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Whitney L. Casement, KS S Ct. # 25466  
Office of the Kansas Attorney General  
120 SW 10th Avenue, Second Floor  
Topeka, KS 66612-1597

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

**BEFORE THE BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES REGULATORY BOARD**

In the Matter of )  
)  
Michelle Bunch, LMFT, )  
License #2453, )  
Respondent )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

Case No. 15-MF-0096

**CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER**

NOW, on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015, the above-captioned matter comes before the Kansas Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board [Board], by and through Assistant Attorney General Whitney L. Casement, by agreement of Michelle Bunch [Licensee] and the Board for the purpose of resolving the above-captioned case.

Licensee hereby acknowledges the following:

1. Michelle Bunch is currently, and was at all times relevant to this Consent Agreement and Order, a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist within the meaning of the Marriage and Family Therapists Licensure Act, K.S.A. 65-6401, *et seq.*, and amendments thereto.

2. On or about February 6, 2015, the Licensee self-reported that she may have violated certain statutes and regulations governing unprofessional conduct and prohibited acts.

3. As a result of the report and subsequent investigation, the Board finds that the following facts have been established by a preponderance of the evidence:

(a) Licensee is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist currently licensed in Kansas.

- (b) Licensee has been practicing as a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist since 2012.
- (c) This is the second time Licensee has renewed her license since she began practicing.
- (d) On February 6, 2015, Licensee self-reported that her license had expired on January 31, 2015, and she had failed to renew prior to that date.
- (e) Licensee worked as a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist from February 2, 2015, through February 5, 2015.
- (f) Licensee reported the failure to renew her license to her employer on February 5, 2015.

4. The Complaint Review Committee of the Board finds that Licensee has violated

the following statute and regulations:

**A. K.S.A. 65-6408. Refusal to grant, suspension, condition, limitation, qualification, restriction or revocation of license; grounds.**

The board may refuse to grant licensure to, or may suspend, revoke, condition, limit, qualify or restrict the licensure of any individual who the board, after a hearing, determines:

- (7) has been found guilty of unprofessional conduct as defined by rules and regulations established by the board;

**B. K.A.R. 102-5-12. Unprofessional Conduct.**

- (a) Any license may be suspended, limited, conditioned, qualified, restricted, revoked, not issued, or not renewed upon a finding that unprofessional conduct has occurred.

- (b) Any of the following acts by either a marriage and family therapy licensee . . . shall constitute unprofessional conduct:

- (51) practicing marriage and family therapy after one's license has expired;
- (52) using without a license or continuing to use after a license has expired any title or abbreviation prescribed by law to be used solely by persons who

currently hold that type or class of license.

However, Licensee and the Board mutually desire to enter a Consent Agreement and Order in lieu of adjudicative proceedings to resolve the reported violations.

WHEREFORE, Licensee waives all rights to an adjudication of facts and law which could be determined pursuant to a hearing conducted in accordance with the Kansas Administrative Procedure Act in relation to Case No. 15-MF-0096.

WHEREFORE, Licensee waives the right to file a motion for reconsideration and all rights of appeal pursuant to the Kansas Judicial Review Act in relation to Case No. 15-MF-0096.

WHEREFORE, Licensee consents to the following terms and conditions:

(a) Licensee shall pay a fine of \$50.00 to the Board within 30 days of the effective date of this Consent Agreement and Order.

(b) Licensee shall be responsible for any costs and expenses incurred in satisfying the terms of this Consent Agreement and Order.

(c) Licensee understands that a notification of this Consent Agreement and Order may be provided to any other state or federal agency with which Licensee is licensed, registered, or certified.

(d) Licensee acknowledges an affirmative duty to notify the Board within ten (10) days of any changes in personal or professional status which would inhibit compliance with any condition of this Consent Agreement and Order. In such event, a designee of the Board is authorized to modify or amend this Consent Agreement and Order in writing.

(e) This Consent Agreement and Order constitutes the entire agreement between the Licensee and the Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board and may be modified or amended only by written agreement signed by Licensee and the Board or a designee of the Board.

WHEREFORE, Licensee consents to the submission of this Consent Agreement and

Order to the Board's Complaint Review Committee and understands that, upon approval by the Complaint Review Committee, this Consent Agreement and Order will become a Final Order of the Board. The Board has authorized the Complaint Review Committee to determine approval of this Consent Agreement and Order.

WHEREFORE, the Board agrees that, so long as Licensee complies with the above conditions, the Board will not initiate further disciplinary action against Licensee in relation to violations of K.S.A. 65-6408 and K.A.R.102-5-12 as a result of this proceeding.

WHEREFORE, the foregoing provisions are consented to, are hereby made the Final Order of the Kansas Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board, and become effective on the date indicated in the Certificate of Service below.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**



Terry Pfannenstiel  
Chair, Complaint Review Committee

**APPROVED AND CONSENTED TO:**



Michelle Bunch  
Licensee

9/11/15  
Date

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that on this 24 day of September 2015, a true and correct copy of the above Consent Agreement and Order was deposited in the U.S. mail, first class postage prepaid, addressed to:

Michelle Bunch  


and a copy emailed to:

Whitney L. Casement  
Assistant Attorney General  
whitney.casement@ag.ks.gov  
*Disciplinary Counsel for the Board*

Cindy D'Ercole  
For the Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board