

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Department of Health
Center for Professional Boards and Commissions
Board of Social Work Examiners

vs.

Complaint No.: C15-1012
Licensee No.: ISW00752

PETER JAMES CIORLANO

CONSENT ORDER

Pursuant to R.I. General Laws, Chapter 5-39.1 and the Rules and Regulations promulgated thereunder, the Rhode Island Department of Health (hereinafter the "Department"), and the Board of Social Work Examiners (hereinafter the "Board"), has investigated a complaint charging PETER JAMES CIORLANO, ISW00752 (hereinafter the "Respondent") with a violation of R.I.G.L. Chapter 5-39.1.

After review and consideration by the Department and the Board with respect to the allegations of unprofessional conduct of the Respondent, the following are and shall constitute

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is an Independent Clinical Social Worker licensed to practice in the State of Rhode Island under Independent Clinical Social Worker License Number, ISW00752.
2. At all times relevant hereto, Respondent was employed by Providence School Department, Providence, RI.
3. That on or about July, 2013 Respondent violated the National Association of Social Worker Code of Ethics, adopted by the RI Board of Social Work Examiners, by engaging in an inappropriate relationship with a former client whom he was still seeing on weekends.
4. That the conduct described in paragraph three (3) herein constitutes unprofessional conduct pursuant to R5-39.1 and the RI Rules and Regulations promulgated there under.

5. That the Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of the Department and hereby agrees to remain under the jurisdiction of the Department.

6. That the Respondent has read this Consent Order and understands this Consent Order shall become binding once signed by the Respondent and the Department and/or Board.
7. That the Respondent understands the purpose of this Consent Order is solely to resolve this complaint C15-1012 of unprofessional conduct alleged against the Respondent.
8. That the Respondent hereby acknowledges and waives:
 - a. The right to have an Administrative Hearing on this matter;
 - b. The right to represent himself/herself or be represented by an Attorney of Respondent's own choosing at said hearing;
 - c. The right to present testimony, evidence and witnesses on Respondent's behalf;
 - d. The right to cross-examine witnesses presented by the Department;
 - e. The right to further procedural steps except for those specifically contained herein;
 - f. The right to take an appeal from the terms of this Consent Order.
9. That failure to comply with this Consent Order, once signed and accepted, shall subject the Respondent to further disciplinary action.
10. That Respondent's Independent Clinical Social Worker License ISW00752 will be subject to a five (5) year period of probation and respondent's license shall reflect the status "Active Probation."
11. That the probationary period will be tolled for any duration of time in which Respondent ceases to be employed as an Independent Clinical Social Worker.
12. That Respondent will notify the Department of any lapse in employment and the probation period will be extended until the required employment period of five (5) years Employed Probation as an Independent Clinical Social Worker is completed.
13. That Respondent must provide the Department with the name and address of the new employer(s) and the reason for said change of employment.
14. The Respondent must comply with the laws and regulations governing the practice of Independent Clinical Social Work during the period of probation and with the requirements of this Consent Order. Upon completion of the

five-year probationary period, Respondent may apply to the Department for an unrestricted license to practice as an Independent Clinical Social Worker.

ACCORDINGLY, AND BASED ON THE FOREGOING:

The Rhode Island Department of Health and the Respondent hereby agree to the following disposition of this complaint:

1. That Respondent is hereby issued the sanction of a Probation for five (5) years, which will remain public, with a Stayed Suspension of five (5) years, providing the conditions of this Consent Order are met and all Board Rules, Regulations, Statutes and the Code of Ethics are not violated during this time period.
2. A medical and psychological evaluation by board approved provider who will submit a Fitness for Duty report to the Board in 2016 and a follow up report in the last year of the probation period. The Board will provide a list of providers from which Mr. Ciorlano may chose for his evaluation and fitness for duty assignments. Mr. Ciorlano shall submit the name and address of the provider who will conduct the fitness for duty evaluation to the Board for Board approval prior to obtaining the evaluation.
3. A board approved six (6) unit course addressing maintaining boundaries in therapeutic relationships taken before December 31, 2016. The Board will provide a list of Boundary related classes to Mr. Ciorlano. The Boundary related course(s) are in addition to the regular CEUs required by the licensee each year.
4. Adherence to the *RI Rules and Regulations for Licensing Clinical Social Workers and Independent Clinical Social Workers* and the *National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics*.
5. Restriction of practice is limited to his full-time employment position during the five (5) year probationary period. Home Visits to Students homes during the school day are permitted so long as a Parent or Guardian is present at the home during each visit. Mr. Ciorlano agrees to not treat past clients or current clients outside his normal work duties.
6. That this Order shall become part of a public record of this proceeding.
7. Commencement is upon ratification.

Peter J. Ciorlano

PETER JAMES CIORLANO
ISW00752

Date: 7-27-16

Sarah Harrigan

Sarah Harrigan, Chief
Center for Professional Boards and
Commissions

Date: 8/2/16