with an attorney before entering into this Consent Agreement.
- 7. Licensee has a right to a formal public hearing concerning this case. She further acknowledges that at such formal hearing, she could present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. Licensee irrevocably waives any right to such a hearing.
- 8. Licensee irrevocably waives any right to rehearing or review or to any judicial review or any other appeal of this matter.
- 9. Although Licensee does not agree that all of the allegations in the Request for Investigation are supported by the evidence, Licensee acknowledges that it is the Board's position that if this matter were to proceed to a formal hearing, the Board could establish sufficient evidence to support a conclusion that certain of Licensee's conduct constituted unprofessional conduct. Licensee therefore has agreed to enter into this Consent Agreement as an economical and practical means of resolving the issues raised in the Request for Investigation.
- 10. The Consent Agreement shall be subject to the Board's approval and shall be effective only when signed by the Executive Director and accepted by the Board. 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 if the Board rejects this Consent Agreement and this case proceeds to hearing, Licensee shall

assert no claim that the Board was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this document or any other records relating thereto.

11. The Consent Agreement, once approved by the Board and signed by the Executive Director, shall constitute a public record that may be disseminated as a formal action of the Board and reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Complaint No. 16-10

- 12. Licensee is a licensed psychologist in the State of Arizona, license number 3269. She has been licensed in Arizona since August 1998.
- 13. Evidence obtained by the Board appeared to indicate that Licensee may suffer from a mental, psychological and/or physiological condition that impedes her ability to safely practice psychology, the specifics of which are maintained in the Board file.
- 14. On or around March 17, 2016, Licensee entered into an Interim Consent Agreement in which she agreed to the voluntary suspension of her license, pending Board-ordered evaluations to determine her fitness to practice.
- 15. As part of the Interim Consent Agreement, she was ordered to undergo certain testing and evaluations to determine her fitness to practice.
- 16. Licensee complied with all interim orders by the Board, and the Board has received adequate information to indicate she is fit to practice, subject to a period of monitoring. The supporting documentation for this finding of fact is maintained in the Board file.
- 17. There is no evidence that any patient or client was negatively impacted by her mental, psychological and/or physiological condition or that she was acutely impaired by any such condition while acting in her capacity as a psychologist and licensee. There is also no evidence that the cause of any mental, psychological and/or physiological condition was the use of alcohol or any illegal or prescription substance.

In fact, were this matter to proceed to hearing, the Board would not seek to prove that alcohol or any other impairing substance was the cause of any observed behaviors, as there is no evidence to support such an allegation.

- 18. Licensee was ordered to participate in ongoing treatment and assessment. Reports from her provider confirm that she has participated fully in all programming.
- 19. In addition to the treatment referenced in paragraph 18, Licensee also voluntarily began counseling and has participated fully in those sessions.

Complaint No. 16-23

- 20. In or around May 2014, Licensee was contacted by an attorney who represented a father ("Father") in relation to a custody matter, then pending in the Maricopa County Superior Court.
- 21. Licensee was retained to determine the level of contact appropriate between a minor child ("Child"), and his mother ("Mother"), who stood accused of striking Father with her vehicle. Licensee was retained solely to opine about the custodial arrangement during Mother's criminal trial and through sentencing.
- 22. On or about September 8, 2014, Licensee completed a report ("Report"), entitled "Best Interest of the Child Report for Plaintiff's Counsel".
- 23. On or about September 9, 2014, Licensee issued a summary of her Report, which was attached by Father's counsel to an Emergency Motion to Modify Parenting Time and quoted from in the Motion. The Motion was filed on September 17, 2014.
- 24. In her Report, Licensee made several professional conclusions and recommendations, including the following:
 - That Mother "could have an extreme rage reaction to simply seeing [Licensee's] report on her mental fitness, or to hearing about any changes to her parenting time."

