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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING,
AND SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD
(Professional Counselor Section)

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION :
FOR LICENSURE OF :
JANICE E. JOHNSON, : FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
Applicant. : GRANTING PROVISIONAL LIMITED
: LICENSE ORDER 0000046

TO: Janice E Johnson
2000 Michelle Drive
Brookfield, WI 53045

Department of Regulation and Licensing
1400 East Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

On October 26, 2009, the Professional Counselor Section of the Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Work Examining Board held a Class I hearing under the authority of sec. 227.44 and chs. 15 and 457, Wis. Stats., and Chs. MPSW11 and RL 1, Wis. Admin. Code, on the Denial of Application for Professional Counselor License of Janice E. Johnson.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

1. The applicant, Janice E. Johnson, submitted an application for a license to practice as a professional counselor in the state of Wisconsin, on April 21, 2009.
2. On August 18, 2009, the Professional Counselor Section issued a Notice of Denial to the applicant on the basis that she had not completed a master's degree program consisting of 42 semester hours in professional counseling or its equivalent from a program approved by the section. The Notice of Denial specifically indicated that the applicant's transcript indicated that she had completed only 41 semester hours and that audited courses were not counted.
3. On August 27, 2009, the Professional Counselor Section issued an Amended Notice of Denial to the applicant on the basis that the applicant had not submitted evidence that she had completed the required master's degree program in professional counseling or its equivalent from a program approved by the section and that the hours of supervised experience accrued between 1990 through 1995 were denied because the applicant did not acquire this experience in no less than 2 years while holding a training license.

4. On September 8, 2009, the applicant requested a hearing pursuant to RL 1 to challenge the denial of her application. The Class 1 hearing on the denial of application was held before the Professional Counselors Section on October 26, 2009. Based upon the information of record and presented at the hearing, the Board adopts and issues the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

5. The applicant is a graduate of the Illinois State University, having received a master's degree in Psychology, with a sequence in counseling, in 1991.

6. The applicant presented evidence at the hearing of having taken an additional 12 hours of coursework at the master's level which was not in her degree program and occurred before she graduated, for a total of 53 hours of counseling related coursework.

7. The evidence of record also includes verification of the applicant's completion of 6,000 hours of supervised practice in counseling at Community Family Services, in Illinois, from 1992 to 1995, where she was employed as a therapist/crisis counselor.

8. The applicant informed the section that she did not have a training license when she accrued her supervised practice hours because licensure was not available in Illinois.

9. The applicant informed the section that she has not taken or passed any national professional counselor examination and has not practiced in the field of professional counseling for the past 14 years. She is seeking licensure to return to the workforce.

10. The applicant does not currently hold, or has ever held, a license as a professional counselor in Wisconsin or any other state.

11. At the hearing, the applicant offered to fulfill any additional requirements deemed appropriate and necessary by the Section to ensure the currency of her knowledge and skills in professional counseling, including additional educational courses in professional counseling, passage of the national examination, and a period of supervised practice with a comprehensive evaluation.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Professional Counselors Section of the Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Work Examining Board is the legal authority responsible for granting a professional counselor license pursuant to ch. 457, Wis. Stats, and has subject-matter jurisdiction over an application for licensure as a professional counselor.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the applicant, Janice E. Johnson, is hereby GRANTED a provisional limited license (non-disciplinary) to practice as a professional counselor in the state of Wisconsin. The provisional license shall require the applicant, as a condition of obtaining a full license, to successfully complete the following terms and conditions:

- specified continuing education in professional counseling
- passage of a national counselor's examination
- supervised practice for a period of six (6) months

A. Continuing Education in Professional Counseling

- Diagnostic and Statistic Manual of Mental Health Disorders, Pre-Approved Course: *The DSM IV-TR in a Day*, sponsored by the Meds-PDN, March 26, 2010, Little Rock, Arkansas.
- Ethics Seminar, Pre-Approved Course: *An Ounce of Prevention: Mental Health Ethics and Law*, SPONSORED BY Cross Country Education Seminars, February 10, 2010, Brookfield, Wisconsin.

B. Professional Counselor Examination

- Successful passage of the Wisconsin statutes and rules examination, and one of the following: the National Counselor Examination, the National Counselor Mental Health Certification Examination, the Certified Rehabilitation Counselor examination. Both parts of the examination requirement may be taken prior to or upon completion of the required period of supervised practice.

C. Supervised Practice

- Completion of a six (6) month period of supervised professional counseling practice, consisting of a minimum of weekly face-to-face supervisory sessions no less than one hour in duration, under the supervision of a licensee who holds a current Wisconsin credential (MSW, LCSW, SAC), in good standing and who is pre-approved by the section and qualified to supervise per MPSW 12.02(2), Wis. Admin. Code. If the approved supervisor is unable to complete the required supervision, the applicant must notify the Section and obtain pre-approval of a successor to serve as her practice supervisor.
- Upon completion of the supervised practice described above, the applicant's supervisor must provide a comprehensive written evaluation of the applicant's performance and verification of her fitness to practice professional counseling independently.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that upon satisfactory completion of all of the requirement of the limited license, the applicant may submit a petition to the Professional Counselor Section of the Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Work Examining Board requesting the removal of the limitations and issuance of a full unencumbered professional counselor license. Applicant must submit documented proof of completion of the requirements with her petition. The limitations described herein shall continue in force and effect until such time as the applicant has shown satisfactory completion of the terms and conditions of the limited license based upon proof acceptable to the Professional Counselor Section. All documentation, reports or petitions shall be submitted to the Department Monitor who shall forward the material to the section for review and approval.

Sharon Henes, Department Monitor
Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing
Division of Enforcement
1400 East Washington Ave.
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935
Fax: (608) 266-2264
Telephone: (608) 267-3817

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin this 2 day of February, 2010.



Leslie Mirkin
Leslie Mirkin
Chair of the Professional Counselor Section
Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Work Examining Board