

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On November 1, 2021, Respondent was registered by the Board as a Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CADC-R No. 28225). On September 2, 2022, the Board issued an order for Summary Suspension, which suspended Respondent's registration as a CADC-R, pending adjudication of the present case.
2. During all times relevant to this matter, Respondent was an employee of BHG Recovery.
3. In December 2021, Respondent began providing clinical therapeutic services to Client X. In the course of providing treatment, Respondent determined that Client X "needed her to be a friend" rather than a therapist.
4. Notwithstanding, Respondent continued to provide clinical therapeutic services to Client X until late April 2022, at which point Client X was transferred to another clinician at BHG Recovery, as Respondent was unable to provide Client X with objective treatment and had become too emotionally involved to objectively treat Client X.
5. In July 2022, while still employed with BHG Recovery, Respondent entered into a romantic relationship with Client X, who still remained a client of BHG Recovery.
6. On or about August 1, 2022, the Board received an Ethics Complaint against Respondent submitted by a representative of BHG Recovery, alleging Respondent had engaged and was continuing to engage in a personal, intimate relationship with a client of BHG Recovery.
7. On or about August 1, 2022, Respondent was discharged from employment with BHG Recovery for refusing to terminate her personal, intimate relationship with Client X.
8. At hearing, the Respondent admitted to entering a dual relationship with her former client within several months of the client's discharge from Respondent's care and while the client continued to receive services from BHG Recovery.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Respondent is subject to the Administrative Procedure Act, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 150B, with the North Carolina Substance Use Disorder Professional Practice Act, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90, Article 5C, and the rules and regulations adopted by the Board and codified in Title 21, Chapter 68 of the North Carolina Admin Code.
2. Respondent is subject to jurisdiction before the Board.
3. The Board is authorized under Article 3A, Chapter 150B of the North Carolina General Statutes to hear this matter.


4. The acts and omissions of Respondent described in Paragraph 1-8 above constitute violations of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-113.44(a)(9), and (a)(10), as well as 21 NCAC 68 .0509 and 21 NCAC 68 .0601(4).
5. The Board has the authority to suspend, revoke, or otherwise discipline Respondent's CADC-R.

FINAL AGENCY DECISION

The North Carolina Addictions Specialist Professional Practice Board hereby issues the following decision:

1. Respondent's registration as a CADC-R is hereby revoked. Respondent shall be ineligible to apply for reinstatement of registration with the Board for a period of five (5) years, beginning Friday, October 28, 2022.
2. This Final Agency Decision shall take effect upon service of Respondent in a manner consistent with N.C. Gen. Stat. § 150B-42(a).
3. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 150B-45(a)(2), Respondent has thirty (30) days from the date that she receives this Final Agency Decision to file a Petition for Judicial Review. The Petition for Judicial Review must be filed in the Superior Court of the county where the person aggrieved by the administrative decision resides, or in the case of a person residing outside the State, in the county where the contested case which resulted in the final decision was filed. Since this is an administrative appeal, no additional evidence will be taken. If a Petition is filed, a Superior Court Judge will review the Final Agency Decision to determine whether there were any legal errors in the Final Agency Decision.

By order of the North Carolina Addictions Specialist Professional Practice Board, this, the 15th day of November, 2022.

By: 

Flo Stein, Board Chair
North Carolina Addictions Specialist Professional
Practice Board

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned does hereby certify that on this day the foregoing **Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Final Agency Decision** was served upon the Respondent in this action by US Mail, First Class, Postage Prepaid, and addressed as follows:

Ms. Luci Eddins
70 Cornelius Drive
Pisgah Forrest, NC 28768

This the 15 day of November, 2022



Catherine E. Lee