- That Mother "should receive a thorough psychiatric and medical evaluation from a psychiatrist familiar with the presenting issues outlined in [Licensee's] report used to determine the best treatment approach for [Mother] and the most appropriate level of supervised or unsupervised parenting for her throughout [Child's] early childhood years."
- That Child should reside with Father full time throughout the pretrial, trial and sentencing stages of Mother's criminal case.
- That Mother's parenting time with Child should be supervised by someone other than the maternal grandmother ("Maternal Grandmother"), and should occur in a neutral setting rather than at Maternal Grandmother's home.
- That "[a] Limited Focus Assessment that includes a caregiver attachment assessment and the alleged mental illness or insane behavior of [Mother] should be assessed before [Child] is allowed to return to his mother's care."
- 25. In preparing the report, Licensee did not interview Mother. Although Mother had previously invoked her 5th Amendment right against self-incrimination at the advice of her criminal defense counsel, Licensee did not attempt to determine if she was invoking as to any evaluation being performed by Licensee in the Family Court matter.
- 26. In preparing a report, Licensee did not meet with Maternal Grandmother. Maternal Grandmother claimed that she had information that she believed rebutted certain claims that Father and his family had made about Mother and the dynamic between Mother and Child.
- 27. While Licensee did document the materials she reviewed in forming her opinions and described the investigation that she undertook to reach her

conclusions, she did not expressly disclaim the possible limitations of her opinions and discuss the materials/collateral sources that she chose not to review or interview.

- 28. On June 23, 2016, the Board received a Request for Investigation that alleged acts of unprofessional conduct that, if found by the Board to be factually supported, could justify this Board in taking action against Licensee.
- 29. Licensee, while confident that she could demonstrate that some of the allegations are not supported by the facts, concedes that other allegations are supported by the facts.
- 30. Since this Complaint, Licensee has completed a 3 hour CEU entitled "Making Professional Ethics Practical," developed by the American Psychological Association, and a 5 hour CEU entitled "Essential Ethics for Psychologists: A Primer for Understanding and Mastering Core Issues," developed by the American Psychological Association.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 31. The conduct and circumstances described above, if true, constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-2061(15)(o) Providing services that are unnecessary or unsafe or otherwise engaging in activities as a psychologist that are unprofessional by current standards of practice.
- 32. The conduct and circumstances described above, if true, constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-2061(15)(dd) Violating an ethical standard adopted by the Board, as it pertains to the American Psychological Association's 2002 Ethical Standards of Psychologists and Code of Conduct, Standard 9.01, Bases for Assessments, parts (a), (b), and (c).

ORDER

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-2081(S) the Board has determined that the Licensee's conduct in RFI No. 16-23 warrants disciplinary action. In addition, pursuant to the allegations in RFI No. 16-10, it is determined that while Licensee presently appears able to safely engage in the practice of psychology, a degree of monitoring is

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necessary to ensure the psychologist's continued ability to safely engage in the practice of psychology.

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- 33. **PROBATION:** Licensee's license as a Psychologist is placed on probation for a minimum period of twelve months from the effective date of this Consent Agreement and Order. The effective date of this Consent Agreement is the date that it is signed by the Board's Executive Director, or her designee, on behalf of the Board.
- 34. **PRACTICE MONITOR:** If at any time during the period of probation Licensee becomes employed/begins practice in a setting in which she is directly treating or evaluating patients, Licensee shall notify the Board prior to commencing such employment or practice. At that time, Licensee will be required to select a Practice Monitor. Licensee shall work under that Practice Monitor to provide professional oversight of Licensee's practices in conducting therapy, examinations, administering testing, and preparing and releasing evaluation reports. During the period of probation, should Licensee become employed/begin practice in a setting in which she is directly treating or evaluating patients, Licensee shall work under a Practice Monitor for a minimum of twelve months unless otherwise ordered by the Board upon the recommendation of the Practice Monitor. However, if the Licensee has completed a course of consulting with a Professional Mentor (described in paragraphs 37-38 below) Licensee shall work under a Practice Monitor for a minimum of six months. Licensee understands that this could extend her period of probation beyond the minimum of twelve months.

Licensee shall meet with the Practice Monitor once per week for a minimum of one hour each session during the first six months of the probationary period or during the first six months of working in a position for which a Practice Monitor is required,

as set forth in the Consent Agreement. At the discretion of the Practice Monitor, the meetings may be decreased thereafter. As part of the monitoring, the Practice Monitor will review Licensee's files/charts, and either sit in or review audio of Licensee's sessions. However, in the event Licensee is employed in a position in which she directly treats or evaluates patients and is supervised by a supervisor who is a licensed psychologist in good standing, the requirement that the Practice Monitor review Licensee's files/charts or sit in or review audio of sessions is waived. That supervisor shall make reports to the Board on a quarterly basis confirming that Licensee is meeting the applicable standards of care for her license and position.

