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October 17, 1991

TO: Board of Directors
Wisconsin Alcoholism & Drug Counselor Certification Board, Inc

The Executive Committee having received the results of the investigation into the alleged misconduct of Ernest Hill in conformity with its rules now makes the following:

#### Findings of Fact

- 1. Anita Shea was a patient at DePaul from May 16, 1989 January 31, 1990.
- 2. Anita Shea was a patient of Ernest Hill's from November 24, 1989 until discharge.
- 3. According to the medical records Anita Hill told her counselor on intake of her past 14 year history of depression and suicidal ideation.
- 4. The medical record notes anxiety and mood swings on intake that do not appear to alleviate through the course of treatment.
- 5. The medical record indicates that no psychiatric referral was made in spite of recorded consistent problems with anxiety and mood.
- 6. The medical record indicates that no attempt was made to contact anyone who previously treated this patient for depression.
- 7. The medical record indicates that no attempt was made to obtain past treatment records for this patient.
- 8. Ernest Hill admits that he was made aware of the client's past treatment for depression from the information provided by the client's original counselor, but that he never talked to her about depression.

# CONCLUSION

- Anita Shea informed the staff at DePaul about her past treatment for depression.
- 2. Ernest Hill failed to adequately recognize the continuing problems of an affective disorder. He failed to adequately monitor the mental health issues of the client. In doing so, Ernest Hill failed to make appropriate referrals for psychological evaluations and treatment.
- 3. The recognition of mental health issues, the monitoring of their symptoms and the referral for appropriate treatment are within the customary scope of practice of the CADC II and CADC III.
- 4. Ernest Hill has violated the WADCCB Code of Conduct: Section B.2.:

October 17, 1991

A counselor shall not perform his or her duties with respect to clients in a manner which falls below the minimum standards of competence for the counseling profession.

### DECISION

Based on the above findings and conclusions, Ernest Hill's certification is suspended for six (6) months. The WADCCB further requires that Ernest Hill gain a minimum of 12 hours of training in dual diagnosis which will meet the knowledge and skill areas 508 and 529 as identified in the Counselor Certification Handbook.

President and Chair Executive Committee Wisconsin Alcoholism & Drug Counselor Certification Board, Inc.