

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH :
HEALTH SERVICES REGULATION :
BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN SOCIAL WORK :

vs. :

PETER CIORLANO, LICSW :

CONSENT ORDER

Pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws (2004 Reenactment) Section 5-39.1-10 and the Rules and Regulations promulgated thereunder, the Department of Health (hereinafter "Department"), Board of Examiners in Social Work (hereinafter "Board") has investigated a complaint charging Peter Ciorlano (hereinafter "Respondent") with a violation of Section 5-39.1-10 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island (2004 Reenactment).

After consideration by the Department, the following constitutes the Findings of Fact with respect to the professional performance of the Respondent:

1. Respondent is a licensed independent clinical social worker licensed to practice in the State of Rhode Island.
2. That on various dates in April, May and June 2005 Respondent did meet with clients at unscheduled times outside of the health center; and that Respondent did arrange for Client A to drive him to the local cemetery and have the counseling session in the client's car. That Respondent did fail to follow risk assessment protocols; failed to comply with appropriate standards in both treatment and discharge planning; failed to comply with appropriate record keeping standards, in that visits were not recorded; documentation of contacts with treating physicians was not completed; documentation of crisis plans and follow-up of suicidal patients was not completed; and no action was taken in the treatment of a decompensating client.

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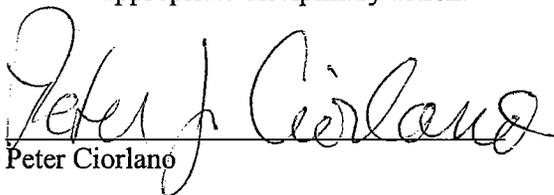
3. That the conduct described in paragraph two (2) herein constitutes unprofessional conduct pursuant to Section 5-39.1-10 of the Rhode Island General Laws and the Rules and Regulations promulgated thereunder.

The parties agree as follows:

1. Respondent is a licensed independent clinical social worker licensed to practice in the State of Rhode Island.
2. Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of the Board and hereby agrees to remain under jurisdiction of the Department.
3. Respondent has read this Consent Order and understands that it is a proposal of the Department and is subject to the final approval by the Department. This Consent Order and the contents thereof are not binding on Respondent until final approval by the Department.
4. Respondent hereby acknowledges and waives:
 - a) The right to appear personally or by counsel or both before the Department;
 - b) The right to produce witnesses and evidence in his behalf at a hearing;
 - c) The right to cross-examine witnesses;
 - d) The right to have subpoenas issued by the Department;
 - e) The right to further procedural steps except for those specifically contained herein; and
 - f) Any and all rights of appeal of this Consent Order.
5. This Consent Order shall become part of the public record of this proceeding once it is accepted by all parties.
6. Acceptance by the Respondent and approval by the Department of this Consent Order constitutes an admission of the facts contained herein.
7. Respondent agrees to a one (1) year suspension of his license to practice as a social worker, which suspension shall be stayed and the Respondent shall be placed on probation for one (1) year under a Board-approved supervisor.

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8. That during the period of probation Respondent shall complete coursework in ethics and professional boundaries, confidentiality, risk assessment, documentation and record keeping, and treatment and discharge planning. Said coursework must be submitted for board approval prior to registration for the course.
9. That at the time Respondent seeks reinstatement of his license he shall submit evidence of completion of the coursework referenced in paragraph eight (8) of this Consent Order.
10. That said probation shall commence with the approval of the supervisor by the Board.
11. That during the period of probation, Respondent shall submit to weekly supervision with the Board approved supervisor and that reports of said supervision shall be submitted to the Board on a monthly basis. That it shall be the responsibility of Respondent to request that the supervisor submit said reports
12. That should Respondent comply with the laws and regulations governing the practice of social work during the period of probation and comply with the requirements of the Consent Order, he may apply to the Board for an unrestricted license to practice as a social worker.
13. That should Respondent fail to comply with the laws and regulations governing the practice of social work and/or fail to comply with the requirements of the Consent Order, his license to practice as a licensed independent social worker shall be subject to suspension or other appropriate disciplinary action.


Peter Ciorlano


Charles Alexandre, MSN, RN
Chief
Health Professions Regulation

Date May 18, 2006