The Practice Monitor shall review with Licensee the following areas of practice, as applicable: appropriate modalities, appropriate testing and evaluation protocols, testing administration procedures, and proper report preparation, finalization, and distribution.

The Practice Monitor shall submit to the Board quarterly reports of the meetings to include topics covered, results of case file audits conducted during the quarter, and any modifications made to the Licensee's practice. The quarterly reports shall also include the Practice Monitor's recommendations with regard to the need for any additional remedial activities on the part of Licensee, for example, any additional training or education (CEUs) to address topics at issue in Request for Investigation No. 16-23. The Practice Monitor shall provide reports to the Board 30 days after the end of each quarter.

The first quarter shall begin on the effective date of this Order, or upon commencement of Licensee entering employment/practice in which Licensee is treating or evaluating patients, whichever is later. Prior to the conclusion of the probationary period, the Practice Monitor is to complete a final written report to the Board summarizing his interaction with Licensee, topics discussed, areas of progress, results of case file audits conducted, matters of remaining concern and overall

impressions. The final report shall be submitted to the Board within ten (10) business days of the end of the last quarter of the term of probation.

Licensee shall present this Order to the Board approved Practice Monitor prior to the date of the first meeting. The first meeting between Licensee and her Practice Monitor shall occur within 30 days of the effective date of this Order, or within 15 days from when Licensee enters employment/practice in which Licensee is treating or evaluating patients, whichever is later.

- 35. Within ten (10) business days of being employed/commencing practice in a position with direct patient contact, Licensee shall enter into an agreement with a practice monitor, who shall be a psychologist in good standing in Arizona, to serve as her Practice Monitor. The Board shall provide a list of acceptable Practice Monitors, upon request.
- 36. If, during the probation period, the Practice Monitor is unable or unwilling to continue to act as Licensee's Practice Monitor, within ten (10) business days of the Practice Monitor's termination of the practice monitor relationship, Licensee shall contact the Board in writing and request three to four names of other potential Practice Monitors approved by the Board. Licensee shall notify the Board of her new Practice Monitor within 15 business days after the names of additional Practice Monitors are provided.

In the event that during the term of the Consent Agreement Licensee ceases employment or practice in the setting in which she was directly treating or evaluating patients, Licensee shall notify the Board at the time of terminating such employment or practice. At that time, Licensee will be required to retain a Professional Mentor, as set forth in paragraphs 37-38, below. The Board shall determine whether her Practice Monitor can serve as Professional Mentor. If not, the Board or its designee will then provide a list of approved Practice Monitors.

37. **PROFESSIONAL MENTOR**: In the event Licensee is employed in a setting other than that described in paragraphs 35-36, above, or Licensee is unemployed thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Consent Agreement, Licensee shall complete at least 10 hours of consultation with a licensed psychologist for the purpose of reviewing the allegations in Complaint 16-23, reviewing appropriate modalities, appropriate testing and evaluation protocols, testing administration procedures, and proper report preparation, finalization, and distribution, along with any other concepts the Professional Mentor deems appropriate to address the allegations raised in Complaint 16-23.

At the discretion of the Professional Mentor, if the Professional Mentor concludes further meetings are needed, the Professional Mentor shall notify the Board and recommend the amount of additional meetings necessary to address the areas listed in the above paragraph.

The Professional Mentor shall submit to the Board reports of the meetings on the schedule outlined in this paragraph. Areas addressed in the report shall include topics covered in the mentoring sessions, results of any case file audits conducted during the meetings, and any suggested modifications to Licensee's practice should she return to treating or evaluating patients. The reports shall be provided to the Board after the 3rd, 5th and 10th hours of consultation. The reports shall also include the Professional Mentor's recommendations with regard to the need for any additional remedial activities on the part of Licensee, for example, any additional training or education (CEUs) to address topics at issue in Request for Investigation No. 16-23. The Practice Monitor shall provide reports to the Board 10 days after completion of consultations as noted above.

