

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF
SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS**

IN THE MATTER OF

LABSWE COMPLAINT

YOLANDA CHAMPION BROWN

NUMBERS 2011-94, 2012-100

LICENSE NO. 10615

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

WHEREAS, Yolanda Champion Brown (Ms. Brown) is a social worker with a lapsed credential, subject to the jurisdiction and rules and regulations of the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners (the Board); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to two complaints and an administrative investigation, Ms. Brown 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, Ms. Brown has admitted the following:

1. Respondent, Ms. Brown, was formerly credentialed as a Certified Social Worker and 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. 10615, such credential which lapsed on August 31, 2010.
2. Ms. Brown did not apply for renewal after her license lapsed.
3. Ms. Brown also did not sit for the ASWB Masters level examination which is a requirement for maintaining the Certified Social Work credential.

4. Ms. Brown has engaged in the practice of social work since the lapse of her credential at Primary Care Solutions and AMIKids, despite being notified of the fact that she did not have a current and valid license.
5. Further, on multiple occasions since the lapse of her credential, Ms. Brown held herself out to the public as a Licensed Masters Social Worker (LMSW).
6. Ms. Brown failed to accurately document her professional experience on her notarized application for Licensed Master Social Work that she submitted to the board on February 7, 2012 by omitting her employment as a clinical therapist for AMIKids from July 2011 until January 2012.

WHEREAS, by practicing social work with a lapsed credential, Ms. Brown has violated La. R.S. 37:2709, which prohibits the practice of social work without a current, valid license, certificate or registration issued by the Board, such conduct which is cause for disciplinary action pursuant to La. R.S. 37:2717(A)(5);

WHEREAS, by holding herself out to the public as a LMSW, Ms. Brown has misrepresented her credentials in violation of Rule 119 of the Rules, Standards and Procedures governing Louisiana Social Workers, such conduct which is cause for disciplinary action pursuant to La. R.S. 37:2717(A)(5);

WHEREAS, by omitting her employment with AMIKids from the application she submitted to the board on February 7, 2012, Ms. Brown has attempted to obtain a license through deception, such conduct which is cause for disciplinary action pursuant to La. R.S. 37:2717(A)(3).

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

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;

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 Ms. Brown accepts the following administrative action which is a final decision pursuant to La. R.S. 49:958:

1. In courses approved by the Board in advance, Ms. Brown shall complete a total of nine (9) hours of continuing education on the subject of ethics. This continuing education is in addition to any annual hours of continuing education required should Ms. Brown reapply for licensure. Ms. Brown shall provide the Board with evidence of attendance within one (1) year after all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order.
2. Ms. Brown shall pass the Board's Open Book Examination on the Social Work Practice Act and Rules, Standards & Procedures within ninety (90) days of signing this Consent Agreement and Order, which is accessible through the Board's website at www.labswe.org.
3. Ms. Brown shall pay a fine for the above referenced violations in the amount of seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$750.00) within one (1) year of the date all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order. Such fine is authorized by

La. R.S. 37:2717(B)(5). Installment payments by certified check, money order or credit card are allowable.

4. Ms. Brown shall pay the investigative and legal costs associated with Complaint 2011-94 in the amount of \$1,779.76 within one (1) year that all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order. The payments shall be made on a quarterly basis with the first payment due within ~~thirty~~ ^{ninety} days from the date all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order. There shall be no pre-payment penalty.
5. Should Ms. Brown decide to re-apply for licensure by the Board, at such time as Ms. Brown begins practicing social work, she shall complete one (1) hour of supervision of her social work practice every month for a period of six months by a LCSW pre-approved by the Board. Ms. Brown shall submit to the Board the name of the potential supervisor and his/her resume within fifteen (15) days of resuming the practice of social work. The potential supervisor shall submit a letter to the Board stating his/her acceptance of the provision of said supervision and a statement that he/she has not previously, nor is currently professionally or personally affiliated with Ms. Brown prior to this request for supervision. The supervisor shall submit quarterly supervision reports to the Board documenting dates met for supervision, topics addressed and progress made in supervision. Ms. Brown is responsible for all costs associated with supervision. **The time period of supervision does not begin unless and until Ms. Brown is practicing social work.**

Waiver of Rights. Licensee is aware that he/she has the right to consult with an attorney of his/her choice and understands he/she has the right to an administrative hearing on the facts in this case. He/she understands and agrees that by signing this Agreement, he/she is waiving his/her rights to a hearing. Further, he/she understands and agrees that he/she is relieving the prosecutor of any burden it has of proving the facts admitted above. Licensee further understands and agrees that by signing this Agreement he/she is voluntarily and knowingly giving up her right to present oral and documentary evidence, to present rebuttal evidence, to cross-examine witnesses against him/her, and to appeal the Board's decision.

