

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA
BOARD OF LICENSED CLINICAL
MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS

IN THE MATTER OF:

)

)

CONSENT ORDER

Kelly Ann Wedell, LCMHCS

)

Respondent.

)

No. S3897

)

THIS CAUSE, coming on to be heard and being heard before the North Carolina Board of Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors (“the Board”), regarding pending complaint numbers 2178, 2181, and 2239, which all arise from the same client relationship; and

IT APPEARING to the Board that the Respondent has stipulated to certain facts and to the entry of a Consent Order in conformity therewith;

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED by the undersigned Respondent and the Board that:

1. Respondent was at all times relevant to this cause a licensed clinical mental health counselor supervisor and is subject to the Board’s jurisdiction pursuant to the North Carolina Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors Act, Chapter 90, Article 24 of the North Carolina General Statutes.

2. The Board issued a counseling license to Respondent on October 1, 2001. On October 14, 2016, Respondent became a licensed clinical mental health supervisor [“LCMHCS”], which license she renewed through June 30, 2026.

3. The Board’s Ethics Review Committee [“Committee”] found probable cause that Respondent engaged in the following conduct while licensed by the Board:

- a. Respondent had a long-term counseling relationship with Complainant, who had complex mental health issues.
- b. Respondent allowed Complainant to record counseling sessions and play them back outside of counseling sessions, despite acknowledging that experiencing past traumas without skilled clinical care present could be detrimental to Complainant.
- c. During the relationship, Complainant presented mental health issues beyond what Respondent was able to address alone, but she did not promptly refer Complainant to other providers for continuing care.
- d. Respondent terminated the counseling relationship with Complainant and did not promptly respond to communications, including ones repeatedly requesting copies of their records, which led to Complainant feeling abandoned.
- e. Complainant was in crisis and had threatened harm to themselves and others in the sessions immediately preceding the termination and subsequently entered in-patient treatment.

- f. Respondent admitted that there were several months during the counseling relationship where she did not make or keep clinical notes.
 - g. Respondent exchanged extensive text messages with Complainant over the lengthy course of their counseling relationship and failed to use a secure and HIPAA-compliant message service.
4. The Committee found the following in mitigation of the above conduct:
 - a. Respondent has been licensed since 2001 and held a supervisor license since 2016.
 - b. Respondent has not been disciplined previously in the more than twenty years she has been licensed.
 - c. Respondent reported consulting with others and making good faith efforts to determine the proper scope of the release of Complainant's records.
 - d. During the Board investigation, Respondent produced her complete client records once requested by the subsequent provider for Complainant.
5. Respondent's conduct as set forth above, if proven, violated Sections A.1.b, A.11.a., A.11.c., A.11.d., A.12., B.6.a., B.6.e., B.6.f., and H.2.d. of the American Counseling Association Code of Ethics (2014) and violated N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 90-340(a)(9) of the North Carolina Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors Act.
6. The Board and Respondent wish to avoid the time and the costs associated with full litigation of this matter and, *in lieu* of any proceedings, enter into this Consent Order.
7. Respondent expressly waives notice of hearing, a hearing, the making of findings of fact and conclusions of law, and all further proceedings before the Board to which Respondent may be entitled by law. Respondent further agrees that presentation of this Consent Order to the Board for approval shall not constitute improper *ex parte* communication between the Board and its counsel, or the Board and its staff, nor require the recusal of the members of the Board from consideration of this matter before the full Board, should a hearing be required in this case.
8. Respondent forever releases the State of North Carolina, the North Carolina Board of Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors, and all its members, officials, agents, counsel, representatives, and employees, both past and present, in their individual or official capacities from any and all liability, suits, claims, and causes of action arising prior to or as a result of the execution of this Consent Order.
9. Respondent waives the right to seek judicial review or to otherwise challenge the validity of this Consent Order in any court or before the Board in the future. Respondent understands and agrees that this Consent Order shall be effective only after approval by the full Board and signature of its Chairperson.
10. Respondent was represented by K. Brandon Remington in connection with the investigation and execution of this Consent Order. The Board was represented in this Consent Order by Douglas Bocker of The Bocker Law Firm, P.A.

11. This Consent Order contains the entire agreement between the undersigned, there being no agreement of any kind, verbal or otherwise, which varies, alters, or adds to this Consent Order.

12. This Consent Order shall constitute disciplinary action against the license of Respondent, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §90-340(a) and (b). Respondent understands that this Consent Order may have adverse consequences in other contexts, which shall not be the basis for reconsideration of its terms in the future.

13. Respondent has read this entire Consent Order, assents to its terms and conditions, and agrees not to contest the findings, conclusions, or order in any future potential proceedings by, against, or involving the Board.

14. Respondent agrees to service of the fully executed Consent Order to her attorney in this matter via email and waives service by any other method.

