

**State of Arkansas, Social Work Licensing Board**  
**Disciplinary Action**  
**Descending Order by Date of Action**  
**Updated September 12, 2022**

**Name: Brooke Wallace, LCSW**

**Date of Action:** August 8, 2022

**Action Taken:** Probation, one year

**Violations:** Brooke Wallace violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(1) and §17-103-306(c)(1)(l) and Board Rule XI. Unprofessional Conduct Subsection A, in that she used alcohol to an extent that the use affects her personal competency. Ms. Wallace also violated Board Rule XI. Unprofessional Conduct Subsection K, in that she neglected clients. The Board orders Ms. Wallace to comply with a one-year probationary status. One-year weekly attendance at Alcoholics Anonymous (or any other substance related recovery meeting, random drug screenings as required by the Board, and meetings with a mental health provider as specified in order. This information will be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank.

**Name: Robert Irby, Jr., LCSW**

**Date of Action:** June 13, 2022

**Action Taken:** Probation

**Violations:** Robert Irby, Jr. violated Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-305(a)(3), Board Rule X. Code of Ethics Standard H. Records and Board Rule XI. Unprofessional Conduct Subsection I, in that he failed to properly document attempts to contact a client. The Consent Agreement, which was signed by Mr. Irby, consist of being placed on probation for a period of six (6) months and Mr. Irby must obtain six (6) hours of continuing education in Documentation/Recordkeeping in addition to the 30 hours required to renew his license. This information will be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank.

**Name: Keri Lynn Henson**

**Date of Action:** May 9, 2022

**Action Taken:** Revocation

**Violations:** Keri Lynn Henson violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3), Board Rule X. Code of Ethics Standard G. Client Relationships and Board Rule XI. Unprofessional Conduct, Subsection L, in that she had an inappropriate, dual relationship of a sexual nature with the parent of a client/former client.

**Name: Sharl Ann Gower, LCSW**

**Date of Action:** January 10, 2022

**Action Taken:** Letter of Reprimand

**Violations:** Sharl Ann Gower violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-304, Board Rule IX. Continuing Education Guidelines: §17-103-203 and Board Rule X. Code of Ethics/Standards of Practice: §17-103-203 Standard D: Misrepresentation in that she failed to comply with an audit of her social work continuing education hours.

**Name: Billy Joe Burris, LCSW**

**Date of Action:** November 8, 2021

**Action Taken:** Letter of Reprimand

**Violations:** Billy Joe Burris violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-304, Board Rule IX. Continuing Education Guidelines: §17-103-203 and Board Rule X. Code of Ethics/Standards of Practice: §17-103-203 Standard D: Misrepresentation in that he failed to comply with an audit of his social work continuing education hours.

**Name: Jill Wilson, LSW**

**Date of Action:** April 12, 2021

**Action Taken:** Letter of Reprimand

**Violations:** Jill Wilson violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-304, Board Rule IX. Continuing Education Guidelines: §17-103-203 and Board Rule X. Code of Ethics/Standards of Practice: §17-103-203 Standard D: Misrepresentation in that she failed to comply with an audit of her social work continuing education hours.

**Name: Susan Hutchison Wells, LCSW**

**Date of Action:** January 11, 2021

**Action Taken:** Consent Order, Probation

**Violations:** Ms. Susan Hutchison Wells' actions constitute a violation of Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3) and Board Rule X. Code of Ethics, Standard H and Board Rule XI. Unprofessional Conduct Subsection I, in that she failed to keep proper records and documentation of services.

**Name: April Gale Kirk**

**Date of Action:** November 9, 2020

**Action Taken:** License Surrendered

**Violations:** April Gale Kirk married a former client within two years of the termination of the professional relationship. Ms. Kirk's actions constitute a violation of Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3) and Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-203(b)(6) and Board Rule X. Code of Ethics, Standard G, in that she engaged in an inappropriate relationship and/or sexual activity with a client or with a former client within two years after termination of the professional relationship.

**Name: Ruby Walker**

**Date of Action:** September 14, 2020

**Action Taken:** License Suspended

**Violations:** Failure to comply with Board request. (Audit of Social Work Continuing Education) Ms. Walker violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-304, Board Rule X. Standard D: Misrepresentation- A social Worker must not misrepresent his/her qualification, training or experience and Board Rule IX: (A) Violations of The Social Work Licensing Act (No. 791 of 1981) or the Regulations published by the Board. Ms. Walkers license is suspended for a period of two (2) years.

**UPDATED 09/12/2022:** Ruby Walker met the terms and stipulations of her Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order, issued by the Board on 9/14/2022. She has been released from suspension as of 9/14/2022 and her license restored effective 9/14/2022.

**Name: Sandra A. Duden, LMSW**

**Date of Action:** September 14, 2020

**Action Taken:** Letter of Reprimand

**Violations:** Sandra A. Duden violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-304, Board Rule IX. Continuing Education Guidelines: §17-103-203 and Board Rule X. Code of Ethics/Standards of Practice: §17-103-203 Standard D: Misrepresentation in that she failed to comply with an audit of her social work continuing education hours.

**Name: Wadean Renee Oliver**

**Date of Action:** August 10, 2020

**Action Taken:** Consent Order, Surrender of License, effective 8/10/2020

**Violations:** Wadean Renee Oliver violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3) and Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-203(b)(6) and Board Rules X. Code of Ethics, Standard G, in that she: a) had a relationship with a client that was exploited by the social worker for personal gain; b) violated such positions of trust and dependency by committing an act detrimental to a client; c) engaged in an inappropriate relationship and/or sexual activity with a client; and d) violated client-therapist boundaries. Ms. Oliver's actions constitute a violation of Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-305(a)(3) and Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-203(b)(6) and Board Rule XI. Unprofessional Conduct, Subsection K, in that she neglected or a client, including failure to provide sufficient termination of service.

