BEFORE THE BEHAVIORIAL SCIENCES REGULATORY BOARD Landon State Office Building - Suite 651-S Topeka, Kansas 66612-1220 (913) 296-3240

In the Matter)	
of) Case No. 390	
RONALD DENNEY, RMLP)))	

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

The parties hereby acknowledge the following:

- 1. Ronald Denney, is authorized to practice psychology as a Registered Masters Level Psychologist (RMLP) under the provisions of K.S.A. 75-5361 et seq., and amendments thereto.
- 2. On or about September 11, 1991, the board received a report of information concerning Ronald Denney's conduct, alleging he may have violated Kansas Statutes and Regulations pertaining to licensure and registration of psychologists.
- 3. The board conducted an investigation concerning the above-referenced allegation.

- 4. During the investigation, Ronald Denney was informed of the reported information and given the opportunity to respond to the allegations.
- 5. As a result of the investigation, the board determined that reasonable grounds exist to believe that Ronald Denney's conduct violated K.S.A. 74-5369(d), (e), and specifically K.A.R. 102-4-5(b)(5), (22) and (24).

HOWEVER, Ronald Denney and the board mutually desire to enter into this Consent Agreement and Order in lieu of adjudicative proceedings to resolve the report of alleged violations.

WHEREFORE the parties hereby consent and agree to the following terms and conditions:

- A. Ronald Denney 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. 390.
- B. Ronald Denney waives the right to file a motion for reconsideration and all rights of appeal pursuant to the Kansas act for judicial review in relation to Case No. 390.
 - C. The parties agree and stipulate as follows:
- 1. At all times relevant hereto, Ronald Denney was executive director of Four County Mental Health

Center, Independence, Kansas. Mike Spencer was an employee of the center.

- 2. On or about May 23, 1989, Ronald Denney learned that Mike Spencer had a sexual encounter with a female whom he knew was a former client of the center. Mike Spencer was an unregistered masters level psychologist at that time.
- 3. Based upon representations made by Mr. Spencer and the client, and upon review of the client's patient records, Ronald Denney believed that the therapeutic relationship between Mr. Spencer and the female had been terminated prior to the sexual encounter.
- 4. Ronald Denney submitted to the board a Professional Reference Form, dated July 19, 1989 in which he recommended Mr. Spencer for registration as an RMLP. Further, Ronald Denney attested to Mr. Spencer's ethics as being beyond question.
- 5. Some time after Novemeber, 1991, Ronald Denney learned that Mr. Spencer and the female client actually had been involved in a sexual relationship over a period of time which included the therapeutic relationship.
- 6. Had Ronald Denney known the true nature of the relationship between Mr. Spencer and the client, he would have believed an ethical violation had occurred, and would not have provided the endorsement to the Board.

- D. The Board alleges that Ronald Denney should have known Mr. Spencer's actions were not consistent with ethical practice of psychology, and that submitting the endorsement was wrongful.
- E. If proven true, the allegations could constitute a violation of the previously-referenced Kansas statutes and regulations.
- F. Ronald Denney agrees to demonstrate learning and knowledge of ethical obligations and rules of conduct pertaining to preventing, detecting and reporting sexual relationships between psychologists and past or present clients by writing and submitting a written article on that topic of at least twenty (20) pages, double spaced with at least 4 sources. Such article will be written in APA format, and is subject to review and approval by a Board member to be announced. Further, such article will be presented to the designated Board member within 120 days of accepting this consent agreement.
- G. Ronald Denney consents to the Standard Provisions, a copy of which is attached and incorporated by reference.
- H. The Board agrees that upon approval of the article by the designated Board member, the complaint file will be presented at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board, and such complaint will be dismissed.

WHEREFORE, the provisions above are hereby made the final order of the Kansas Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated this 27th day of JUNE

1993.

Chairperson

Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board

APPROVED and CONSENTED to:

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