

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF  
SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**COMPLAINT NO. 2023-64**

**BENJAMIN LARISEY**

**LICENSE NO. 11772**

**CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER**

**WHEREAS**, Benjamin Larisey (“Mr. Larisey”) is a licensed social worker subject to the jurisdiction and the rules and regulations of the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners (“Board” or “LABSWE”);


**WHEREAS**, on December 1, 2022, the Board received a complaint from a therapist who shared a client with Mr. Larisey. The complaint alleged that Mr. Larisey had an inappropriate relationship with the client wherein he invited the client to his office at 8:30 p.m. and asked her to bring a bottle of wine;

**WHEREAS** on or around December 12, 2022, the Board initiated an investigation into the allegation and assigned Complaint Investigative Officer (“CIO”) Matthew Thomassee to the investigation.

**WHEREAS**, on February 9, 2023, CIO Thomassee interviewed Mr. Larisey. Mr. Larisey provided a follow-up written statement to CIO Thomassee that same day;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to a complaint and an administrative investigation, Mr. Larisey 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. 49:975(D) of the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act;

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**WHEREAS**, Mr. Larisey has admitted to the following:

1. Mr. Larisey is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Board-Approved Clinical Supervisor (“LCSW-BACS”) 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 Number 11772.
2. The Board received a complaint from the complainant on December 1, 2022.
3. Between November 7, 2022, and November 20, 2022, Mr. Larisey engaged in an inappropriate dual relationship with a client, which included the exchanging of text messages and telephone calls of a personal nature with the client that were unrelated to the client’s treatment.

**WHEREAS**, by engaging in an inappropriate relationship with a client, Mr. Larisey violated La. R.S. 37:2717(A)(5), (7), and (11), La. Admin Code tit. 46:XXV §107(A) and (B), and §113(A)(1) and (6), and §113(B)(1) and (9).

**WHEREAS**, undersigned counsel has confirmed Mr. Larisey’s desire to resolve this matter through a Consent Agreement and Order;

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Larisey agrees not to repeat the misconduct mentioned in this Consent Agreement and Order, and acknowledges that any further misconduct mentioned in this Consent Agreement and Order will be considered a violation of the terms of this Consent Agreement and Order and shall be cause for further disciplinary action;

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Larisey recognizes his right to have an administrative adjudication of the charges outlined in the complaint and notice letter, at which time Mr. Larisey would be entitled to be represented by legal counsel, to call witnesses, and to present witnesses on his behalf in defense or in mitigation of the charges made, and to a decision thereon by the Board based upon written

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findings of fact and conclusions of law in accordance with the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act. Mr. Larisey nonetheless waives his right to formal adjudication and, pursuant to La. R.S. 49:975(D), consents to the entry of the Consent Agreement and Order set forth hereinafter. Mr. Larisey also acknowledges that he waives any rights to which he may be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. R.S. 49:951, et seq., or which he otherwise may be afforded by any law, to contest his agreement to, or the force and effect of this Consent Agreement and Order, in any Court or other forum.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that in consideration of the foregoing and pursuant to the authority vested in the Board by La. R.S. 49:975(D), the Board orders and Mr. Larisey accepts the following administrative action which is a final decision pursuant to La. R.S. 49:977:

1. The LCSW license of Benjamin Larisey to be engaged in the practice of social work in the State of Louisiana, as evidenced by license number 11772 shall be, and is hereby placed on PROBATION for a period of two and one half (2.5) years. Accordingly, Mr. Larisey accepts and shall maintain strict compliance with the following terms and conditions.
2. Mr. Larisey's BACS designation shall be REVOKED. Mr. Larisey may re-apply for a BACS designation at the conclusion of his probation period.
3. Mr. Larisey must be supervised by a LCSW-BACS ("BACS") during his probation period, one (1) time per month for one (1) hour for thirty (30) months. The BACS must make quarterly reports on Mr. Larisey's progress to the Board. Mr. Larisey agrees to release to the BACS the disciplinary record and any documentation associated with Complaint No. 2023-64, and further releases and allows the


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disciplinary committee to communicate with the LCSW-BACS about Complaint 2023-64.

4. Mr. Larisey shall complete a total of six (6) hours of continuing education in the area of boundaries. These hours are to be pre-approved by the Board prior to completion. These continuing education hours must be completed in addition to all standard renewal requirements for his LCSW licensure. Mr. Larisey shall provide the Board with evidence of attendance within twelve (12) months after all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order.
5. Mr. Larisey shall pay a fine 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. Payment shall be made by credit card, certified check, or money order.
6. Mr. Larisey shall reimburse legal costs associated with Complaint No. 2023-64 in the amount of SIX HUNDRED FIFTY-TWO AND 50/100 (652.50) 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. Payment shall be made by credit card, certified check, or money order.
7. Mr. Larisey specifically acknowledges that failure to comply with the terms of this Consent Agreement and Order may result in a denial, revocation, or suspension of

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any license, certificate, or registration issued by, or applied for, in accordance with La. R.S. 37:2717.

