STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

In re: Samantha Farber, MSW Petition Numbers: 2023-1027 and 2023-979

CONSENT ORDER

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Health ("Department") issued Samantha Farber ("Respondent") license number 005375 to practice as a master social worker by pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes, Chapter 383b, as amended.

WHEREAS, the Department alleges:

1. From approximately February 2021 through June 2021, Respondent provided clinical care and treatment for Patient #1.
2. From approximately November through December 2021, Respondent violated the standard of care in one or more of the following ways, in that she violated professional boundaries by engaging in an inappropriate relationship with Patient #1.
3. In approximately October 2023, Respondent represented that she was a licensed clinical social worker when, in fact, she was not so licensed.
4. On various occasions in 2023 and/or 2024, Respondent engaged in inappropriate, unethical and/or unprofessional conduct on social media..
5. The above-described facts constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §§20-195p and/or 19a-17.

WHEREAS, Respondent, in consideration of this Consent Order, has chosen not to contest the above allegations of wrongdoing but, while admitting no wrongdoing, agrees that for purposes of this or any future proceedings before the Department's Commissioner or designee ("Commissioner"), this Consent Order shall have the same effect as if proven and ordered after a full hearing held pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §§19a-10, 19a-14 and 20-195p.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §§19a-14, 19a-17 and 20-195p, Respondent hereby stipulates and agrees to the following:

1. Respondent waives the right to a hearing on the merits of this petition.
2. Respondent's master social worker license number 005375 is hereby reprimanded.
3. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of four thousand dollars ($4,000.00) by certified or cashier's check payable to "Treasurer, State of Connecticut." The check shall reference the Petition Number on the face of the check and shall be payable at the time Respondent submits the executed Consent Order to the Department.
4. Respondent's master social worker license number 005375 is placed on probation for three (3) years under the following terms and conditions:
5. Within the first six (6) months of probation, Respondent shall successfully complete coursework, pre-approved by the Department, in professional ethics; boundaries; and patient confidentiality. Within fifteen (15) days of the completion of such coursework, Respondent shall provide the Department with proof, to the Department's satisfaction, of successful course completion.
6. During the period of probation, Respondent shall not be self-employed as a social worker and shall only practice with one or more licensed behavioral healthcare practitioners.
7. During the period of probation, Respondent shall not be employed as a social worker for a personnel provider service or staffing agency or home health care agency.
8. If employed as a social worker, Respondent shall provide her immediate supervisor ("employer") at each office with which she is affiliated with this Consent Order within fifteen (15) days of its effective date. Respondent shall cause each employer to provide the Department with confirmation of receipt of this Consent Order within fifteen (15) days thereafter. If Respondent changes employment at any time during the probationary period, Respondent shall provide the new employer with this Consent Order within fifteen days of

commencement of new employment and shall cause the new employer to provide the Department with confirmation of receipt of this Consent Order within fifteen (15) days thereafter.

E. If employed as a social worker, Respondent shall be responsible for providing quarterly written reports directly to the Department from Respondent's immediate supervisor. Said reports shall indicate whether Respondent is practicing ethically and professionally and whether her conduct conforms to the accepted standards of the social work profession.

F. Any report from Respondent's supervisor indicating that Respondent is not practicing ethically and professionally and/or that Respondent's conduct does not conform to the accepted standards of the social work profession shall be deemed to be a violation of this Consent Order.

G. Respondent shall notify the Department of any change in Respondent's home or business address within fifteen (15) days of such change.

H. All reports required by the terms of this Consent Order shall be due according to a schedule to be established by the Department of Public Health.

I. If Respondent's employment as a social worker is involuntarily terminated, placed on leave or suspended, Respondent shall notify the Department within seventy-two (72) hours of such termination, leave or suspension. Failure to notify the Department shall be deemed to be a violation of this Consent Order.

J. All communication, correspondence and reports are to be addressed to:

Practitioner Compliance and Monitoring Unit
Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #12HSR
P.O. Box 340308
Hartford, CT 06134-0308

5. Respondent shall comply with all state and federal statutes and regulations applicable to her licensure.

6. Respondent shall pay all costs necessary to comply with this Consent Order.

7. Any alleged violation of any provision of this Consent Order may result in the following procedures at the discretion of the Department:

   a. The Department shall notify Respondent that the term(s) of this Consent Order have been violated, provided that no prior written consent for deviation from said term(s) has been granted.

   b. Said notification shall include the acts or omission(s) which violate the term(s) of this Consent Order.

   c. Respondent shall be allowed thirty (30) days from the date of notification required in paragraph a above to demonstrate to the Department's satisfaction that Respondent has complied with the terms of this Consent Order or, in the alternative, that Respondent has cured the violation in question.

   d. If Respondent does not demonstrate compliance or cure the violation within the thirty (30) days specified in the notification of violation to the Department's satisfaction, Respondent shall be entitled to a hearing before the Commissioner who shall make a final determination of the disciplinary action to be taken.

