

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF WAKE

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA  
ADDICTIONS SPECIALIST  
PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE BOARD  
EC CASE NO. 865-25

NORTH CAROLINA ADDICTIONS  
SPECIALIST PROFESSIONAL  
PRACTICE BOARD,

Petitioner,

v.

BERNICE RYANT  
(CADC-R No. 27989),

Respondent.

**CONSENT ORDER**

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, Article 3A of the North Carolina General Statutes; Chapter 90, Article 5C of the North Carolina General Statutes, the North Carolina Substance Use Disorder Professional Practice Act; and Title 21, Chapter 68 of the North Carolina Administrative Code. The Board, with a quorum present, and Respondent stipulate and agree to the entry of the following Consent Order:

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Petitioner Board was established by the North Carolina General Assembly to credential and regulate substance use disorder professionals in North Carolina, in accordance with Chapter 90, Article 5C of the North Carolina General Statutes.
2. Respondent currently is a citizen and resident of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina; and is neither a minor nor an incompetent person.
3. On May 12, 2011, Respondent was registered before the Board as a Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist Registrant ("LCAS-R") (LCAS-R No. 2147), registration for which expired on May 11, 2016.

4. On June 20, 2016, Respondent was again registered before the Board as a Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist Registrant (LCAS-R No. 2147). On November 3, 2016, Respondent reached Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist Associate status ("LCAS-A") (LCAS-A No. 2147). Respondent's registration as an LCAS-R (LCAS-R No. 2147) and Respondent's LCAS-A credential (LCAS-A No. 2147) both expired on June 19, 2021.
5. On July 13, 2023, Respondent was registered before the Board as a Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor Registrant ("CADC-R") (CADC-R No. 27989), registration for which will expire on July 12, 2028, if not renewed.
6. On January 10, 2025, Nicholas "Nick" Gange ("Gange") filed a formal ethics complaint before the Board alleging Respondent failed to provide an e508 form to the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles ("DMV") after providing Drug and Alcohol Classes to Gange in 2022. The complaint was designated by the Board as Ethics Complaint ("EC") Case No. 865-25.
7. Upon investigation into EC Case No. 865-25, the Board determined the following:
  - a. Lewey's DWI Services, LLC ("Lewey's") is a provider offering *Driving While Impaired* ("DWI") evaluations, treatment and education in Gastonia, North Carolina. Respondent is registered before the North Carolina Secretary of State as the Corporate Program Director for Lewey's.
  - b. On or about May of 2022, Gange completed Drug and Alcohol classes facilitated by Respondent at Lewey's.
  - c. At the time Gange filed the complaint in EC 865-25, on or about January 2025, Gange was pursuing reinstatement of his driver's license and driving privileges. On

- j. On July 17, 2025, the Board issued invitations to Respondent and Gange inviting each to meet with the Ethics Committee for interviews on July 31, 2025.
- k. On July 31, 2025, the Ethics Committee interviewed Respondent and Gange.
  - i. Gange reported completing Drug and Alcohol Courses in 2022 at Lewey's DWI Services, facilitated by Respondent. Respondent reported facilitating courses at Lewey's DWI Services during the same timeframe.
  - ii. Gange indicated the e508 form submitted by Respondent to the DMV included multiple errors, which Respondent failed to correct. This resulted in a delay in the restoration of Gange's driving privileges.
  - iii. Gange reported his driving privileges were reinstated on or about January 2025, after someone at the DMV corrected his e508 form. Respondent never addressed the inaccuracies in the e508 form with the DMV.
  - iv. Respondent indicated she no longer had access to the e508 system, as Lewey's DWI Services' DWI privileges were revoked. Lewey's DWI Services has since closed business.
  - v. Respondent indicated she is now working in peer support and mental health and is not using her CADCR.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 8. 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.

or about December 2024 through January 2025, Gange made numerous attempts to contact Respondent by telephone and email in relation to reinstatement of his driving privileges.

- d. On January 10, 2025, Board Staff issued a request for response to the ethics complaint in EC 865-25. Respondent failed to respond to the request within thirty (30) days.
- e. On March 21, 2025, Board counsel issued a second request for response to the ethics complaint in EC 865-25.
- f. On April 16, 2025, Respondent submitted a written response to the complaint, in which Respondent denied having provided clinical services to Gange. Respondent indicated that she did not possess any records associated with Gange, and that she had no recollection of rendering DWI services to Gange.
- g. On April 29, 2025, Gange submitted a certificate demonstrating successful completion of twenty (20) hours of Driving While Impaired ("DWI") Classes from Lewey's DWI Services. The certificate, dated May 25, 2022, included Respondent's signature.
- h. On April 30, 2025, after reviewing the above-referenced certificate, Respondent again indicated she had no recollection of rendering DWI services to Gange.
- i. On June 27, 2025, the Board's Ethics Committee convened and reviewed the pending ethics complaint case, and elected to invite Respondent and Gange to participate in interviews with the Ethics Committee to further investigate the allegations in the ethics complaint.



9. The acts and omissions of Respondent as described above constitute violations of the following:

- a. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-113.44(a)(6), for engaging in an act or practice in violation of the provisions of Chapter 90, Article 5C of the North Carolina General Statutes (the North Carolina Substance Use Disorder Professional Practice Act), or any of the rules adopted pursuant to it;
- b. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-113.44(a)(7), for the commission of an act of malpractice, gross negligence, or incompetence while serving as a substance use disorder professional;
- c. 21 NCAC 68 .0503(h), regarding competence, for failure to complete reports and record keeping functions in a manner that supports the client's treatment experience and welfare;
- d. 21 NCAC 68 .0507(a), regarding client welfare, for failure to protect the safety and welfare of the client; and
- e. 21 NCAC 68 .0601(6)(a), regarding professional incompetency or failure to meet standards of practice, for failure to follow the standards of skill and competence possessed and applied by professional peers credentialed in this State acting in the same or similar circumstances.

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 she read this entire document and understands it;

Whereas Respondent acknowledges that she enters into this Consent Order freely and voluntarily;

Whereas Respondent acknowledges that she 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 Board for approval; 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:

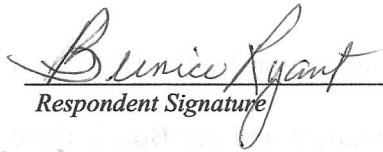
1. Respondent's CADC-R (CADC-R No. 27989) registration is hereby revoked for a period of five (5) years from the execution of this Consent Order, after which Respondent may submit a new application before the Board.
2. The Board shall retain jurisdiction under Article 3A, Chapter 150B for all administrative 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.

3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. Each party to this proceeding shall bear their own costs, and the Board shall bear its own costs of investigation.
7. 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.

**CONSENTED TO BY:**

BERNICE RYANT

  
Respondent Signature

Date: 08/19/2025

By Order of the North Carolina Addictions Specialist Professional Practice Board, this the

19 day of August, 2025.

By: Dr. Kendra T. Davis  
Kendra Davis, Designated Ethics  
Committee Chair