

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF
SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS**

IN THE MATTER OF

COMPLAINT NUMBER 2014-152

GARRY W. LEWIS

REGISTRATION NO. 11418

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

WHEREAS, Garry W. Lewis ("Mr. Lewis") 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, Mr. Lewis has indicated his 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, Mr. Lewis has admitted the following:

1. Mr. Lewis is a Registered Social Worker ("RSW"), registered 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 Registration No. 11418.
2. The Board learned that Mr. Lewis was arrested on June 14, 2014, for manufacture/distribution/possession of Schedule I, possession of marijuana, license plate illumination and proper signal to turn and as a result of the arrest charged with possession of marijuana, 1st Offense on August 8, 2014 in

Garry Lewis 2014-152
Initial: 

Docket No. 14-4241 of the 24th Judicial District Court, Parish of Jefferson, State of Louisiana.

3. Mr. Lewis failed to notify the Board within seven business days of the June 14, 2014 arrest.
4. Mr. Lewis failed to notify the Board of the August 8, 2014 charge of possession of marijuana, 1st Offense on his renewal application filed on or around August 21, 2014.
5. The Board requested a written response from Mr. Lewis to the allegations that he had been arrested for multiple offenses by certified mail on July 1, 2014, to the address on file with the Board. The letter was returned unclaimed.
6. The Board requested a written response from Mr. Lewis to the allegations that he had been arrested for multiple offenses by first class mail on July 30, 2014, to the address on file with the Board. The letter was not returned to the Board.
7. The Board sent a second request for a written response from Mr. Lewis to the allegations that he had been arrested for multiple offenses by certified mail on October 1, 2014, to the address on file with the Board.
8. Mr. Lewis claimed the letter on December 1, 2014.
9. Mr. Lewis did not respond to the Board within ten (10) days after receipt of the letter.
10. Mr. Lewis responded to the letter on December 20, 2014.

WHEREAS, by failing to disclose required information to the Board on after he was arrested on June 14, 2014, Mr. Lewis has violated Rule 117(E) which is cause for disciplinary action pursuant to La. R.S. 37:2717(A)(5);

WHEREAS, by failing to disclose the August 8, 2014 charge of possession of marijuana on his renewal application, Mr. Lewis has violated Rule 111(G)(5) which is cause for disciplinary action pursuant to La. R.S. 37:2717(A)(3);

WHEREAS, by failing to respond to the Board's requests for a written response Mr. Lewis has violated Rule 117(C) and which is cause for disciplinary action pursuant to La. R.S. 37:2717(A)(5);

WHEREAS, Mr. Lewis has indicated his desire to resolve this matter through a Consent Agreement and Order;

WHEREAS, the undersigned Assistant Attorney General has confirmed the respondent's 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 Mr. Lewis accepts the following administrative action which is a final decision pursuant to La. R.S. 49:958:

1. Mr. Lewis shall pass the Board's Open Book Examination on the Social Work Practice Act and Rules, Standards & Procedures within six (6) months after the date that all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order. This exam is available on the Board's website at www.labswe.org.
2. Mr. Lewis shall pay all legal and investigative costs associated with Complaint No. 2014-152 in the amount of ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-SEVEN AND 50/100 DOLLARS (\$187.50) within eighteen (18) months from the date all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order. The payments shall be made on a quarterly basis with the first payment due within ninety

(90) days from the date all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order.

There shall be no pre-payment penalty.

3. Mr. Lewis shall submit official documentation from the Court of all proceedings related to the August 8, 2014 charge.
4. Mr. Lewis specifically acknowledges that failure to comply with the terms of this Consent Agreement and Order may result in a denial, revocation, or suspension of any license, certificate, or registration issued by, or applied for, in accordance with La. R.S. 37:2717.
5. In the event that Mr. Lewis requires additional time to comply with the orders of the Board, an extension may be granted by the Board upon him furnishing the Board with a letter from his treating physician.

Waiver of Rights. Licensee is aware that he has the right to consult with an attorney of his choice and understands he has the right to an administrative hearing on the facts in this case. He understands and agrees that by signing this Agreement, he is waiving his rights to a hearing. Further, he understands and agrees that he 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 is voluntarily and knowingly giving up his right to present oral and documentary evidence, to present rebuttal evidence, to cross-examine witnesses against him, 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).

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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 2014-152, 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: May 5, 2015

Madeline Carbonette
Madeline Carbonette
Assistant Attorney General
Prosecutor

I, Gary W. Lewis, 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 revocation or suspension 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: 3-5-2015

Garry W. Lewis RSW
Garry W. Lewis, RSW

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this 5 day or
March, 2015, at New Orleans, Louisiana.

[Signature]
Notary Public

Print Name:

My commission expires:

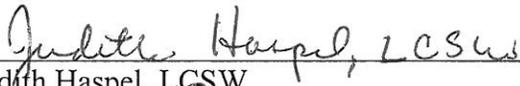
TRACY JOSEPH
NOTARY PUBLIC
Parish of Orleans, State of Louisiana
Louisiana Notary Public Number 89004
Louisiana State Bar Roll Number 32172
My Commission is for Life.

ORDER

The Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners, having examined the Consent Agreement and Order, Case No. 2014-152, adopted the Consent Agreement and Order in this matter.

DATED this 29th day of May, 2015 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

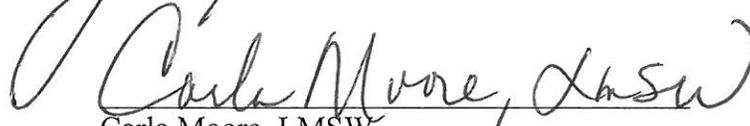
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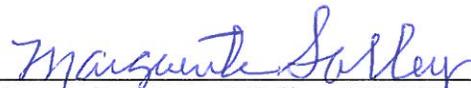
Judith Haspel, LCSW



Yolanda Burnom, LCSW



Carla Moore, LMSW



Marguerite "Peggy" Salley, LCSW



Robert Showers, RSW

Parker Sternbergh, LCSW



Paulette Walker, Public Member