

1357173

RECEIVED
JUN 22 2022

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF
SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS**

**CIVIL DIVISION
OFFICE OF THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL**

**IN THE MATTER OF

CYNTHIA DEBLANC

LICENSE NO. 2039**

COMPLAINT NUMBER 2019-265

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

WHEREAS, Cynthia DeBlanc ("Ms. DeBlanc") 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, Ms. DeBlanc 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. DeBlanc has admitted the following:

1. Ms. DeBlanc is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker ("LCSW"), licensed 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. 2039.
2. At the time of the facts and matters alleged herein, Ms. DeBlanc was engaged in the practice of social work in her private practice.
3. From on or about April 25, 2018 until on or about June 2018, Ms. DeBlanc provided clinical and therapeutic services to CL.
4. Sometime in June, 2018, Ms. DeBlanc informed CL she would not be able to provide clinical and therapeutic services to CL for an unknown period of time due to Ms. DeBlanc's ongoing treatment for cancer.

5. On or about June 19, 2018, LC paid Ms. DeBlanc \$350.00 more than her usual fee to assist with Ms. DeBlanc's medical expenses.
6. On or about July 20, 2018, CL paid Ms. DeBlanc \$150.00 more than her usual fee.
7. Ms. DeBlanc accepted the additional money and has not returned the money paid for services that were not provided to CL.

WHEREAS, by accepting money for services not provided from CL, who was clinical/therapeutic client, Ms. DeBlanc violated Rule 113(A)(7) which is cause for disciplinary action pursuant to La. R.S. 37:2717(A)(5);

WHEREAS, Ms. DeBlanc has indicated her 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 Ms. DeBlanc accepts the following administrative action which is a final decision pursuant to La. R.S. 49:958:

1. Ms. DeBlanc shall complete a total of six (6) hours of continuing education on the subject of ethics and dual relationships. These hours are to be pre-approved by the Board prior to completion. This continuing education is in addition to the annual hours of continuing education required to maintain her LCSW. Ms. DeBlanc shall provide the Board with evidence of attendance within one (1) year after all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order.
2. Ms. DeBlanc shall pay reimbursement to CL in the amount of FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND 00/100 (\$500.00) within one (1) year 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. Payments shall be made by credit card, check or money order. There shall be no prepayment penalty.

3. Ms. DeBlanc 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.

Waiver of Rights. Licensee is aware that she has the right to consult with an attorney of her choice and understands she has the right to an administrative hearing on the facts in this case. She understands and agrees that by signing this agreement, she is waiving her rights to a hearing. Further, she understands and agrees that 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 she is voluntarily and knowingly giving up her right to present oral and documentary evidence, to present rebuttal evidence, to cross-examine witnesses against 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 from the date all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order, 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 2019-265 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: 6/22/22

Madeline Carbonette
Madeline Carbonette
Assistant Attorney General
Prosecutor

I, Cynthia DeBlanc 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: 6/20/2022

Cynthia DeBlanc
Cynthia DeBlanc

ORDER

The Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners, having examined the Consent Agreement and Order, Case No. 2019-265, adopted the Consent Agreement and Order in this matter.

DATED this 24th day of June, 2022 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

Bora Sunseri, LCSW-BACS

Bora Sunseri, LCSW-BACS

Hyacinth McKee, LCSW-BACS

Hyacinth McKee, LCSW-BACS

Ruth Weinzettle, Ph.D., LCSW-BACS

Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW-BACS

Jamie Barney, DSW, LCSW-BACS

Jamie Barney, LCSW-BACS

Carla Moore, LMSW

Carla Moore, LMSW

Ada Nelson, RSW

Ada Nelson, RSW

Evan Bergeron, Consumer Member