

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF
SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS**

IN THE MATTER OF

COMPLAINT NO. 2020-174

PORTIA HENDERSON

LICENSE NO. 9812

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

WHEREAS, Portia Henderson (“Ms. Henderson”) 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. Henderson 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. Henderson has admitted the following:

1. Ms. Henderson 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. 9812.
2. At the time of facts and matters alleged, Ms. Henderson was engaged in the practice of social work at Open Health Care Clinic located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, from January 13, 2020 to April 24, 2020.
3. Ms. Henderson was responsible for seeing clients, entering notes and documenting client visits. She had a total of 36 clients.

4. Ms. Henderson provided a two week notice to her supervisor at Open Care Health Clinic on or about April 14, 2020.
5. After Ms. Henderson's departure from Open Care Health Clinic, it was discovered Ms. Henderson did not complete notes on 14 of her clients nor did Ms. Henderson attempt to inform 34 of her clients of her departure from Open Care Health Clinic.
6. Ms. Henderson's last date of employment with Open Care Health Clinic was April 24 2020.

WHEREAS, Ms. Henderson's failure to maintain accurate client records and giving reasonable notice to her clients of termination of her services are violations of Rule 111(G)(5) and Rule 111(H)(3) which is cause for disciplinary action pursuant to La. R.S. 37:2717(A)(5) and La. R.S. 37:2717(A)(7);

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

1. Ms. Henderson's license shall be on probation for one (1) year from the date all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order.
2. Ms. Henderson shall complete one (1) hour of supervision of her social work practice twice a month during her one (1) year of probation by a LCSW-BACS pre-approved by the Board. The supervision shall include focus on documentation, ethical practice, and

obligation of license. Ms. Henderson 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 stating his/her acceptance of the provision of said supervision and stating he/she is not, nor previously been, professionally or personally affiliated with Ms. Henderson 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. Henderson shall be responsible for all costs associated with supervision.

3. Ms. Henderson shall pass the Board's Open Book Examination on the Social Work Practice Act and Rules, Standards & Procedures within ninety (90) days 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.
4. Ms. Henderson shall complete a total of six (6) hours of continuing education on the subject of documentation. 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. Henderson shall provide the Board with evidence of attendance within one (1) year after all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order.
5. Ms. Henderson shall pay all investigative costs in the amount of ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED SEVENTEEN DOLLARS AND 00/100 (\$1,917.00) 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 with credit card, money order or certified check. There shall be no pre-payment penalty.

6. Ms. Henderson shall pay all legal costs associated with the Complaint in the amount of FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS AND 00/100 (\$450.00) 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 with credit card, money order or certified check. There shall be no pre-payment penalty.
7. Ms. Henderson 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 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).

REMAINDER OF PAGE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

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 2020-174 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: 10/26/21

Madeline Carbonette
Madeline Carbonette
Assistant Attorney General
Prosecutor

I, Portia Henderson, 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: 9-28-21

Portia Henderson
Portia Henderson

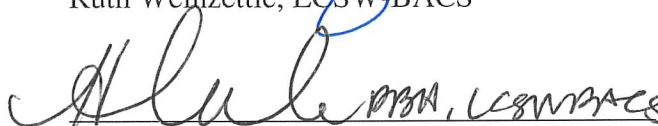
ORDER

The Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners, having examined the Consent Agreement and Order, Case No. 2020-174, adopted the Consent Agreement and Order in this matter.

DATED this 29th day of October, 2021 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

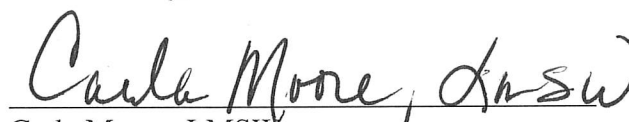
LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

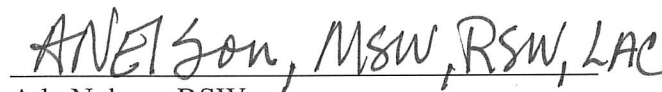

Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW-BACS


Hyacinth McKee, LCSW-BACS

Recused

Jamie Barney, LCSW-BACS


Carla Moore, LMSW


Ada Nelson, RSW

Evan Bergeron, Consumer Member