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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE SOCIAL WORKER SECTION
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING,
AND SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY :
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :
 : LS0411176SOC
CHARLES T. ADAM, L.C.S.W., :
RESPONDENT. :

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

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

Charles T. Adam, L.C.S.W.
6810 Cedar Street
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

Social Worker Section
Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy,
Professional Counseling, and Social Work 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 Social Worker 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. Charles T. Adam, L.C.S.W., Respondent, date of birth June 27, 1940, is licensed by the Social Worker Section as a clinical social worker in the state of Wisconsin pursuant to license number 2424, which was first granted April 4, 1994. (Prior to a statutory change effective 11/01/02, Respondent's credential was a certificate as an independent clinical social worker.)
2. Respondent received a masters degree in social work from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee on June 13, 1971. Respondent was granted certification pursuant to the grand-parenting provisions of 1991 Act 160, § 21(2)(d), based upon his having a masters degree in social work. For this reason, Respondent did not take the examination otherwise required for certification.
3. Respondent's last address reported to the Department of Regulation and Licensing is 6810 Cedar Street, Wauwatosa, WI 53213.
4. During 2003 and through April 22, 2004, Respondent had a contract with La Causa to provide in-home psychotherapy to its clients. La Causa's Child Welfare Program provides child welfare services in a portion of Milwaukee

County. Its Safety Services Program provides in-home services to families at risk of abuse or neglect.

5. Ms. A, a 32-year-old woman, had two sons who received in-home psychotherapy from Respondent through the Safety Services Program beginning in April 2002. After a few months, Ms. A also began receiving in-home psychotherapy from Respondent. While in therapy with Respondent, Ms. A disclosed that she had been a victim of sexual abuse.

6. While Ms. A was his client, Respondent began having romantic feelings for her. Respondent expressed his attraction to Ms. A who said she would like to be friends with him. Prior to terminating the therapy with Ms. A and her children in January 2003, Respondent had a conversation with Ms. A in which they agreed that they would continue to see each other after therapy ended.

7. Respondent and Ms. A began seeing each other within a week of the termination of therapy and had a personal relationship from February to July 2003. It was Respondent's desire to have a romantic and sexual relationship with Ms. A. She told him she wanted to be friends and led him to believe that in time their relationship might become sexual. During that time:

- a. Respondent gave Ms. A \$8,000 to assist her financially.
- b. Respondent provided Ms. A with the regular use of an automobile he owned.
- c. Respondent and Ms. A went overnight camping together once.
- d. Respondent and Ms. A kissed, but had no other sexual contact.

8. In April 2004, Ms. A complained to La Causa about Respondent. After investigating the allegations, La Causa terminated Respondent's contract.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Social Worker Section of the Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling and Social Work Examining Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Wis. Stats. § 457.26(2) and has authority to enter into this stipulated resolution pursuant to Wis. Stats. § 227.44(5).

2. Respondent, by engaging in the conduct set out above, has failed to avoid a dual relationship that could impair his objectivity or create a conflict of interest which is unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 20.02(13) and is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stats. § 457.26(2)(f).

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the SURRENDER by Charles T. Adam, L.C.S.W., Respondent, of his license to practice as a clinical social worker in the state of Wisconsin is hereby ACCEPTED, effective immediately.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin this 17th day of November, 2004.

George J. Kamps, L.C.S.W.
Chairperson
Social Worker Section