#### WAKE COUNTY

### **BEFORE THE**

### **NORTH CAROLINA**

## OF THE

**ETHICS COMMITTEE** 

# NORTH CAROLINA SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE BOARD

EC-292-14

THE NORTH CAROLINA	)	
SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROFESSIONAL	)	
PRACTICE BOARD,	)	
Petitioner	)	
	)	CONSENT ORDER
	)	
	)	
DELL RAGINS-WILLIAMS	)	
Respondent	)	

This matter is before the Ethics Committee (the "Committee") of the North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board (the "Board"), pursuant to Chapter 150B of the North Carolina General Statues and Title 21 of the North Carolina Administrative Code, Chapter 68, Section .0600, and with the consent of Dell Ragins-Williams, (Respondent), Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist –Associate (LCAS-A), License #2669, to consider the entry of a Consent Order in lieu of an Administrative Hearing.

Respondent is represented by Mr. Norman B. Smith, Legal Counsel, and has received a proposed Informal Resolution resulting from a review and investigation of this Complaint by the Committee Chairman. Committee Chairman, Lynn Inman, and Board Counsel, Ann Christian, presented the findings of the investigation into these matters to the Respondent. Both parties stipulate and agree to the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law recited in this Consent Order and to the discipline imposed. Based upon the consent of the parties, the Ethics Committee hereby enters the following:

### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Respondent was credentialed by the Board as a Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist-Associate on or about June 24, 2011.
- 2. At all times relevant to this Order, Respondent Ragins-Williams was engaged in practice as an LCAS-A in Rowan County, North Carolina while providing services as a substance abuse professional at Rowan Psychiatric and Medical Services.
- 3. Respondent Ragins-Williams admits to providing services to a substance abuse client while referring this client to her husband, a contractor, who was paid to provide services that were not found to be in any way deficient but payment for these services were found to benefit Ms. Ragins-Williams indirectly, allowing for the violation of the prohibition against dual relationships that could impair professional judgment.
- 4. Respondent's conduct is mitigated by her cooperation with the Board in meeting with the Ethics Chairman and accepting an informal resolution but aggravated by the fact that the Respondent did not cooperate from the outset with this investigation.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Respondent Ragins-Williams is in violation of North Carolina General Statute 90-113.44 (a)(6) and (a)(10), as well as Rule 21 NCAC 68 .0509 (Client Relationships) prohibiting dual relationships with a client.

The Respondent admits that sufficient violations of the laws governing the substance abuse profession exist for the Board to take action as authorized by G.S. 90-113.33 (2).

The Respondent waives any further Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in these matters.

Based on the foregoing, and with the consent of the Respondent, IT IS THEREFORE THE

### ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

- 1. That the LCAS-A Credential held by Respondent Ragans-Williams be suspended for period of eighteen (18) months, effective upon the date of her dismissal from employment on January 15, 2014.
- 2. That Respondent shall complete twelve (12) hours of Board-approved ethics training in addition to the standard continuing education hours required for re-credentialing prior to her return to practice.

- 3. That Respondent, once she returns to employment as an LCAS-A, shall inform her clinical supervisor in writing, with a copy to the Board, of the final resolution of this disciplinary action.
- 4. That the Respondent shall violate no rules adopted by the Board or any provision of the Practice Act during the period of suspension.

This the  $\frac{574}{}$  day of  $\frac{728}{}$  RUARY, 2015.

Lynn Inman, LCAS, CSAPC

Ethics Chairperson

**NCSAPPB** 

Dell Ragins-Williams

Respondent