

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
PROFESSIONAL BOARDS AND  
COMMISSIONS**

vs.

Case #: C15-892

**JAMES L. NORMAN  
LICENSE NO. ISW012**

**SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

James Norman (hereinafter "Respondent") has been licensed as an Independent Social Worker pursuant to Rhode Island General Law § 5-39.1-8 and holds license number ISW01283. Respondent is alleged to be in violation of R.I.G.L. § 5-39.1-10(1) and (13), and the Rules and Regulations for the Licensing of Clinical Social Workers and Independent Clinical Social Workers § 8.1(a), (m) and (n) in that Respondent is incompetent to practice, has violated provisions of this chapter and the provisions of the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics and has departed from and failed to conform to the minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing social work practice. It is also alleged that Respondent has violated R.I.G.L. 11-9-1.3, which is a felony. Specifically, documents received by the Department from the Rhode Island State Police indicate that:

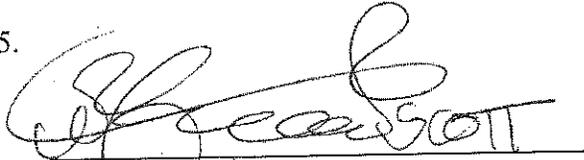
1. As the result of a report received from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the Rhode Island State Police conducted an investigation and determined that a certain e-mail account had posted child pornography as defined in R.I.G.L. § 11-9-1.3.
2. On or about September 1, 2015, Rhode Island State Police obtained a search warrant for the subject account and obtained emails, images and subscriber information for the

account. It was determined that Respondent was the subscriber. The images contained content that constituted child pornography pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 11-9-1.3. Images on the account resembled a Rhode Island driver's license issued to Respondent.

3. On or about September 21, 2015, Rhode Island State Police executed a search warrant at Respondent's residence. During execution of the search warrant, Respondent admitted that he used the internet to download child pornography and role-play with children. A recorded statement was taken during which Respondent admitted to downloading and uploading child pornography onto an internet chat room. Respondent also admitted to being the owner of the subject email account.
4. Respondent was then transported to State Police barracks. During an interview, he admitted that he had sexually assaulted a child on two occasions in 2000 at a prior residence.

Based upon the foregoing, the Director of Health has determined that public health, safety and welfare imperatively requires emergency action in the form of the summary suspension of Respondent's Independent Social Worker license. Accordingly, the Independent Social Worker license of Respondent is hereby **suspended effective September 25, 2015** pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-35-14(c). Said **Suspension** shall continue indefinitely pending further order of the Department of Health. **A hearing on this matter is scheduled for October 5, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the Department of Administration, 1 Capitol Hill, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Office of Management and Budget Conference Room, Providence, Rhode Island 02908 before an Administrative Hearing Officer.** For questions, please contact Amy Coleman, Esq., at (401)222-5116.

Signed this 25<sup>th</sup> of September, 2015.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicole Alexander-Scott". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Nicole Alexander-Scott, M.D., M.P.H.

Director

R.I. Department of Health

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