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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE PSYCHOLOGY EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST:

GARY MICHAEL MAJOR, PH.D.,
RESPONDENT

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
LS0201232PSY

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

Gary Michael Major, Ph.D.
10229 W. Greenfield Avenue
West Allis, WI 53214

Wisconsin Psychology Examining Board
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 in this matter, subject to the approval of the Psychology Examining Board. The Board has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Gary Michael Major, Ph.D., Respondent, date of birth September 21, 1950, is licensed by the Wisconsin Psychology Examining Board as a psychologist in the state of Wisconsin, pursuant to license number 1274, which was first granted January 9, 1987.
2. Respondent's last address reported to the Department of Regulation and Licensing is 10229 W. Greenfield Avenue, West Allis, WI 53214.
3. Mr. A and his second wife, Ms. B, received relationship counseling from Respondent.
4. Subsequently, Mr. A and Ms. B divorced. Mr. A then married Ms. C.
5. Mr. A and his spouse, Ms. C, received relationship counseling from Respondent at Stress Management & Mental Health Clinics located in West Allis, Wisconsin, on:
1995: July 27, 31; August 7, 28; October 23

1996: February 23; August 9

1997: January 31; February 14; June 19

6. At the first session with Mr. A and Ms. C, Respondent acknowledged to Ms. C that he had provided counseling to Mr. A and his previous wife and children but assured Ms. C that he would treat her fairly. Respondent told Ms. C that his knowledge of Mr. A's previous relationship would assist him in providing treatment to Mr. A and Ms. C.

7. During therapy sessions, Respondent revealed the following personal information about himself to Mr. A and Ms. C:

a. That Respondent's first wife had died, as had Mr. A's first wife. Respondent told Mr. A and Ms. C that he felt his own experience would allow him to better help Mr. A and Ms. C with this "unique problem."

b. That Respondent was also having marital problems of his own. Respondent told Mr. A that his wife was going to leave him and take their children out of state to be with another man.

8. Respondent also provided individual psychotherapy to Ms. C to address her individual needs, on:

1996: April 25; June 21, 24, 27; July 3, 11, 18; August 1, 8; September 27; October 2, November 12; December 9

1997: March 1, 29; June 21; July 19

9. Mr. A was President and General Manager of two radio stations. During the summer of 1996, because of Mr. A's position, Respondent asked Mr. A to get him concert tickets. Mr. A obtained two sets of four tickets for Respondent. Respondent paid Mr. A for the first set of tickets but received the second set free of charge.

10. On several occasions beginning in January 1997, Respondent asked Mr. A to lend him \$8,000 because Respondent was involved in a divorce and needed money for legal fees. Mr. A declined to loan Respondent the money.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Psychology Examining Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to § 455.09, Stats.

2. The Wisconsin Psychology Examining Board has authority to enter into this stipulated resolution of this matter pursuant to § 227.44(5), Stats.

3. Respondent, by engaging in the conduct set out above, failed to avoid dual relationships or relationships that might impair Respondent's objectivity or create a conflict of interest, which constitutes a violation of § PSY 5.02(17), Wis. Adm. Code, and is subject to discipline pursuant to § 455.09(g), Stats.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Gary Michael Major, Ph.D., is hereby REPRIMANDED for the above conduct.

2. Within 120 days of the date of this Order, Respondent shall provide proof sufficient to the Board, or its designee, of Respondent's satisfactory completion of a full-day program addressing the issues of mental health care practitioner – patient relationship boundaries. Respondent shall provide information about the program to the Board, or its designee, and receive approval from the Board, or its designee, that the program meets the requirement of this paragraph addressing the issues of mental health care practitioner – patient relationship boundaries.

3. The program completed to comply with this order shall be in addition to the 40 hours of continuing education the statutes and rules require to be completed during the October 1, 2001 through September 30, 2003 biennium, prior to registration renewal for the October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2005 biennium, and Respondent shall not attempt to apply these credits to the biennial requirement.

4. Effective immediately:

a. Respondent's practice shall be supervised for a period of not less than 6 months.

b. The supervision shall be by a licensed psychologist, who is not employed by Stress Management & Mental Health Clinics and who shall first be approved by the Board.

c. The supervision shall consist of:

- i. Respondent initially meeting with the supervisor to discuss Respondent's complete existing caseload and practice.
- ii. The supervisor reviewing the records of any new clients who begin therapy with Respondent during the period of supervision.
- iii. The supervisor continuing to review at least one-half of Respondent's caseload during the period of supervision.
- iv. A minimum of 4 hours per month of face-to-face supervision or as much additional time as needed to accomplish this supervision.

5. The supervisor shall submit formal written reports to the Board every three months, with the first report due three months from the date of this Order. The reports shall indicate whether Respondent has continued to meet with the supervisor and the frequency of meetings; whether Respondent has followed the supervisor's recommendations; and, shall assess Respondent's progress in supervision. Respondent shall be responsible for the timely filing of these reports.

6. All requests for approval, proof of completion of educational programs and supervisor reports shall be mailed, faxed or delivered to:

Department Monitor
Department of Regulation And Licensing
Division of Enforcement
1400 East Washington Ave.
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935
Fax: (608) 266-2264

7. Violation of any term or condition of this Order may constitute grounds for revocation of Respondent's license as a psychologist Wisconsin. Should the Board determine that there is probable cause to believe that Respondent has violated the terms of this Order, the Board may order that Respondent's license be summarily suspended pending investigation of and hearing on the alleged violation.

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

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin this 23rd day of January, 2002.

Barbara A. Van Horne, Ph.D.

Chairperson

Psychology Examining Board