Based upon the record and the foregoing stipulations,

NOW, THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

I. Within 120 days from the date the Consent Order is entered by the Board, Respondent shall complete the following additional 15 Continuing Education [“CE”] hours approved in advance by the Board:

- A. 5 contact hours on termination and appropriate referrals;
- B. 5 contact hours on confidentiality and using encrypted and secure digital and electronic communications with clients; and
- C. 5 contact hours on creating and maintaining clinical records and documentation.
- D. This coursework requirement shall be in addition to the continuing education coursework required for all licensees under the Board’s Administrative Rules. All costs associated with this continuing education requirement shall be borne by Respondent.
- E. Upon successful completion of this continuing education coursework, Respondent shall submit to the Board a certificate of completion provided by the continuing education sponsors.

II. Respondent is subject to and shall comply with the following standard conditions until such time as she provides proof that she has completed the CE hours in Paragraph I and receives notice from the Board that she has complied with all the conditions of this Consent Order:

- A. Respondent shall not violate any provision of the Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors Act and the Board's Rules and Regulations, including the ACA Code of Ethics.
- B. Respondent shall submit to interviews by the Board or its authorized agent and arrange for the Board or its agent to interview her employer, employees, and co-workers during regular office hours or at such other times as are mutually convenient.
- C. Respondent shall comply with all requirements for renewal of licensure, including continuing education and payment of fees.
- D. Respondent shall keep the Board apprised of her current address, phone number, and email address and notify the Board of any changes to that contact information no later than ten (10) days after it becomes effective.

III. The failure of Respondent to abide by any provision of this Consent Order, if proven true by a preponderance of the evidence following notice and an opportunity for hearing, may result in the suspension, revocation, or other disciplinary action against Respondent's license, including seeking an injunction in Superior Court, at the Board's discretion.

IV. The Board shall maintain this Consent Order as a public record pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §§132-1 and 90-340(f), shall submit a report to the National Practitioner Databank, and shall provide copies to the American Counseling Association and the National Board of Certified Counselors, and to other agencies or individuals as required by law.

V. The Board recognizes that the conditions, limitations, or requirements set forth in this Consent Order may present Respondent with certain practical difficulties. The Board concludes that each one is necessary to ensure public protection, and it does not intend to modify or eliminate any of the conditions, limitations, or requirements set forth herein based on such potential difficulties.

VI. The Board shall retain jurisdiction of this matter and Respondent to enforce the provisions herein or enter orders as necessary in the future.

VII. If Respondent fails to comply with any provision of this Consent Order or breaches any term or condition thereof, the Board shall promptly schedule a public Show Cause Hearing to allow Respondent an opportunity to show cause why additional discipline, including a license suspension or revocation, should not be imposed for violating a valid order of the Board. If after the Show Cause Hearing, the Board is satisfied that Respondent failed to comply or breached any term or condition of this Consent Order, the Board impose discipline or conditions as the evidence warrants for proven violations of the Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors Act or of the Board's Rules occurring after entry of this Consent Order.


This the 22 day of July, 2025.

CONSENTED TO BY:

NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF LICENSED
CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS

BY:  7/22/25
E414DBD989A3497...
Dr. Yasmin Gay, LCMHCS
Board Chairperson Date





RESPONDENT:

 05 / 19 / 2025
Kelly Ann Wedell Date

 05 / 19 / 2025
K. Brandon Remington Date
Counsel for Respondent

Title	2025-05-19 Consent Order Wedell
File name	2025-05-19 Wedell...t Order final.pdf
Document ID	6f55565f81048e1279f25fc429c9b4d0c510a026
Audit trail date format	MM / DD / YYYY
Status	● Signed



Document History

 SENT	05 / 19 / 2025 19:28:15 UTC	Sent for signature to K. Brandon Remington (bremington@remingtondixon.com) and Kelly Wedell (kellywedellpc@gmail.com) from administrator@brockerlawfirm.com IP: 65.190.83.187
 VIEWED	05 / 19 / 2025 20:52:41 UTC	Viewed by K. Brandon Remington (bremington@remingtondixon.com) IP: 75.207.236.96
 SIGNED	05 / 19 / 2025 20:55:09 UTC	Signed by K. Brandon Remington (bremington@remingtondixon.com) IP: 75.207.236.96
 VIEWED	05 / 19 / 2025 23:08:07 UTC	Viewed by Kelly Wedell (kellywedellpc@gmail.com) IP: 162.255.169.5



Title	2025-05-19 Consent Order Wedell
File name	2025-05-19 Wedell...t Order final.pdf
Document ID	6f55565f81048e1279f25fc429c9b4d0c510a026
Audit trail date format	MM / DD / YYYY
Status	<div><div></div>Signed</div>

Document History

<div> SIGNED</div>	<div><div>05 / 19 / 2025</div><div>23:15:45 UTC</div></div>	<div>Signed by Kelly Wedell (kellywedellpc@gmail.com)</div> <div>IP: 162.255.169.5</div>
<div> COMPLETED</div>	<div><div>05 / 19 / 2025</div><div>23:15:45 UTC</div></div>	<div>The document has been completed.</div>