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## CERTIFICATION BOARD

April 16, 2004

**Re:** Complaint #: 2003-22  
Complainant: Eloiza Altoro-Acevedo for the Wisconsin Certification Board  
Respondent: William R. Olcott, CADC III, CCS II

**To:** Board of Directors  
Wisconsin Certification Board, Inc.

The Executive Committee having received the results of the investigation into the alleged misconduct of William R. Olcott, CADC III, CCS II and in conformity with its rules now makes the following:

### FINDINGS OF FACT

The respondent:

- became a Wisconsin Certification Board (WCB) Certified Alcohol/Drug Counselor III (CADC III) on 6/18/1977 and is paid to 6/18/2004;
- became a WCB Certified Clinical Supervisor II (CCS II) on 2/11/1994 and is paid to 6/18/2004;
- on 8/16/2003 received a 6 month suspension of his WCB credentials from the WCB for breaching Rule 5.2 of *Counselor Code of Conduct* and Rule 1.2 of the *Certified Prevention Professional Code of Conduct*;
- on January 8, 2003 during the arbitration hearing for a WCB certified CADC III counselor in the City of Green Lake in Green Lake County in the State of Wisconsin, testified that he had a "...Master's degree...[in] community psychology". The respondent's vita provided by the respondent at the hearing showed respondent having a BS in Sociology and MS in Community Psychology. The respondent has neither degree; and
- on 10/30/2003, pleaded no contest to a Misdemeanor A charge of False Swearing in violation of Wis. Stats. §946.32(2) two counts.
- The respondent has demonstrated a pattern of presenting false qualifications to the Wisconsin Certification Board, to persons in the substance use disorder counseling profession, and to the public while testifying as an "expert" witness in the field of substance use disorder treatment for a counselor in the Green Lake County administrative hearing.

### CONCLUSION

The Executive Committee concludes that Mr. Olcott's credibility has been severely damaged and there is no question that this lack of credibility permeates his "ability to practice the substance abuse counseling profession" particularly where the profession places a high premium on honesty as an integral part of the recovery process.

Furthermore, it is concluded that the respondent breached the *Counselor Code of Conduct* Rules:

Rule 2.2 A counselor shall not engage in conduct which does not meet the generally accepted standards of practice

Rule 3.1 A conviction for any felony or misdemeanor relating to the counselor's ability to practice the substance abuse counseling profession shall be grounds for disciplinary action.

Rule 5.3 A counselor shall not use a title designation, credential or license, firm name, letterhead, publication, term, title, or document which states or implies an ability, relationship, or qualification that does not exist.

Rule 5.5 A counselor shall not sign or issue in the counselor's professional capacity a document or a statement that the counselor knows or should have known to contain a false or misleading statement.

In addition, the respondent breached the *Clinical Supervisor's Code of Conduct* Rules:

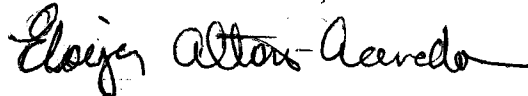
- 1.1(b)(c) AODA Clinical Supervisors are in violation of this Code and are subject to revocation or other appropriate action if after registration or certification they (b) are convicted of a misdemeanor related to their qualifications or functions; (c) engage in conduct which could lead to conviction of a felony or misdemeanor related to their qualifications or functions.
- 1.7 AODA Clinical Supervisors, because of their ability to influence and alter the lives of others, exercise special care when making public their professional recommendations and opinions through testimony or other public statements.
- 6.4 AODA Clinical Supervisors do not use any professional identification (such as a business card, office sign, letterhead, or telephone or association directory listing) if it includes a statement or claim that is false, fraudulent, misleading, or deceptive. A statement is false, fraudulent, misleading, or deceptive if it (a) contains a material misrepresentation of fact; (b) fails to state any material fact necessary to make the statement, in light of all circumstances, not misleading; or (c) is intended to or is likely to create an unjustified expectation

#### DECISION

Pursuant to Section V(A)(3) of the WCB *Counselor Code of Conduct* (Rev. 1996), Action by the Executive Committee, William R. Olcott's certifications as an alcohol/drug counselor III (CADC III) and clinical supervisor II (CCS II) are hereby Revoked.

Please be advised of your rights to appeal, hearing, and reinstatement as outlined within the *Counselor Code of Conduct* in Sections VI and VII.

For the Executive Committee,



Eloiza Altoro-Acevedo  
Interim Executive Director

Cc file