

IN THE MATTER OF
ANN MARIE CODORI, Ph.D.
LICENSE NUMBER: 02773

* BEFORE THE STATE
* BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF
* PSYCHOLOGISTS
* CASE NO. 2002-022

Respondent

* * * * *

CONSENT ORDER

The State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (the "Board") charged Ann Marie Codori, Ph.D. (the "Respondent"), D.O.B. 11/1/54, License Number 02773, with violating certain provisions of the Maryland Psychologists Act (the "Act"), Md. Health Occ. Code Ann. ("H.O.") §§ 18-101 et seq. (2000 Repl. Vol. and 2003 Supp.). Specifically, the Board charged the Respondent with violating the following provisions of the Act:

H. O. § 18-313:

Subject to the hearing provisions of § 18-315 of this subtitle, the Board, on the affirmative vote of a majority of its members then serving, may deny a license to any applicant, reprimand any licensee, place any licensee on probation, or suspend or revoke the license of any licensee, if the applicant or licensee:

- (7) Violates the code of ethics adopted by the Board under § 18-311 of this subtitle;
- (12) Violates any provision of this title or any regulation adopted by the Board;
- (17) Commits an act of unprofessional conduct in the practice of psychology;
- (20) Does an act that is inconsistent with generally accepted professional standards in the practice of psychology.

Code Md. Regs. tit. 10, § 36.05 Code of Ethic and Professional Conduct

.03 Ethical Responsibility.

A. In general, a psychologist shall:

(5) Take special care to protect the interests of minors or clients who are unable to give voluntary, informed consent;

(6) Refrain from engaging in other relationships that could limit psychologist's objectivity or create a conflict of interest;

.05 Client Welfare.

A. Exploitation or Undue Influence. A psychologist shall:

(1) Refrain from exploiting or harming clients, colleagues, students, research participant, or others;

(5) Refrain from exploiting the trust and dependency of clients, students, and subordinates;

B. Impaired Objectivity and Dual Relationships.

(1) A psychologist may not undertake or continue a professional relationship with a client when objectivity is or could reasonably be expected to be impaired because of a present or previous familial, social, sexual, emotional, financial, supervisory, political, administrative, or legal relationship with the client or a relevant person associate with or related to the client.

(2) A psychologist may not:

(b) Enter into a dual relationship with a past or present client.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Board finds that:

1. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was and is licensed to practice psychology in the State of Maryland. The Respondent was originally issued a license to practice psychology on or about May 8, 1992.

2. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent maintained a private practice located at 711 W. 40th Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21211. The Respondent also worked as a researcher at Johns Hopkins University.

3. On or about April 22, 2002, the Board received a complaint regarding the Respondent's conduct. The complaint alleged that the Respondent was having a personal relationship with the father of an adolescent who had been a recent patient of the Respondent.

4. A subsequent investigation by the Board revealed the following facts:

5. Patient A, a 16-year-old female, began therapy with the Respondent on March 12, 2001. Patient A was being treated for possible depression, substance abuse and other problems that resulted after the separation and subsequent divorce of her parents. The Respondent treated Patient A approximately one (1) day per week for approximately five (5) months.

6. The Respondent also met with Patient A's father on five (5) occasions and Patient A's mother on three (3) occasions to obtain family histories and to discuss methods on how each parent could help with Patient A's care.

7. When the Respondent met with Patient A's father, they discussed matters not related to Patient A's care.

8. On April 10, 2001, the Respondent discussed referring Patient A to an adolescent group with another therapist, and further discussed it on May 21, June 4, June 18, June 25, and August 11, 2001.

9. On or about June 11, 2001, Patient A's father contacted the Respondent and asked her to meet with him to discuss matters unrelated to Patient A's care. The

14. On August 15, 2001, Patient A asked the Respondent "didn't you think it would upset me if you talked to my Dad?" The Respondent told Patient A that "at the time she saw no danger in it".

15. On August 22, 2001, Patient A asked the Respondent if she was going to date her father. The Respondent told Patient A that she had no intentions of dating Patient A's father.

16. The Respondent ended therapy with Patient A on August 22, 2001.

17. In January 2002, the Respondent began a personal relationship with Patient A's father. They attended Patient A's concert on one (1) occasion at Patient A's request. Patient A's father also accompanied the Respondent on a business trip to Europe.

