

2010 and July 1, 2022, Respondent held a Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor credential issued by the Board.

4. During all relevant times to this matter, Respondent was an employee of New Outlook Second Chance (NCOS), which provided clinical behavioral counseling healthcare to services to adults and children.
5. On August 31, 2022, the Board was informed by the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General, that Respondent had been excluded from participation in all Federal health care programs, as defined in section 1128B(f) of the Social Security Act, due to Respondent's conviction in State of South Carolina, County of Richland.
6. Upon investigation, the Board determined that, on or about November 5, 2019, Respondent was indicted for conspiring to create and subsequently submitting fraudulent documentation.
7. Respondent did not inform the Board of her indictment within thirty (30) days of the charges, as required by 21 NCAC 68 .0606(c).
8. On or about August 30, 2021, Respondent was convicted of the crime of Obtaining Signature or Property under False Pretenses, with a value of \$10,000 or more, in Richland County General Sessions Court, in violation of the 2012 South Carolina Code of Law, Title 16, Chapter 13 § 16-13-240.
9. Respondent did not inform the Board of her conviction within thirty (30) days of the charges, as required by 21 NCAC 68 .0606(c).

10. In approximately February 2022, Respondent requested an upgrade of her licensure from LCAS-Associate to LCAS, without disclosing her pending criminal charges to the Board.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

11. Respondent is subject to the North Carolina Addictions Specialist Professional Practice Act and the rules promulgated pursuant to that Act. The Board has jurisdiction over Respondent and the subject matter of this proceeding.

12. The acts and omissions of Respondent as described above constitute violations of N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 90-113.44(a)(3), (a)(4), (a)(6), (a)(7), (a)(9), as well as 21 NCAC 68 .0606(c), .0505(b), .0511(a), and .0601(1), (2), (3), (5), (7).

13. Respondent committed one or more of the violations described above. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-113.33(2), the Board has the authority to deny, suspend, or revoke Respondent's licensure, certification, or registration to practice in this State or reprimand or otherwise discipline Respondent's license, certificate, or registration in North Carolina.

BASED upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and in lieu of further proceedings, Respondent wishes to resolve this matter by consent and agrees that Board staff and counsel may discuss this Consent Order with the Board *ex parte* whether or not the Board accepts this Consent Order as written.

Whereas Respondent acknowledges that s/he read this entire document and understands it;

Whereas Respondent acknowledges that s/he enters into this Consent Order freely and voluntarily;

Whereas Respondent acknowledges that s/he had full and adequate opportunity to confer with legal counsel in connection with this matter;

Whereas Respondent understands that this Consent Order must be presented to the Panel for approval and that Respondent hereby waives any argument that any Board members considering this Consent Order are disqualified from participating in a hearing of this matter; and

Whereas the Board has determined that the public interest is served by resolving this matter as set forth below.

THEREFORE, with the consent of Respondent, it is ORDERED that:

1. Respondent's Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist license (LCAS No. 23328) shall be suspended for a period of forty-eight (48) months, the first twenty-four (24) months of which her licensure shall be actively suspension. Following the period of active suspension, Respondent's LCAS No. 23328 shall be placed on a stayed suspension, contingent on Respondent's adherence to the following conditions:
 - a. During the period of stayed suspension, Respondent's practice as a Clinical Addictions Specialist shall be supervised by a Certified Clinical Supervisor (CCS) or Clinical Supervisor Intern (CSI) who is certified by the Board.
 - b. During the period of stayed suspension, Respondent shall comply with all statutory and regulatory provisions while practicing as a Clinical Addictions Specialist.
2. For purposes of this Consent Order, the period of time that Respondent's license has been subject to summary suspension by the Board shall not be credited or applied retroactively toward the aforementioned period of suspension. Any continuing education that Respondent takes during the period of suspension shall be accepted by the Board toward reinstatement of licensure.

3. Respondent hereby understands she will be required to apply for the reinstatement of her certification as a Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist (LCAS No. 23328) with the Board after suspension is lifted. Upon application, the Board's Ethics Committee will review Respondent's compliance with the aforementioned conditions and determine if Respondent is eligible for reinstatement as a certified Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist.
4. The parties agree that this Consent Order contains an adverse action and, therefore, will be reported to the National Practitioners Data Bank (the "Data Bank") through the Public Protection Database ("PPD") as follows: On or about August 30, 2021, Respondent was convicted of the crime of Obtaining Signature or Property under False Pretenses, with a value of \$10,000 or more, in Richland County General Sessions Court, in violation of the 2012 South Carolina Code of Law, Title 16, Chapter 13 § 16-13-240.
5. The Board shall retain jurisdiction under Article 3A, Chapter 150B for all administrative hearings held in connection with or pursuant to this Consent Order. If the Board receives evidence that Respondent has violated any term of this Consent Order or any other law or rule enforced by the Board, the Board shall schedule a show cause hearing for a determination of the violations. If the Board determines that a violation has occurred, the Board may impose such disciplinary action as it determines is appropriate and is authorized by law.
6. This Consent Order shall take effect immediately upon its execution by the Board and Respondent and reflect the entire agreement between Respondent and the Board, there being no agreement of any kind, verbal or otherwise, which varies, alters, or modifies this

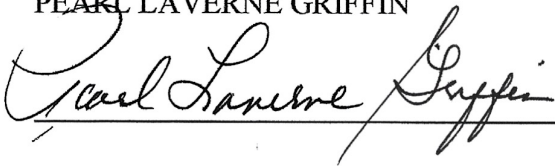
Consent Order.

7. No modification or waiver of any provision of this Consent Order shall be effective unless it is in writing, adopted and approved by the Board, and signed by the parties affected.
8. Both the Board and Respondent participated in the drafting of this Consent Order. Any ambiguities herein shall not be construed against either party in any future civil or administrative proceeding.
9. Respondent hereby waives any requirement under any law or rule that this Consent Order be served upon them.
10. Each party to this proceeding shall bear their own costs, and the Board shall bear its own costs of investigation.
11. Upon its execution by the Board and Respondent, this Consent Order shall become a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the North Carolina General Statutes and shall be subject to public inspection and dissemination pursuant to the provisions thereof.

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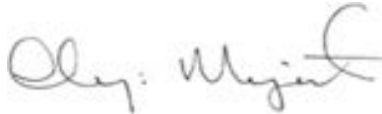
CONSENTED TO:

PEARL LAVERNE GRIFFIN



Date: 10/18/2022

By Order of the North Carolina Addictions Specialist Professional Practice Board, this the
19th day of October, 2022.



By:

Nyi Myint, Ethics Chair