

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF
SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS**

**IN THE MATTER OF
SHERRY GAIL JOHNSON
LICENSE NO. 5324**

**LABSWE COMPLAINT
NUMBER 2009-106**

WHEREAS Sherry Gail Johnson is a credentialed social worker subject to the jurisdiction and rules and regulations of the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners (the Board); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to a complaint and an administrative investigation, the social worker, Sherry Gail Johnson, has indicated her desire to resolve this matter through a Consent Agreement and Order as provided for in Rule No. 907 of the Board's Rules, Standards and Procedures and LA R.S. 49:955(D) of the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act; and

WHEREAS, the social worker, Sherry Gail Johnson, has admitted the following:

1. Respondent, Sherry Gail Johnson, (Ms. Johnson) is a GSW certified by the Board to engage in the practice of social work in the State of Louisiana pursuant to the Social Work Practice Act, La. R.S. 37:2701 et seq., as evidenced by License No. 5324.
2. Sherry Gail Johnson previously appeared before the Board on July 25, 2008, and entered into a Consent Agreement and Order resolving Complaint Number 2008-176 (Agreement).

3. In this Agreement, Ms. Johnson was suspended from the practice of social work for a period of sixty days, effective from the date that all parties signed the Agreement, such date being July 25, 2008.
4. Ms. Johnson continued to practice social work in the sixty day period from the date that all parties signed the Agreement.
5. Ms. Johnson admits that she has served a 52-day suspension, although this was not immediately from the time all parties signed the Agreement, from February 16, 2009 though April 10, 2009, and after returning to work has been doing paperwork and not seeing clients.
6. In this Agreement, Ms. Johnson specifically acknowledged that failure to comply with the terms of the Agreement may result in suspension or revocation of her license, and that the admissions contained in such Agreement would be considered proven and that the only issue would be failure to comply with the terms of the Agreement.

WHEREAS, by practicing social work in the sixty (60) day period in which Ms. Johnson had agreed to cease the practice of social work, Ms. Johnson has failed to comply with the terms of the Agreement entered into with the Board on July 25, 2008.

WHEREAS, by practicing social work when she had signed a consent agreement to cease practicing for a period of no less than sixty (60) days, Ms. Johnson has violated her professional and ethical duty that a social worker shall use only the social worker designation to which they are entitled, as set out in Rule 119(A) of the Rules, Standards and Procedures for Louisiana social workers.

WHEREAS, by continuing to see clients when she had agreed to cease practicing for a period of no less than sixty (60) days, Ms. Johnson has violated her professional and ethical duty that a social worker shall not misrepresent directly or by implication the social worker's certification, as set out in Rule 119(B) of the Rules, Standards and Procedures for Louisiana social workers.

WHEREAS, the undersigned Assistant Attorney General has conducted an interview with the respondent who has indicated her desire to resolve this matter through a Consent Agreement and Order.

WHEREAS, the credentialed social worker has indicated her desire to resolve this matter through a Consent Agreement and Order;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that in consideration of the foregoing and pursuant to the authority vested in the Board by LA R.S. 49:955(D), the Board orders and Sherry Gail Johnson accepts the following administrative action which is a final decision pursuant to the LA R.S. 49:958:

1. The previous agreement, resolving Complaint 2008-176, is hereby considered null and void, and the terms of this Consent Agreement and Order shall supersede such agreement, hereby resolving Complaints 2008-176 and 2009-106.
2. Sherry Gail Johnson shall be placed on probation until such time that the Board determines all terms of this Consent Agreement and Order are met.
3. Sherry Gail Johnson shall complete two (2) years of two (2) hours per month of face-to-face supervision by Mr. Torrin Sanders, LCSW, who was previously approved by the Board as the supervisor under the previous Consent Agreement and Order (resolving Complaint 2008-176), or by another LCSW approved by the

Board. Any subsequent supervisors shall not be someone with whom Ms. Johnson has had a prior or current personal or professional relationship. The supervisor shall submit quarterly supervision reports documenting dates met for supervision, topics addressed and progress made in supervision. The supervisor is to make recommendations for termination at the end of two years. Furthermore, the supervisor is to be in communication with Sherry Gail Johnson's employer. Ms. Johnson shall receive credit toward the two-year supervision requirement for the four (4) supervision sessions already attended that were the subject of the first quarterly report to the Board by Mr. Sanders in March or April 2009 that has been approved by the Board. Ms. Johnson is responsible for all costs associated with supervision.