18. Since January 2002, the Respondent has spoken privately with Patient A to discuss Patient A's feelings about the Respondent's relationship with Patient A's father. On at least one (1) occasion, the Respondent had lunch for one and a half hours with Patient A. During the lunch the Respondent asked Patient A about her feelings about the Respondent's relationship with Patient A's father.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Board finds that the Respondent violated H.O. § 18-313(7), (12), (17), and (20). The Board also finds that the Respondent violated Code Md. Regs. tit. 10, § 36.05: .03 A (5) and (6); and, .05 A (1) and (5), and B

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is this 14th day of June 2004, the Board, by a majority of its member then serving, hereby

ORDERED that the Respondent's license shall be **SUSPENDED** for a period of **SIX (6) MONTHS**. The period of suspension shall begin no later than thirty (30) days from the date that this order is signed by the Board; and be it further

ORDERED that the Respondent shall return her wallet and display licenses to the Board, within thirty days (30) days of the date of this Order; and be it further

ORDERED that following the period of suspension the Respondent shall be placed on **PROBATION** for a period of **THREE (3) YEARS** subject to the following conditions:

1. The Respondent shall take and successfully complete a Board approved ethics course.
2. The Respondent shall be assigned to and practice under a Board approved mentor; and
3. The Respondent shall take and successfully complete a Board approved course in adolescent psychology.

ORDERED that if the Respondent violates any of the terms or conditions of this Consent Order, including probationary terms or conditions as set forth herein, then the Board, after a determination of violation and notice, and an opportunity for a hearing, may impose any other disciplinary sanctions it deems appropriate, including suspension or revocation, said violation of probation being proved by a preponderance of evidence; and be it further

ORDERED that at the end of Respondent's probationary period, the Respondent may petition the Board for release from probation, provided that she has fulfilled all the

terms and conditions of probation set forth herein, is not in violation of this Consent Order and there are no outstanding complaints against the Respondent. If the Board determines that the terms of probation have not been successfully completed, then the Board may modify one or more condition upon which the Respondent was placed on probation, upon notice to the Respondent. However, if the Respondent fails to make any such petition, then the probationary period status shall continue indefinitely, subject to the conditions set forth in this Order; and be it further

ORDERED that the Respondent shall practice psychology in accordance with the Maryland Psychologists Act, and in a competent manner; and be it further

ORDERED that in the event the Board finds that the Respondent has violated any provision of Title 18 of the Health Occupations Article, Annotated Code of Maryland or the regulations therein, the Board, after notification to the Respondent, and an opportunity for a hearing, may take immediate action and may impose any lawful disciplinary sanctions it deems appropriate, including but not limited to revocation or suspension of the Respondent's license to psychology; and be it further

ORDERED that for purposes of public disclosure and as permitted by Md. State Govt. Code Ann. § 10-617(h) (1999 Repl. Vol. and 2003 Supp.), this document consists of the contents of the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order, and that the Board may also disclose to any national reporting bank to whom the Board is mandated to report; and be it further

ORDERED that the conditions of this Consent Order be, and the same is hereby, effective as of the date of this Order; and be it further

ORDERED that this is a **FINAL ORDER** and, as such, is a public document pursuant to Md. State Govt. Code Ann. §§ 10-611 et seq. (1999 Repl. Vol. and 2003 Supp.).

ORDERED that the Respondent shall be responsible for all costs incurred under this Consent Order; and be it further

IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 11 DAY OF June, 2004.



William D.A. Musick. Ph. D., Chairperson
State Board of Examiners of Psychologists

CONSENT OF ANNE MARIE CODORI

I, **Ann Marie Codori, Ph.D.**, License No. 02773, by affixing my signature hereto, acknowledge that:

1. I am represented by Richard Bloch, Esquire, and I have had the opportunity to consult with counsel before signing this document.

2. I am aware that I am entitled to a formal evidentiary hearing before the Board, pursuant to Md. Health Occ. Code Ann. § 18-315 (2000 Repl. Vol. and 2003 Supp.) Md. State Govt. Code Ann. §§10-201 et seq (1999 Repl. Vol. and 2003 Supp.), and Md. Code Regs. tit. § 10, 36.03.

3. I acknowledge the validity of this Consent Order as if entered after a formal evidentiary hearing in which I would have had the right to counsel, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to call witnesses on my own behalf, and to all other substantive and procedural protections provided by law.

4. I voluntarily enter into and consent to the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order, provided that the Board adopts the foregoing Consent Order in its entirety. I waive any right to contest the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and I waive my right to a fully evidentiary hearing, as set forth above, and any right to appeal this Consent Order or as set forth in § 4-318 of the Act and Md. State Govt. Code Ann. §§10-201 et seq. (1999 Repl. Vol. and 2003 Supp.).

5. I acknowledge that by failing to abide by the conditions set forth in this Consent Order, and, following proper procedures, I may suffer disciplinary action, which may include revocation of my license to practice psychology in the State of Maryland.

6. I sign this Consent Order without reservation as my voluntary act and deed. I acknowledge that I fully understand and comprehend the language, meaning, and terms of this Consent Order.

6/9/2004
Date

Ann Marie Codori, Ph.D.

NOTARY

STATE OF Maryland
CITY/COUNTY OF Baltimore

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT on this 9th day of June, 2004, before me, a Notary Public for the State of Maryland and the City/County aforesaid, personally appeared **Ann Marie Codori, Ph.D.**, and made oath in due form of law that the foregoing Consent Order was his voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESS by my hand and Notarial Seal.

My Commission Expires: 10/01/07

Gloria J. Strack
Notary Public

