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BEFORE THE ARIZONA BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY EXAMINERS

In the Matter of

JAN MICHAEL MEADE, LMT

Holder of License No. MT-13081 As a Massage Therapist In the State of Arizona Board Case Nos.

22-101

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER FOR PROBATION OF MASSAGE THERAPY LICENSE

In the interest of a prompt and judicious settlement of this case, consistent with the public interest, statutory requirements and the responsibilities of the Arizona State Board of Massage Therapy (Board) under A.R.S. § 32-4201, *et. seq.*, Jan Michael Meade (Respondent), holder of Massage Therapist License Number MT-13081 in the State of Arizona, and the Board enter into the following Recitals, Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order for Suspension (Consent Agreement) as a final disposition of this matter.

RECITALS

- 1. Respondent has read and understands this Consent Agreement and has had the opportunity to discuss this Consent Agreement with an attorney, or has waived the opportunity to discuss this Consent Agreement with an attorney.
- 2. Respondent understands that he has a right to a public administrative hearing concerning this matter, at which hearing Respondent could present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. By entering into this Consent Agreement, Respondent knowingly and voluntarily relinquishes all right to such an administrative hearing, as well as rights of rehearing, review, reconsideration, appeal, judicial review or any other administrative and/or judicial action, concerning the matters set forth herein.
- 3. Respondent affirmatively agrees that this Consent Agreement shall be irrevocable.

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- 4. Respondent understands that this Consent Agreement or any part of the agreement may be considered in any future disciplinary action by the Board against Respondent.
- 5. Respondent understands this Consent Agreement deals with Board case number 22-101 involving allegations that Respondent engaged in conduct that would subject Respondent to discipline under the Board's statutes and rules. The investigation into these allegations against Respondent shall be concluded upon the Board's adoption of this Consent Agreement.
- 6. Respondent understands that this Consent Agreement does not constitute a dismissal or resolution of any other matters currently pending before the Board, if any, and does not constitute any waiver, express or implied, of the Board's statutory authority or jurisdiction regarding any other pending or future investigation, action or proceeding.
- 7. Notwithstanding any language in this Consent Agreement and Order, this Consent Agreement and Order does not preclude in any way any other State agency or officer or political subdivision of this state from instituting proceedings, investigating claims, or taking legal action as may be appropriate now or in the future relating to this matter or other matters concerning Respondent, including but not limited to, violations of Arizona's Consumer Fraud Act. Respondent acknowledges that, other than with respect to the Board, this Consent Agreement and Order makes no representations, implied or otherwise, about the views or intended actions of any other state agency or officer or political subdivisions of the State relating to this matter or other matters concerning Respondent.
- 8. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that, upon signing this Consent Agreement and returning this document to the Board's Executive Director, Respondent may not revoke Respondent's acceptance of the Consent Agreement or make any

| 1 | modifications to the document regardless of whether the Consent Agreement has been |
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| 2 | signed by the Executive Director. Any modification to this original document is ineffective |
| 3 | and void unless mutually agreed by the parties in writing. |
| 4 | 9. This Consent Agreement is effective only when signed by the Executive |
| 5 | Director on behalf of the Board. |
| 6 | 10. If a court of competent jurisdiction rules that any part of this Consent |
| 7 | Agreement is void or otherwise unenforceable, the remainder of the Consent Agreement |
| 8 | shall remain in full force and effect. |
| 9 | 11. Respondent understands that this Consent Agreement constitutes |
| 10 | disciplinary action and is a public record that may be publicly disseminated as a formal |
| 11 | action of the Board and may be reported as required by law to the National Practitioner |
| 12 | Data Bank or other such databases. |
| 13 | 12. Respondent agrees that the Board will adopt the following Findings of Fact, |
| 14 | Conclusions of Law and Order. |
| 15 | |
| 16 | ACCEPTED AND AGREED BY RESPONDENT |
| 17 | |
| 18 | Dated: 10/05/21 |
| 19 | Jan Michael Meade |
| 20 | FINDINGS OF FACT |
| 21 | 1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for licensing and regulating the |
| 22 | practice of Massage Therapy in the State of Arizona. |
| 23 | 2. Respondent is the holder of license number MT-13081 to practice as a |
| 24 | Massage Therapist in the State of Arizona. |
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| | Page 3 of 9 |
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- 3. On July 6, 2021, the Board received a complaint that stated on April 14, 2018, Respondent provided massage therapy services to client CC at Bodies in Balance in Flagstaff, Arizona. During that massage CC alleges that the Respondent committed multiple actionable violations of Board statute and rule.
- 4. Specifically, the complaint alleges that while lying face down the Respondent began to "run" his hands under her bare breasts. After moving on to her legs and buttocks area the Respondent is then alleged to have pulled CC's underwear down so that he could touch more of her buttocks area. During this time CC felt uncomfortable with the techniques but did not say anything.
- 5. Later during the massage, while CC was lying on her back she states that the Respondent began to press down on the top of her vagina. Shortly after pressing down on her vagina the Respondent began touching CC's stomach and again under her breasts.
- 6. CC stated in her complaint that after the event and speaking with her husband she immediately wrote down what happened in case she was going to report it. CC also stated in her complaint that a week after the incident she called Respondent's employer and reported what had happened. Mr. Meade was terminated based on the complaint.
- 7. At the Board's August 23, 2021, meeting it moved to offer this consent agreement for probation to Respondent based on the factual allegations as well as the testimony given by both the Respondent and the Complainant.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter and over Respondent pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-4201 *et seq*.
- 2. The Board possesses statutory authority to enter into a consent agreement with a massage therapist to limit or restrict the licensee's practice or to rehabilitate the licensee, protect the public and ensure the licensee's ability to safely engage in the practice

