

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF WAKE

BEFORE THE
ETHICS COMMITTEE
OF THE
NORTH CAROLINA SUBSTANCE ABUSE
PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF)
EC-373-16)
)
VIVIAN MCQUEEN SMITH,) ADMONITION
LCAS ASSOCIATE (LCAS #3314))
)
)

On July 20, 2016, the Ethics Chairman of the North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board reviewed the results of an investigation of the grievance filed against you by Alice Hunt.

Pursuant to Chapter 150B-22 of the North Carolina General Statutes, the Ethics Chairman, in an effort to resolve this matter informally, considered the information available to him, including your response to the notice of Complaint, and found this matter with merit.

An Admonition, which is the least serious form of discipline authorized, is issued in cases in which a substance abuse professional has committed a minor violation of the Rules of Ethics. Further consideration is also given to whether or not the violation caused harm or potential harm to a client, the field of substance abuse prevention, intervention and treatment, the profession, or a member of the public but the misconduct does not require a Reprimand.

The Ethics Chairman was of the opinion that a Reprimand is not required in this case and issues this Admonition to you. As Chairperson of the Ethics Committee of the North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board, it is now my duty to issue this Admonition and I am certain that you will understand fully the spirit in which this duty is performed.

The fact that you admit to at least two instances in which you entered into a dual relationship that impairs professional judgment or increases the risk of exploitation with a client in response to this Complaint in violation of North Carolina General Statute 90-113.44(a)(10) and Rule 21 NCAC 68 .0509(b) (CLIENT RELATIONSHIPS) while holding the status of Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist Associate with this Board is the basis for discipline. Assisting your client in "...trying to get his mobile home in order[]" and in that you did "...agree to rent the car in my name[]" are two examples of your entering into a dual relationship with your client in violation of the profession's ethical code.

Furthermore, Respondent is required to provide the Board with the name of her supervisor pursuant to Rule 21 NCAC 68 .0512(b) (Responsibilities of Supervisor and Supervisee) in order to maintain her credential.

Respondent's conduct is mitigated by her cooperation with the Board in developing and accepting an informal resolution.

You are hereby Admonished by the North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board due to your professional misconduct. The Ethics Committee trusts that you will heed this Admonition, that it will be remembered by you, that it will be beneficial to you, and that you will never again allow yourself to depart from adherence to the high ethical standards of the of the substance abuse professional.

Done and Ordered, this the 29th day of July, 2016.

Mark R. Crabtree

Mark Crabtree, MHR, LCAS, CCS

Ethics Committee Chairman