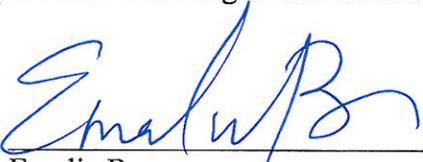
Effect of Non Acceptance of Agreement. Licensee and the prosecutor agree that this Consent Agreement and Order is subject to the approval of the Board. They agree that, if the Board rejects this agreement, it will be void, and an Administrative Complaint may be filed. If this agreement is rejected by the Board it will not constitute a waiver of licensee's right to a hearing on the matters alleged in an administrative complaint and the admissions contained herein will have no effect. Licensee agrees that, if the Board rejects this agreement, the Board may decide the matter after a hearing, and its consideration of this agreement shall not alone be grounds for claiming that the Board is biased against him/her, that it cannot fairly decide the case, or that it has received ex parte communication.

Address of Board. All payments ordered and any reports required by this Consent Agreement and Order shall be addressed to: Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners, 18550 Highland Road, Suite B, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that this Consent Agreement and Order shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Board and is a public record of the Board. The terms of this Consent Agreement and Order may be published and reported, including but not limited to, the LABSWE Newsletter, the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB), and the National Practitioner Data Bank-Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank (NPDB-HIPDB).

The prosecutor acknowledges negotiation and preparation of this Consent Agreement and Order in order to resolve, with prejudice, all matters for which the social worker could be charged under Complaint 2011-94, and further certifies 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.

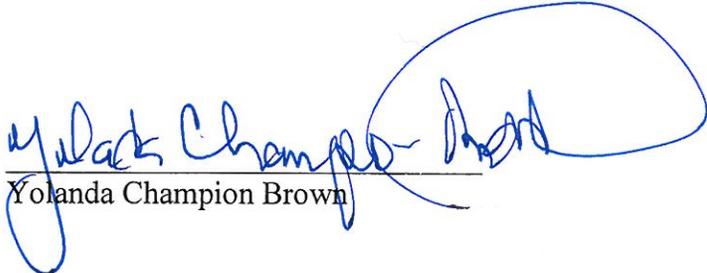
DATED: 16 March 2012



Emalie Boyce
Assistant Attorney General
Prosecutor

I, Yolanda Champion Brown, have read the Consent Agreement and Order, understand it, and agree to be bound by its terms and conditions. I specifically acknowledge that failure to comply with the terms of the Consent Agreement and Order may result in a suspension or revocation of my 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.

DATED: 3/6/12



Yolanda Champion Brown

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this 06 day or MARCH, 2012, at BATON ROUGE, Louisiana.



Notary Public
Print Name:
My commission expires:

DENNIS J. KIMBLE
NOTARY PUBLIC
#50400

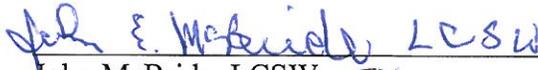
Notary Public
My Commission is for life

ORDER

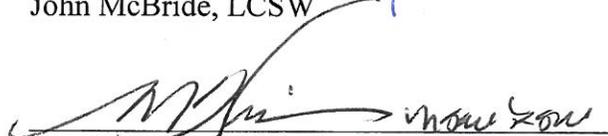
The Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners, having examined the Consent Agreement and Order, Case No. 2011-94, 2012-100, adopted the Consent Agreement and Order in this matter.

DATED this 16th day of MARCH, 2012 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

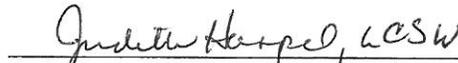
LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK
EXAMINERS



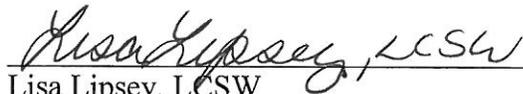
John McBride, LCSW



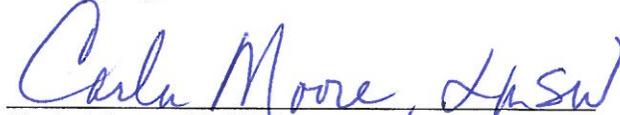
Michael Hickerson, RSW



Judith Haspel, LCSW



Lisa Lipsey, LCSW



Carla Moore, LMSW



Parker Sternbergh, LCSW