

**BEFORE THE
NORTH CAROLINA SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROFESSIONAL
PRACTICE BOARD**

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

v.)

LORETTA EBISON,)
Respondent)
(LCAS-A No. 23494))

CONSENT ORDER - ADMONITION

EC No. 474-18

THIS MATTER is before a Panel of the Ethics Committee ("the Panel") of the North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board ("the Board"), pursuant to Chapter 150B of the North Carolina General Statutes; 21 N.C.A.C. 68.0600, and N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-113-44, and with the consent of Loretta Ebison ("Respondent"), Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist - Associate (LCAS-A No. 23494), for entry of a Consent Order ("the Order") to resolve issues raised in a self report Ethics Complaint filed on March 21, 2018 (EC No. 474-18) ("the Complaint"). Resolution under the terms of this Order is accepted by both the Board and Respondent in lieu of an administrative hearing on the issues raised by the Complaint.

Based upon the record herein and with the consent of Respondent, the Board makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Loretta Ebison has been licensed to practice, as a Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist - Associate (LCAS-A No. 23494), since May 3, 2017.

2. On April 11, 2018, Respondent entered into a Consent Order ("the LPC Order") with the North Carolina Board Of Licensed Professional Counselors ("the LPC Board"), in which Respondent stipulated to certain findings of fact and discipline.

3. In the LPC Order, the LPC Board found that Respondent had (a) signed her supervisor's initials and changed the dates on a supervisor's report that was sent to the LPC Board's office, without her supervisor's consent; (b) changed the date on the form submitted, again without her supervisor's consent; and (c) added two (2) pages to the supervisor's report including her supervisor's initials, even though the two (2) pages were not completed by her supervisor or initialed by her supervisor.

4. In fact, Respondent acknowledges: (a) she signed her supervisor's initials and changed the dates on a supervisor's report that was sent to the LPC Board's office, without her supervisor's consent; (b) she changed the date on the form submitted, again without her supervisor's consent; and (c) she added two (2) pages to the supervisor's report including her supervisor's initials, even though the two (2) pages were not completed by her supervisor or initialed by her supervisor.

5. In the LPC Order, the LPC Board further found that Trillium Health Resources, an LME/MCO, received a FAMS Data Analytic Package regarding Respondent, displaying risk areas pertaining to overbilling, services not rendered, and up-coding for counseling services from September 1, 2015 through July 31, 2016; and that Trillium refunded payments after a self-audit. The LPC Board did not make any specific finding that Respondent, in fact, overbilled, fraudulently billed, or up-coded.

6. In the LPC Order, the LPC Board suspended Respondent's license as a Licensed Professional Counsel Associate for one year; six months of which was ACTIVE and six months

of which was INACTIVE (on conditions). The period of Respondent's ACTIVE suspension began May 1, 2018.

7. Respondent is bound by the stipulated findings of fact contained in the LPC Order; and furthermore stipulates to those findings of fact in connection with this matter.

8. Respondent expressly waives notice of hearing, a hearing, the making of findings of fact and conclusions of law different from those contained herein, and all further proceedings before the Board to which Respondent may be entitled by law.

9. Respondent waives the right to seek judicial review or otherwise challenge the validity of this Consent Order in any Court.

Based upon the foregoing FINDINGS OF FACT, the Board makes the following:

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board is a body duly organized under the laws of North Carolina and is the proper party to bring this proceeding under the authority granted it in Chapter 90, Article 5C of the North Carolina General Statutes (the "North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Act") and the corresponding Rules at 21 North Carolina Administrative Code ("NCAC"), Chapter 68.

2. Respondent is licensed and certified to practice substance abuse counseling in North Carolina and is subject to the North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Act and the rules promulgated thereunder. The Board has jurisdiction over the person of the Respondent and the subject matter of this proceeding.

3. Respondent's conduct is grounds for discipline under N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-113.44 and 21 NCAC 68 .0101 *et seq.*, up to and including revocation of Respondent's license as a Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist - Associate ("LCAS-A No. 23494).

4. In particular, Respondent's conduct is, among other things, engaging in conduct that could result in harm or injury to the public, in violation of N.C.G.S. § 90-113.44(a)(9).

5. The Board, giving consideration to the circumstances; and particularly to the fact that discipline has already imposed by the LPC Board (which has a greater interest in the case), and to other matters of record, concludes that Admonishment is the appropriate discipline for this Board to impose in connection with this case.

WHEREFORE, based upon the foregoing FINDINGS OF FACT and CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, and with the consent of the parties, pursuant to the authority set forth in N.C. Gen. Stat. §90-113.33, it is ORDERED as follows:

ORDER

1. Respondent is here Admonished for (a) signing her supervisor's initials and changed the dates on a supervisor's report that was sent to the LPC Board's office, without her supervisor's consent; (b) changing the date on the form submitted, again without her supervisor's consent; and (c) adding two (2) pages to the supervisor's report including her supervisor's initials, even though the two (2) pages were not completed by her supervisor or initialed by her supervisor. In particular, Respondent's fraudulent acts potentially subjected the public to harm; in that the LPC Board might have granted a credential to Respondent, and Respondent might have practiced thereunder, while being unqualified to practice.

2. This Order is effective upon the date executed by the Board.

This the 2nd day of August, 2018.

North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board

BY: Mark L. Crabtree


NAME: Mark L. Crabtree

TITLE: Ethics Chair

STATEMENT OF CONSENT

I, Loretta Ebison, do hereby certify that I have read the foregoing Consent Order in its entirety and that I do freely and voluntarily accept the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order provided for therein.

This the 17 day of July, 2018.



Loretta Ebison