Prior to the conclusion of the sessions with the Professional Mentor, the Professional Mentor is to complete a final written report to the Board summarizing his or her interaction with Licensee, topics discussed, areas of progress, results of case

file audits conducted, matters of remaining concern and overall impressions. The final report shall be submitted to the Board within ten (10) business days of the final consultation.

Licensee shall present this Order to the Board approved Professional Mentor prior to the date of the first meeting. The first meeting between Licensee and her Professional Mentor shall occur within 30 days of the effective date of this Order.

38. Within ten (10) business days of being employed/commencing practice in a position without direct patient contact, or within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Consent Agreement if Licensee is unemployed, Licensee shall enter into an agreement with a Board-approved Professional Mentor, who shall be a psychologist in good standing in Arizona, to serve as her Professional Mentor. The Board shall provide a list of acceptable Professional Mentors, upon request.

If, during the probation period, the Professional Mentor is unable or unwilling continue to act as Licensee's Professional Mentor, within ten (10) business days of the Professional Mentor's termination of the Professional Mentor relationship, Licensee shall contact the Board in writing and request three to four names of other potential Professional Mentors approved by the Board. Licensee shall notify the Board of her new Professional Mentor within 15 business days after the names of additional Professional Mentors are provided.

In the event that during the term of the Consent Agreement Licensee becomes employed/begins practice in a setting in which she is directly treating or evaluating patients, Licensee shall notify the Board prior to commencing such employment or practice. At that time, Licensee will be required to retain a Practice Monitor, as set forth in paragraphs 34-36, above. The Board shall determine whether her Professional Mentor can serve as Practice Monitor. If not, the Board or its designee will then provide a list of approved Professional Mentors.

Licensee shall receive credit for any hours for which she consulted with the Professional Mentor before switching to a Practice Monitor.

TREATMENT: Licensee is currently participating in mandatory treatment, evaluation, and medication management. Within ten (10) business days of the effective date of this Consent Agreement, Licensee shall cause a copy of this Consent Agreement to be provided to her mandatory treatment providers. Licensee shall continue to participate in any and all ordered treatment, evaluation, and treatment during the probation period, and shall cause quarterly reports to be sent by her treatment providers to the Board. The quarterly reports are due to the Board on the 15th of each month following the end of each quarter.

During the period of probation, if a determination is made that further mandatory treatment is no longer required and Licensee is no longer required to participate in mandatory treatment, Licensee shall then transition to a Board-approved treatment providers. Within 10 days of mandatory treatment or medication management being terminated, Licensee shall request from the Board a list of providers, or submit a proposed counselor or other treatment provider for approval by the Board or its designee. Her selected provider will determine the frequency of treatment, and the appropriate modalities of treatment. Licensee shall follow any such recommendations during the probation period. Licensee shall complete any necessary releases of information to allow for the exchange of information between her providers and the Board.

40. **NOTICE TO EMPLOYER**: Licensee shall cause a copy of this Consent Agreement to be served upon her employer within three (3) days of commencing employment with a new employer, and in the event employment involves direct evaluation or treatment of patients, prior to commencing such evaluation or treatment.

after she has served under a Practice Monitor for twelve (12) months, whichever is later unless otherwise ordered by the Board, Licensee may petition the Board, in writing, and request termination from probation and monitoring. If the Board determines that Licensee has not complied with the requirements of this Consent Agreement, the Board may either (a) continue the probation, including the Practice Monitor, or (b) institute proceedings for noncompliance with this Consent Agreement, which may result in the suspension, revocation, or other disciplinary and/or remedial action.

At the time of determining whether to terminate probation, the fact that Licensee is still subject to any order for mandatory treatment shall not prevent the Board from terminating probation, provided Licensee is in present compliance with her mandatory treatment.

- 42. **PRACTICE RESTRICTION**: During the term of Probation, Licensee shall not perform child custody evaluations or opine on custody evaluation matters.
- 43. <u>CONTINUED APPLICATION OF TERMS</u>: If, between the effective date of this Consent Agreement and the termination of Licensee's probation by the Board, Licensee fails to renew her license while under this Consent Agreement and subsequently applies for a license, the remaining terms of this Consent Agreement, including probation and monitoring, shall be imposed if the application for licensure is granted.
- Agreement shall not become effective unless and until adopted by the Board of Psychologist Examiners and executed on behalf of the Board. Any modification to this original document is ineffective and void unless mutually approved by the parties in writing.