4. Under the direction and approval of her supervisor, Sherry Gail Johnson shall complete a minimum of five (5) hours of continuing education with specific emphasis on boundaries, dual relationships and exploitation each year that her practice is supervised in accordance with this Consent Agreement and Order. These hours are in addition to the continuing education required to renew her social work credential. Documentation of completing the educational offering must be submitted to the Board within 30 days of completion.
5. Sherry Gail Johnson shall continue to pay the costs of investigation of Complaint 2008-176 in the amount of \$1,335.00 within one (1) year all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order. Payments of \$333.75 shall be made quarterly. There shall be no pre-payment penalty.

6. Sherry Gail Johnson shall pay the legal costs associated with Complaint 2009-106 in the amount of \$650 within one (1) year all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order. There shall be no pre-payment penalty.
7. Sherry Gail Johnson specifically acknowledges that failure to comply with the terms of the Consent Agreement and Order may result in a suspension or revocation of her license. The admissions contained herein will be considered proven and the only issue will be failure to follow the terms of the Consent Agreement and Order.
8. By agreeing to the terms of this Consent Agreement and Order, Ms. Johnson waives all rights to appeal this adjudication.

THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER is a matter of public record for violation of the above referenced sections of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act and the Rules, Standards and Procedures. The terms of this Consent Agreement and Order may be published and reported, including but not limited to, the LABSWE Newsletter.

THE ADMISSIONS AND FINDINGS CONTAINED HEREIN are intended solely for the purpose of resolving the case at hand or in connection with other matters before the Board involving Respondent.

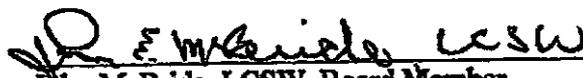
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IN WITNESS THEREOF, the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners has entered into this Consent Agreement and Order and executed same at Baton Rouge, Louisiana on this the 31st day of July, 2009.

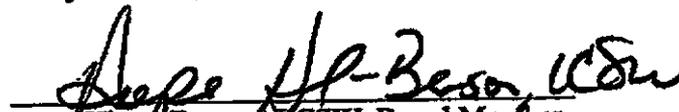

Wade Tyler, PhD, LCSW, Chair


Michael Hickerson, RSW, Vice-Chair

Roslyn Richardson, PhD, GSW, Secretary/Treasurer


John McBride, LCSW, Board Member


Evelyn Jenkins, LCSW, Board Member


Hope Hime-Benson, LCSW, Board Member

I, Sherry Gail Johnson, GSW, make these acknowledgments and waivers in support of a final disposition of the pending investigation of Complaint #2009-106 by Consent Agreement and Order (Order) pursuant to LA. R.S. §49:955 D, in lieu of the institution and prosecution of formal administrative proceedings, and accordingly consent to the entirety of the Order set forth hereinbefore and further waive any right to which I may be entitled under the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act or any other law to contest, in any court, my agreement to this Order. By my subscription hereto, I also hereby authorize Hope Himmel-Benson designated by the Board with respect hereto, as well as the legal counsel assisting her, to present this Order to the Board for its consideration and to fully disclose to and discuss with the Board the nature and results of the investigation of this matter. I herein waive any objection to such disclosure based on due process of law under either the State or Federal Constitution or under State statutory law, including L.A.R.S. §49:960. I expressly acknowledge that the disclosure of such information to the Board by Hope Himmel-Benson or her legal counsel shall be without prejudice to the Assistant Attorney General's authority to file a formal Administrative Complaint, or the Board's capacity to adjudicate such Administrative Complaint, should the Board decline to approve this Consent Agreement and Order. I further acknowledge my awareness that should the Board approve this Consent Agreement and Order that the Order will become a matter of public record.

Sherry G. Johnson 7/31/09
Sherry Gail Johnson, GSW Date

I, Lindsey Hunter, Prosecutor, do hereby acknowledge negotiation and preparation of this Consent Agreement and Order in order to resolve, with prejudice, all matters for which the social worker, Sherry Gail Johnson, could be charged under Complaint No. 2009-106; and further certify that this Consent Agreement and Order is consistent with the evidence, adequately addresses the complaint and represents a true and correct statement of that which could be proven at a hearing of this matter.

Lindsey Hunter 7/31/09
Lindsey Hunter Date
Prosecutor