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STATE OF WISCONSIN

BEFORE THE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST SECTION

EXAMINING BOARD OF SOCIAL WORKERS, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

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IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY

PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

HOLLIE N. GALBREATH SARRAMIF, C.M.F.T.

Case No. LS9912077MFT

RESPONDENT.

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FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

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The parties to this action for the purposes of Wis. Stats. §227.53 are:

*Hollie N. Galbreath Sarramif  
317 West Street  
Stoughton, WI 53589*

*Marriage and Family Therapist Section  
Examining Board of Social Workers,  
Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935*

*Department of Regulation and Licensing  
Division of Enforcement  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935*

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final decision of this matter, subject to the approval of the Marriage and Family Therapist Section. The Section has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Section in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Hollie N. Galbreath Sarramif, Respondent, purported date of birth December 23, 1959 but actual date of birth September 6, 1954, is certified by the Marriage and Family Therapist Section of the Wisconsin Examining Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors as a marriage and family therapist in the state of Wisconsin pursuant to certificate number 200 which was first granted February 2, 1994.
2. Respondent's last address reported to the Department of Regulation and Licensing is 317 West Street, Stoughton, WI 53589.
3. On May 29, 1993, Respondent completed an application for certification as a marriage and family therapist, which she signed under oath and submitted to the Section. Immediately above Respondent's signature on the application, the form states:

I state that I am the person referred to on this application and that all the answers set forth are each and all strictly true in every respect. I understand that false or forged statements made in connection with this application may be grounds for revocation of my credential. I also understand that if I am

issued a credential, failure to comply with the laws or rules of either the Examining Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Professional Counselors or the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing will be cause for disciplinary action. (emphasis added)

4. At the time Respondent applied for marriage and family therapist certification, "grandfathering" nonstatutory provisions in 1991 Act 160 § 21(2)(e) and Wis. Adm. Code § SFC 16.02 allowed for certification without examination if the applicant, among other things:

- a. Applied for certification as a marriage and family therapist on or before May 31, 1995.
- b. Received a master's or doctorate degree:
  - i. In marriage and family therapy from a program accredited by the commission on accreditation for marriage and family therapy education, or
  - ii. In marriage and family therapy, psychology, sociology, social work, professional counseling or other mental health field that included course work that the marriage and family therapist section determines is substantially equivalent to the course work required for a master's or doctorate degree in marriage and family therapy from a program accredited by the commission on accreditation for marriage and family therapy education.
- c. After receiving the master's or doctorate degree, engaged in the equivalent of at least 2 years of full-time supervised clinical marriage and family therapy practice approved by the marriage and family therapist section.

5. Respondent, entered on her application form:

- a. Her name as "Hollie Noel Galbreath Sarramif."
- b. Her previous name as "Holly Noel Galbreath."
- c. Her date of birth as December 23, 1959.
- d. That she received a BS in Human Ecology from Cornell University in Ithaca, NY on 5/30/82.
- e. That she received a MA in School Psychology from Hofstra University in Hempstead, NY on 8/30/83.
- f. That she received a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Vanderbilt University in Nashville TN on 12/21/89.
- g. That the course of study during the completion of the master's and doctorate degrees met the equivalency requirements as set out on the application.
- h. That since receiving her degree she had engaged in at least two years of full-time clinical marriage and family therapy practice supervised by qualified individuals.

6. As part of the application process, applicants are required to have their schools submit official transcripts directly to the Section. The following transcripts were sent to the Section at Respondent's request:

- a. From Cornell University in Ithaca, NY a transcript for a student named Holly N. Galbreath, who attended from Fall 1978 through Spring 1982 and received a BS in Human Ecology on 5/30/82.
- b. From Hofstra University in Hempstead, NY a transcript for a student named Holly N. Galbreath (date of birth 12/23/59), who attended from Fall 1982 through Summer 1983 and received a MA in School Psychology on 8/31/83.
- c. From Vanderbilt University in Nashville TN, a transcript for a student named Holly Noel Galbreath (date of birth 12/23/59, place of birth Batavia, NY), who attended from Fall 1985 to Spring 1989 and received a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology on 12/21/89.

7. Respondent was never named Holly Noel Galbreath.

8. Respondent's actual date of birth is September 6, 1954.

9. Respondent was born in Colorado.
10. Respondent never received a BS from Cornell University.
11. Respondent never received a MA from Hofstra University.
12. Respondent never received a Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University.
13. Respondent is not the person who obtained the degrees set out in finding of fact 6.
14. Although Respondent did not list any degree from Umea University in Umea, Sweden on her application, the Section received a purported transcript from that university which showed that Respondent received a M.S.W. degree in Marriage and Family Therapy from the Institute for the Study of Aggressive Behavior at Umea University on September 25, 1999. The transcript was purportedly sent from Umea University to the Section.
15. The purported transcript from Umea University was actually sent to the Section by Respondent, not by the University, and:
  - a. There has never been an Institute for the Study of Aggressive Behavior affiliated in any manner with the University of Umea.
  - b. Respondent never attended the University of Umea.
  - c. The transcript is a forgery.
16. Respondent is not the person who obtained the degrees set out in finding of fact 6.
17. At the time Respondent completed the application, Respondent knew that the former name, date of birth, and degrees she entered on the application were false.
18. Because Respondent has not actually received an appropriate master's or doctorate degree Respondent has not been eligible for certification as a marriage and family therapist under any standard that has been in existence from 1993 through the present.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Marriage and Family Therapist Section of the Wisconsin Examining Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to §457.26, Stats.
2. The Marriage and Family Therapist Section of the Wisconsin Examining Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors has authority to enter into this stipulated resolution of this matter pursuant to §227.44(5), Stats.
3. Respondent did not meet the qualifications for certification as a marriage and family therapist in effect in 1993, and has never met qualifications for certification, and should not have been certified as a marriage and family therapist.
4. Respondent by having used fraud or deception in her application for a certificate has committed unprofessional conduct, as defined by Wis. Adm. Code §SFC 20.02(4), and is subject to discipline pursuant to §457.26(2)(f), Stats.

#### ORDER

1. Respondent's certification as a marriage and family therapist in the state of Wisconsin is hereby REVOKED, effective immediately.

The rights of a party aggrieved by this Decision to petition the Section for rehearing and to petition for judicial review are set forth on the attached "Notice of Appeal Information".

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin this 8th day of December, 1999.

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Jan Carlson

Chairperson

Marriage and Family Therapist Section