8. Mr. Larisey further acknowledges that failure to reimburse the fees set forth above at Paragraphs 5 and 6 will require the Board to take further action in collection of this debt. Respondent has twelve (12) months to reimburse the expenses before the debt will be considered final and transferred to the Louisiana Office of Debt Recovery (ODR). After transfer, the debt is subject to an additional collection fee of up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the total debt liability, as provided for in La. R.S. 47:1676 (E).
9. Mr. Larisey shall report the terms of this Consent Agreement and Order to any board or agency with which he is licensed or registered.
10. By agreeing to the terms of this Consent Agreement and Order, Mr. Larisey waives all rights to appeal this adjudication.

**Effect of Non-Acceptance of Agreement.** Mr. Larisey acknowledges that this Consent Agreement and Order is subject to the approval of the Board. He further acknowledges and agrees that if the Board rejects this Consent Agreement and Order, it will be void, and an Administrative Complaint may be filed relative to the allegations contained herein. If this Consent Agreement and Order is rejected by the Board, it will not constitute a waiver of Mr. Larisey's right to a hearing on the matters alleged in an Administrative Complaint and the admissions contained herein will have no effect. He further agrees that if the Board rejects this Consent Agreement and Order, the members of the Board may decide the matter after a hearing, and their consideration of this Consent Agreement and Order shall not alone be grounds for recusal of any member of the Board,

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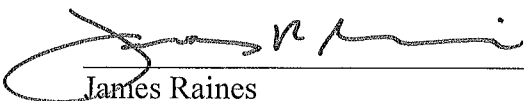
including any claims that the Board is biased against him, that it cannot fairly decide the case, or that it has received ex parte communication.

**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 in, 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 2023-64, 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: 6/22/24

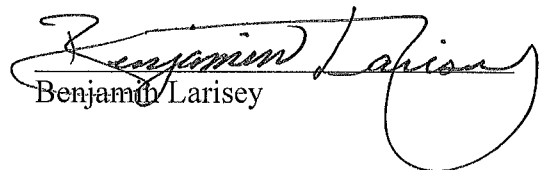
  
James Raines  
Prosecutor

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I, Benjamin Larisey, 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. I make these acknowledgements and waivers in support of a final disposition of the pending investigation of Complaint No. 2023-64 by Consent Agreement and Order pursuant to La. R.S. 49:975(D), in lieu of the institution and prosecution of formal administrative proceedings, and accordingly consent to the entirety of the Order set forth above 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 the Prosecutor to present this Order to LABSWE for its consideration and to disclose to and discuss with LABSWE 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 La. R.S. 49:977.2. I expressly acknowledge that the disclosure of such information to LABSWE shall be without prejudice to the Prosecutor's authority to file a formal Administrative Complaint, or LABSWE's capacity to adjudicate such Administrative Complaint, should LABSWE decline to approve this Consent Agreement and Order. I further acknowledge my awareness that should LABSWE approve this Consent Agreement and Order that the Consent Agreement and Order will become a matter of public record.

DATED: 1.18.2024

  
Benjamin Larisey

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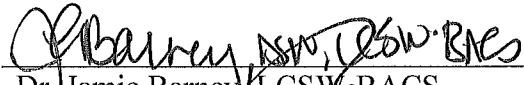
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**ORDER**


The Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners, having examined the Consent Agreement and Order, Case No. 2023-64, adopted the Consent Agreement and Order in this matter.

DATED this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2024, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

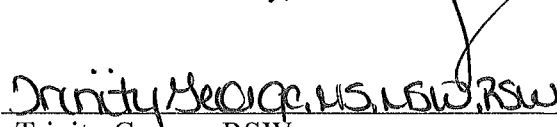
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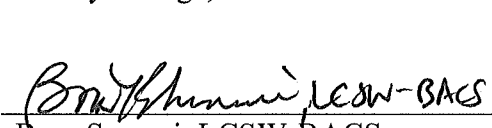
  
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Dr. Jamie Barney, LCSW-BACS

  
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Evan Bergeron, Esq., Consumer Member

  
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Dr. Hyacinth McKee, LCSW-BACS

  
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Melissa Smith Haley, LMSW

  
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Trinity George, RSW

  
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Bora Sunseri, LCSW-BACS

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Candice Sorapuru, LCSW-BACS

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