WAKE COUNTY

NORTH CAROLINA

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

THE NORTH CAROLINA)SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROFESSIONAL)PRACTICE BOARD,)Petitioner)v.)))

DONALD STEPHEN STONE,

CENSURE

On August 30, 2012, a subcommittee of the Ethics Committee of the North Carolina Substance Abuse Professionals Practice Board considered the self-report of

Respondent

impairment. Pursuant to the statutory authority provided the Board, the Ethics Committee

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conducted a meeting for the purpose of seeking an informal resolution. After considering the information available to it, including your response to the Letter of Notice before the Committee, the Ethics Committee found the Complaint was "with merit."

The rules provide that if after a finding of "with merit" to the Complaint, the Ethics Committee may determine that a hearing before the Board is not required and the Ethics Committee may issue various levels of discipline depending upon the misconduct, the actual or potential injury caused, and any aggravating or mitigating factors. The Ethics Committee may issue an Admonition, Reprimand, or Censure to the Respondent Substance Abuse Professional.

A Censure is a written form of discipline more serious than a Reprimand, issued in cases in which a Substance Abuse Professional has violated one or more provisions of the Rules of Ethics and has caused significant harm or potential harm to a client; the field or substance abuse prevention, intervention and treatment; the profession; or a member of the public; but the misconduct does not require a suspension of the Substance Abuse Professional's credential.

The Ethics Committee was of the opinion that a hearing before the Board is not required in this case and issues this Censure 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 Censure and I am certain that you will understand fully the spirit in which this duty is performed.

The Ethics Committee found evidence that you became impaired on or about April 6, 2011. On January 17, 2012 you notified the Board of your impairment. On November 26, 2012 you completed all aspects of 21 NCAC 68 .0611 (PROOF OF REHABILITATION) as found in the North Carolina Administrative Code.

You are hereby censured by the North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board due to your professional misconduct. The Ethics Committee trusts that you will heed this Censure, 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 profession.

Done and ordered, this the <u>26</u> day of <u>Norember</u>, 2017.

Bert Bennett, Ph.D.

Bert Bennett, Ph.D. Chairperson, Ethics Committee North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board