

Whitney L. Casement, KS S. Ct. No 25466  
Assistant Attorney General  
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**BEFORE THE KANSAS BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES REGULATORY BOARD**

**In The Matter Of** )  
 )  
**DIXIE ALEXANDER,** )  
**LSCSW #1017** )

**Case No. 14-CS-0024**

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Pursuant to K.S.A. 77-537

**SUMMARY PROCEEDING ORDER OF TEMPORARY SUSPENSION**

NOW, on this 9 day of January, 2014, the above-captioned matter comes before the Complaint Review Committee of the Kansas Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board (the "Board").

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

The Board finds that the following facts have been established by a preponderance of clear and convincing evidence:

1. Dixie Alexander is currently, and has been at all times relevant hereto, a Licensed Specialist Clinical Social Worker within the meaning of the Kansas Social Workers Licensure Act, K.S.A. 65-6301, *et seq.*, and amendments thereto.
2. On or about September 3, 2013, the Board received a report of information concerning Respondent's conduct, alleging Respondent may have violated certain statutes and regulations governing unprofessional conduct.
3. Board staff conducted a preliminary investigation concerning Respondent's alleged violation of statutes and regulations. Respondent was given an opportunity to respond to the report of information and responded with a facsimile received by the Board on October 27, 2013.
4. As a result of the investigation, the Board finds that the following facts have been

established by a preponderance of clear and convincing evidence:

- a) Respondent is currently, and was at all times relevant hereto, a Specialist Clinical Social Worker licensed in the State of Kansas.
- b) Respondent was self-employed at all times relevant hereto.
- c) On May 22, 2013, the Arkansas City Police Department conducted a welfare check on Respondent in response to a call from a client who reported that Respondent did not appear for a scheduled appointment.
- d) Because Respondent's client had reported Respondent had recent medical issues, police officers entered Respondent's place of business. Upon entering, police officers witnessed a "complete disarray" of the building, including the strong smell of urine and cat feces. It was difficult for the officers to take a step without stepping on some clothing or trash and there was cat feces scattered about the building. Several photographs of Respondent's place of business taken by law enforcement officers on May 22, 2013 are attached hereto as Exhibit A.
- e) Due to recent health concerns, Respondent has been unable to see many clients and has been unable to clean her office. However, Respondent has continued to provide social work services to clients two to three times per week despite her health and condition of her professional meeting space.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

5. Based on the allegations and subsequent investigation, the Complaint Review Committee of the Board finds probable cause exists to believe that Respondent, while a Licensed Specialist Clinical Social Worker, violated the following statute and regulations:

**A. K.S.A. 65-6311. Grounds for suspension, limitation, revocation or refusal to issue or renew license; procedure.**

- (a) The board may suspend, limit, revoke, condition or refuse to issue or renew a

license of any social worker upon proof that the social worker:

...

(4) has been found guilty of unprofessional conduct as defined by rules established by the board.

**B. K.A.R. 102-2-7. Unprofessional conduct.**

Any of the following acts by a Respondent or applicant for a social work license shall constitute unprofessional conduct:

...

(h) failing to recognize, seek intervention, and otherwise appropriately respond when one's own personal problems, psychosocial distress, or mental health difficulties interfere with or negatively impact professional judgment, professional performance and functioning, or the ability to act in the client's best interests;

...

(xx) practicing social work in an incompetent manner.

6. Proceedings under the Kansas Social Workers Licensure Act are subject to the Kansas Administrative Procedure Act (K.S.A. 77-501, et seq.) ("KAPA") pursuant to K.S.A. 65-6311. K.S.A. 77-537 of KAPA provides that the Board may use summary proceedings when necessary and appropriate.

7. The Board is authorized to take disciplinary action against a Licensed Specialist Clinical Social Worker pursuant to K.S.A. 65-6311, including suspension of her license.

8. The Board has jurisdiction over Respondent by virtue of her Kansas Licensed Specialist Clinical Social Worker license. The Board has been charged by the Kansas Legislature with the responsibility to protect the public health, safety and welfare by assuring the current competence to practice of its licensees.

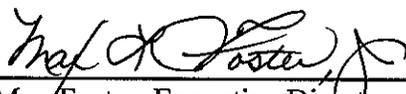
### SANCTION

Based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, Respondent Dixie Alexander's Kansas Licensed Specialist Clinical Social Worker license should be and is hereby

suspended, effective upon the date shown in the certificate of service below. Such suspension is temporary subject to completion of the following conditions and further order of the Board.

- a. Respondent shall complete a psychological evaluation by a provider approved by the Board. Such evaluation should contain recommendations on Respondent's ability to practice social work competently and professionally with or without specific restrictions or conditions.
- b. Respondent shall cooperate with the evaluation and shall authorize and direct the evaluator to send a complete copy of the evaluation to Cindy D'Ercole, Investigator for the Board, upon completion.
- c. Respondent shall submit a written plan detailing how she will practice social work in a safe, competent, and professional manner and what steps she will take to ensure that Respondent's own personal problems, psychosocial distress, or mental or physical health difficulties do not interfere with or negatively impact her professional judgment, professional performance and functioning, or the ability to act in the client's best interests in the future.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

  
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Max Foster, Executive Director  
Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board

**NOTICE OF RELIEF FROM SUMMARY PROCEEDING ORDER**

Pursuant to K.S.A. 77-537 and K.S.A. 77-542, this Summary Proceeding Order is subject to your request for a hearing. If you desire a hearing, you must direct a written request for hearing to:

Max Foster, Executive Director  
Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board  
700 SW Harrison St., Suite 420  
Topeka, KS 66603-3929

Whitney L. Casement, Esq.  
Kansas Office of the Attorney General  
120 SW Tenth Ave., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Topeka, KS 66612

Any such request must be filed within fifteen (15) days of service of this Notice. If a hearing is not requested in the time and manner stated, this Summary Proceeding Order becomes final and effective upon the expiration of the time for requesting a hearing and will be a Final Order of the Board.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

This is to certify that on this 9 day of January, 2014, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Summary Proceeding Order of Temporary Suspension was deposited in the U.S. mail, first class postage prepaid, addressed to:

Dixie Alexander  
310 South 2nd  
Arkansas City, KS 67005

and a copy delivered via interoffice mail to:

Whitney L. Casement  
Assistant Attorney General  
120 SW 10th Ave., 2nd Floor  
Topeka, KS 66612  
*Disciplinary Counsel for the Board*

  
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For the Board