of massage therapy. The Board may also require the licensee to successfully complete a Board approved rehabilitative, retraining, continuing education or assessment program. See A.R.S. § 32-4254(D).

- The conduct and circumstances described above constitute grounds for 3. discipline pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-4253(A)(10), which states, "engaging in conduct that could harm the public."
- 4. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute grounds for discipline pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-4253(A)(14), which states, "engaging in the performance of substandard care by a massage therapist due to a deliberate or negligent act or failure to act, regardless of whether actual injury to the person cared for is established."
- 5. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute grounds for discipline pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-4253(A)(15), which states, "engaging in sexual activity with a client," as it relates to A.R.S. § 32-4253(B)(2)(e), which defines sexual activity as, "massaging, touching or applying any instrument or device by a licensee in the course of practicing or engaging in massage therapy to the breasts of a female client unless the client requests breast massage and signs a written consent form."
- 6. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute grounds for discipline pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-4253(A)(16), which states, "failing to adhere to the recognized standards and ethics of the profession."
- 7. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute grounds for discipline pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-4253(A)(23), which states, "violating Board statutes, rules, or orders."

ORDER

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IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that License Number MT-13081 issued to Respondent to practice as a massage therapist in the State of Arizona is hereby placed on **Probation** for **one year** subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Continuing Education.

During the term of probation, Respondent shall complete <u>12 hours</u> of continuing education, which must include courses covering the following subjects: ethics and communication. <u>Six hours</u> must be in the area of ethics and the other <u>six hours</u> must be in the area of communication. These continuing education hours shall be in addition to and shall not be used to satisfy the hours required for the renewal of Respondent's massage therapist license under A.R.S. § 32-4225. Respondent shall seek and obtain pre-approval of his continuing education courses from Board or its designee (staff). Respondent shall provide the Board or its staff with proof of successful completion of the continuing education hours in satisfaction of this requirement <u>within 6 months</u> of the effective date of this order.

2. Civil Penalty.

During the term of probation, Respondent shall remit a \$300.00 civil penalty <u>via</u> <u>certified funds</u> to the Board's administrative office <u>within 12 months</u> of the effective date of this order.

3. General Provisions.

- a. Respondent shall pay all necessary fees throughout the term of Respondent's suspension to maintain Respondent's massage therapy license in active status.
 - b. Respondent shall pay all costs associated with complying with this Order.
- c. If Respondent violates this Order in any way or fails to fulfill the requirements of this Order, the Board, after giving the Respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard,

| 1 | may revoke, suspend or take other disciplinary actions against Respondent's license. The |
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| 2 | issue at such a hearing will be limited solely to whether this Order has been violated. |
| 3 | d. This Order shall terminate <u>one year</u> from the effective date of the Order, but only |
| 4 | if all terms and conditions have been successfully completed to the satisfaction of the |
| 5 | Board, and Respondent requests and is granted release by the Board. |
| 6 | |
| 7 | DATED this _28th_ day of _October_, 2021. |
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| 9 | ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY |
| 10 | (Seal) |
| 11 | Dam. Much outo |
| 12 | By: Thomas Augherton Evacutive Director |
| 13 | Thomas Augherton Executive Director |
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| 23 | ORIGINAL OF THE FORGOING FILED thisday of September_2021, with: |
| 24 | Arizona State Board of Massage Therapy |
| 25 | 1740 West Adams, Suite 3401 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 |
| 26 | |

| 1 | EVECUTED CODY OF THE FORECOING MAILED/E MAILED |
|----|--|
| 2 | EXECUTED COPY OF THE FOREGOING MAILED/E-MAILED this _ day of September 2021, to: |
| 3 | Jan Michael Meade Address of Record |
| 4 | Respondent |
| 5 | Elliot Alford Alford Law PLLC |
| 6 | 3 North Leroux Street, Suite 200 Flagstaff, Arizona 86001 |
| 7 | Attorney for Respondent |
| 8 | Seamus Monaghan, AAG 2005 North Central Avenue, SGD/LES |
| 9 | Phoenix, Arizona 85004 Attorney for the Board |
| 10 | By: |
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