NORTH CAROLINA

WAKE COUNTY

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA ADDICTIONS SPECIALIST PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE BOARD

NORTH CAROLINA ADDICTIONS SPEC	CIALIST)
PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE BOARD,)
Petitioner)
) CONSENT ORDER -
V.) ADMONITION
) EC-626-20
WILLIAM F. AUTRY,)
Respondent)

THIS MATTER is before a Panel of the Ethics Committee ("the Panel") of the North Carolina Addictions Specialist 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; with the consent of Respondent William F. Autry ("Autry"), in lieu resolution through completion of a formal hearing on issues raised in that ethics complaint filed, against him, on June 29, 2020 (EC No. 639-20).

The Board, with the consent of Jefferson, makes the following FINDINGS OF FACT:

- 1. Petitioner North Carolina Addictions Specialist Professional Practice Board ("the Board"), was established by G.S. 90-113.32, and is recognized as the registering, certifying, and licensing authority for substance abuse professionals described in the Practice Act. The Board was established to safeguard the public health, safety, and welfare, to protect the public from being harmed by unqualified persons, to assure the highest degree of professional care and conduct on the part of credentialed substance abuse professionals, to provide for the establishment of standards for the education of credentialed substance abuse professionals and to ensure the availability of credentialed substance abuse professionals of high quality to persons in need of these services. The Board, under authority granted by the Practice Act regulates Board-credentialed persons offering substance abuse counseling services, substance abuse prevention services, or any other substance abuse services for which the Board may grant registration, certification or licensure. The Board was, until January 1, 2020, known as the North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board.
- 2. On September 18, 1998, Respondent was licensed as a Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist ("LCAS"), LCAS No. 315. Respondent's license as a LCAS will expire on December 31, 2021, if not renewed.
- 3. On June 29, 2020, the Board received an Ethics Complaint ("the Complaint") alleging, among other things, that Autry engaged in fraudulent business practices; pursued an illegal practice, or was an accessory to or participated in dishonesty, fraud or misrepresentation or other illegal act involving a client or person serviced.

- 4. Respondent denied the material allegations of the Complaint and the Board concludes that there is no evidence that Respondent engaged in fraudulent business practices; pursued an illegal practice, or was an accessory to or participated in dishonesty, fraud or misrepresentation or other illegal act involving a client or person serviced.
- 5. Respondent agrees that his record keeping during May of 2020 failed to meet standards of practice in that it reflected a failure to follow the applicable standard of skill and competence.
- 6. Respondent acknowledges that he is, on account of the acts described above, subject to discipline under 21 NCAC 68 .0601(6)(a) and G.S. 90-113.44(a)(6).
- 7. The parties agree that, in light of the facts and circumstances, the appropriate discipline to impose with respect to the foregoing facts is ADMONITION.

BASED UPON THE FOREGOING FINDINGS OF FACT, THE BOARD CONCLUDES AS A MATTER OF LAW:

- 1. The Board has the power and authority to impose discipline on Respondent, and the resolution contained herein is an appropriate resolution of this case.
- 2. Each party should bear its own costs incurred in connection with the Board's investigation.

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.G.S. § 90-113.33, et seq., it is hereby ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Respondent is ADMONISHED for his failure to comply with the applicable standard of care in keeping client records during the month of May 2020.

The Board hopes that Respondent will take the ADMONITION to heart, and by guiding by it going forward.

All other issues raised, or which could have been raised, in the Ethics Complaint; and any issues raised at the uncompleted hearing in this matter, are hereby dismissed, with prejudice.

Each party shall bear their own costs.

This the <u>22</u> day of <u>July</u>, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA ADDICTIONS SPECIALIST PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE BOARD

By:

Michael E. McGuire, Ethics Chair

REVIEWED BY:

Nelson G. Harris

Harris & Hilton, P.A.

7320 Six Forks Road, Suite 100

Raleigh, NC 27615

Email: Nharris@harrishiltonlaw.com

Counsel for Petitioner

STATEMENT OF CONSENT

I, William F. Autry, do hereby certify that I have read the foregoing Consent Order in its entirety, that I have consulted with counsel concerning the contents and effect of the, and that I voluntarily accept that there is a factual basis for the findings of fact set forth herein; and that those findings of fact are legally sufficient to support the findings, conclusions and discipline provided for therein, and that I assent to the terms of the Consent Order. I further express my understanding that the contents of this Consent Order shall become a part of my record with the Board, and are a public record under North Carolina law.

This the 2/5/ day of July, 2021.

William F. Autry

REVIEWED BY:

Mr. Quintin D. Byrd

Q Byrd Law

9121 Anson Way, Suite 200

Raleigh, NC 27615

Counsel for Respondent