- 45. <u>CONSIDERATION IN FUTURE ACTIONS</u>: Licensee understands that this Consent Agreement, or any part thereof, may be considered in any future disciplinary action against her.
- 46. **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.
 - 47. **TIME:** Time is of the essence with regard to this Consent Agreement.
- 48. <u>COSTS</u>: The Licensee shall be responsible for all costs incurred as a result of her compliance with this Consent Agreement.
- 49. **NON-COMPLIANCE:** If Licensee fails to comply with the terms of this Consent Agreement, the Board may properly institute proceedings for noncompliance, which may result in suspension, revocation, or other disciplinary and/or remedial actions. Violation of this Consent Agreement is a violation of A.R.S. § 32-2061(15)(aa) ("violating a formal board order, consent agreement, term of probation or stipulated agreement").
- 50. <u>PUBLIC RECORD</u>: This Consent Agreement is a public record that may be publicly disseminated as a formal action of the Board and reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank.

DATED THIS 6 day of _	april	, 2017.
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ARIZONA BOARD OF

PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS

1	James Wasner, tsy D By: Curdy Closy tsy
2	Barrie Wagner, Psy.D. Cindy Olvey Psy.D.
3	Licensee Executive Director
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4	ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed
5	this 6 day of 100 2017, with:
6	The Arizona State Board of Psychologist Examiners
7	1400 West Washington, Suite 240 Phoenix, Arizona 85007
8	
9	All and the state of the state
10	COPY mailed by Certified Mail, No. 7016 2140 0000 6959 4305
11	this fin day of April 2017, to:
12	Barrie Wagner, Psy.D.
13	Address on Record
14	COPY mailed
15	this $\frac{t}{6}$ day of $\frac{t}{4}$ $\frac{t}{2017}$, to:
16	Flynn Carey, Esq./Anna Finn, Esq.
17	Mitchell Stein Carey, P.C. One Renaissance Square
18	2 North Central Ave. Ste. 1900
19	Phoenix, AZ 85004
	COPY of the foregoing mailed by interagency
20	this $6^{\frac{1}{12}}$ day of $\frac{2017}{12}$, to:
21	Jeanne M. Galvin
22	Office of the Arizona Attorney General
23	SGD/LES
24	1275 W. Washington Phoenix, AZ 85007
25	
26	
	By: /////

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS FOR THE STATE OF ARIZONA

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In the Matter of

and Order dated April 6, 2017.

Barrie Wagner, Psy.D.

in the State of Arizona

Holder of License No. PSY-003269

for the Practice of Psychology

Case No. 16-10 & 16-23

RELEASE FROM CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

The Board of Psychologist Examiners ("Board") received a request to release Barrie Wagner, Psy.D., from the terms and conditions of the above-referenced Consent Agreement

The Board, at its meeting of July 13, 2018, discussed and considered requirements for release from the terms and conditions of the Consent Agreement and Order. Dr. Wagner has substantially complied with all of the terms and conditions of the Consent Agreement and Order.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Dr. Barrie Wagner is hereby released from all terms and conditions of the Consent Agreement and Order dated April 6, 2017, effective July 13, 2018.

DATED this 13th day of July, 2018.

Jenna Jones

Executive Director

1	ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed this
2	13 th day of July, 2018, with:
3	The Arizona State Board of Psychologist Examiners 1740 West Adams St., Suite 3403
4	Phoenix, Arizona 85007
5	CODY of the formation will be to
6	COPY of the foregoing mailed this 13 th day of July, 2018, to:
7	Barrie Wagner, Psy.D.
8	Address of Record
9	CODY SI S
10	COPY of the foregoing mailed by interagency mail 13 th day of July, 2018, to:
11	Jeanne Galvin, Esq.
12	Assistant Attorney General
13	Arizona Attorney General's Office SGD/LES
14	15 S. 15 th Ave.
15	Phoenix, Arizona 85007
16	By: Alegahar Promiser
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