8. If, during the period of probation, Respondent practices social work outside Connecticut, Respondent shall provide written notice to the Department concerning such practice. During such time, Respondent shall not be responsible for complying with the terms of probation of this Consent Order, and such time shall not be counted in reducing the probationary period covered by this Consent Order. Respondent may comply with the terms of probation while practicing outside Connecticut if pre-approved by the Department. If Respondent intends to return to the practice of social work in Connecticut, Respondent shall provide the Department with thirty (30) days prior written notice and

agrees to comply with all probationary terms and conditions required by this Consent Order in paragraph 4.

9. If Respondent does not practice social work for periods of thirty (30) consecutive days or longer, Respondent shall notify the Department in writing. Such periods of time shall not be counted in reducing the probationary period covered by this Consent Order and such terms shall be held in abeyance. During such time, Respondent shall not be responsible for complying with the terms of probation of this Consent Order. If Respondent resumes the practice of social work, Respondent shall provide the Department with thirty (30) days prior written notice. Respondent shall not return to the practice of social work without written pre-approval from the Department. Respondent agrees that the Department, in its complete discretion, may require additional documentation from Respondent and/or require Respondent to satisfy other conditions or terms as a condition precedent to Respondent's return to practice. Respondent agrees that any return to the practice of social work without pre-approval from the Department shall constitute a violation of this Consent Order and may subject the Respondent to further disciplinary action.

10. If Respondent violates any term of this Consent Order, said violation may also constitute grounds for the Department to seek a summary suspension of Respondent's license before the Commissioner .

11. Legal notice shall be sufficient if sent to Respondent's last known address of record reported to the Department.

12. This Consent Order is effective on the first day of the month immediately following the date this Consent Order is accepted and ordered by the Department.

13. Respondent understands and agrees that this Consent Order is a public record.

14. Respondent agrees that the Department's allegations as contained in this Consent Order shall be deemed true in any subsequent proceeding before the Commissioner in which

Respondent's compliance with this Consent Order or with Connecticut General Statutes §20-195p, as amended, is at issue. Further, Respondent understands that any discipline imposed by this Consent Order shall be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank maintained by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

15. If Respondent violates any term of this Consent Order, Respondent agrees immediately to refrain from practicing as a social worker, upon request by the Department, for a period not to exceed forty-five (45) days. Respondent further agrees that failure to cooperate with the Department in its investigation during said forty-five (45) day period shall constitute grounds for the Department to seek a summary suspension of Respondent's license. In any such summary action, Respondent stipulates that failure to cooperate with the Department's investigation shall be considered by the Commissioner and shall, as a matter of law, constitute a clear and immediate danger as required by Connecticut General Statutes §§4-182(c) and 19a-17(c). Respondent understands that the Commissioner has complete and final discretion whether a summary suspension is ordered.

16. Any extension of time or grace period for reporting granted by the Department shall not be a waiver or preclude the Department from acting at a later time. The Department shall not be required to grant future extensions of time or grace periods.

17. This Consent Order and terms set forth herein are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review under any form or in any forum. Respondent agrees that this Consent Order shall not be subject to modification as a result of any claim that the terms contained herein may result in action by third parties, including, but not limited to, healthcare facilities and/or credentialing or licensure authorities and Respondent waives any right to seek reconsideration or modification of this Consent Order pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-181a without the express consent and agreement of the Department. Respondent assumes all responsibility for assessing such actions prior to

executing this Consent Order. Further, this Consent Order is not subject to appeal or review under the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes Chapters 54 or 368a, provided that this stipulation shall not deprive Respondent of any other rights that Respondent may have under the laws of the State of Connecticut or of the United States.

18. This Consent Order is a revocable offer of settlement which may be modified by mutual agreement or withdrawn by the Department at any time prior to being executed by the last signatory.

19. Respondent permits a representative of the Department to present this Consent Order and the factual basis for this Consent Order to the Department. Respondent understands that the Department has complete and final discretion as to whether this executed Consent Order is approved or accepted.

20. Respondent consulted with an attorney prior to signing this Consent Order.

21. The execution of this Consent Order has no bearing on any criminal liability without the written consent of the Director of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit or the State's Attorney's Office where the allegation occurred or Bureau Chief of the applicable unit in the Chief State's Attorney's Office. The purpose of this Consent Order is to resolve the pending administrative license disciplinary petition only and is not intended to affect any civil or criminal liability or defense.

22. This Consent Order embodies the entire agreement of the parties with respect to this petition. All previous communications or agreements regarding the subject matter of this Consent Order, whether oral or written, between the parties are superseded unless expressly incorporated herein or made a part hereof.

I, Samantha Farber, have read the above Consent Order, and I stipulate and agree to the terms as set forth therein. I further declare the execution of this Consent Order to be my free act and deed.

Samantha Farber

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 21st day of June 2025.

ALLEN STANTON
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
COMM. NO. 50191846
EXPIRES APRIL 22, 2027

Notary Public/Commissioner Superior Court

The above Consent Order having been presented to the duly appointed agent of the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health on the 1st day of July, 2025, it is hereby accepted.

Christian D. Andresen

Christian D. Andresen, MPH, Section Chief
Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section
Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch

The above Consent Order having been presented to the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health's Designee on the 1st day of July, 2025, it is hereby ordered and accepted.

Ryan M. Burns

Ryan Burns, Chief Hearing Officer