**Name: Brian William O'Gary, LCSW**

**Date of Action:** August 10, 2020

**Action Taken:** Consent Agreement, Probation

**Violations:** Brian William O'Gary, LCSW, violated Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-350(a)(1) and § 17-103-306(c)(1)(l) and Board Rule XI. Unprofessional Conduct Subsection A, in that he used drugs to an extent that the use affects the social workers professional competency. Mr. O'Gary will be on probation for one year and must submit to random drug screenings, weekly attendance at a substance abuse related recovery meeting and continue with his substance abuse program for the period of the probation.

**UPDATED 08/09/2021:** Mr. O'Gary met the terms of the Consent Agreement and has been released from probation effective 8/10/2021.

**Name: Brian Emory Whiteside, LMSW**

**Date of Action:** June 8, 2020

**Action Taken:** Consent Order, Surrender of License

**Violations:** Brian Emory Whiteside, LMSW, violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3) and Ark. Code Ann §17-103-203(b)(6) and Board Rules X. Code of Ethics, Standard G. in that he: a) had a relationship with a client that was exploited by the social worker for personal gain; b) violated such positions of trust and dependency by committing any act detrimental to a client; and c) engaged in sexual activity with a client within two years after termination of the professional relationship.

**Name: Leigh Hudson, LCSW**

**Date of Action:** May 11, 2020

**Action Taken:** Consent Order, Probation

**Violations:** Leigh Hudson, LCSW, violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3) and Board Rule X. Code of Ethics, Standard A, in that she failed to a) In providing services, Ms. Hudson failed to safeguard information given by clients; and b) Ms. Hudson failed to obtain the client's informed written consent before releasing confidential information. And X. Code of Ethics, Standard G. 4. a, in that Ms. Hudson violated client-therapist boundaries.

**UPDATED 12/14/2020:** Ms. Hudson met the terms of the Consent Order and has been released from probation.

**Name: Christine Ann Renault Rapa, LCSW**

**Date of Action:** March 9, 2020

**Action Taken:** Consent Order, Probation

**Violations:** Christine Ann Renault Rapa, LCSW, violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3) and Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-203(b)(6) and Board Rule X. Code of Ethics, Standard A, in that she failed to obtain client's informed written consent before releasing confidential information. And XI. Unprofessional Conduct Sections H and L, in that she a) Failed to maintain confidentiality of all information that had been received from a client during the course of treatment; and b) Violated the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board.

**UPDATED 09/14/2020:** Ms. Rapa met the terms of the Consent Order and has been released from probation.

**Name: Kandice Robinson, LMSW**

**Date of Action:** October 14, 2019

**Action Taken:** Consent Order, Probation

**Violations:** Kandice Robinson, LMSW, violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3) and Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-203(b)(6) and Board Rule XI. Unprofessional Conduct, Section M, in that she submitted false records to the Arkansas Medicaid Program.

**UPDATED 10/14/2020:** Ms. Robinson met the terms of the Consent Order and has been released from probation.

**Name: Tangella Foreman, LCSW**

**Date of Action:** September 9, 2019

**Action Taken:** Consent Order, Probation

**Violations:** Tangella Foreman, LCSW, violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3) and Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-203(b)(6) and Board Rule XI. Unprofessional Conduct, Section M, in that she submitted false records to the Arkansas Medicaid Program.

**UPDATED 09/14/2020:** Ms. Foreman met the terms of the Consent Order and has been released from probation.

**Name: Carey Dobbins, LCSW**

**Date of Action:** September 9, 2019

**Action Taken:** Consent Order, Probation

**Violations:** Carey Dobbins, LCSW, violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3) and Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-203(b)(6) and Board Rule XI. Unprofessional Conduct, Section M, in that he submitted false records to the Arkansas Medicaid Program.

**UPDATED 09/14/2020:** Mr. Dobbins met the terms of the Consent Order and has been released from probation.

**Name: Carrie Ella Cannon, LCSW**

**Date of Action:** September 9, 2019

**Action Taken:** Consent Order, Probation

**Violations:** Carrie Ella Cannon, LCSW, violated Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-305(a)(3) and Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-203(b)(6) and Board Rules XI. Unprofessional Conduct, Sections I, in that Respondent failed to keep proper records.

**UPDATED 03/9/2020:** Ms. Cannon met the terms of the Consent Order and has been released from probation.

**Name: Patricia Scott, LCSW**

**Date of Action:** September 9, 2019

**Action Taken:** Consent Order, Probation

**Violations:** Patricia Scott, LCSW, violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3) and Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-203(b)(6) and Board Rules X. Code of Ethics, Standard G(5) and XI. Unprofessional Conduct, in that she violated client-therapist boundaries.

**UPDATED 09/14/2020:** Ms. Scott met the terms of the Consent Order and has been released from probation.

**Name: Joshua Everett, LCSW**

**Date of Action:** August 12, 2019

**Action Taken:** Consent Order, Probation

**Violations:** Joshua Everett, LCSW, violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3) and Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-203(b)(6) and Board Rules X. Code of Ethics, Standard A: Confidentiality and XI. Unprofessional Conduct, in that he failed to maintain confidentiality and failed to keep proper records and documentation of services.

**UPDATED 02/10/2020:** Mr. Everett met the terms of the Consent Order and has been released from probation.

**Name: Valerie Brannen, LCSW**

**Date of Action:** July 8, 2019

**Action Taken:** Consent Order, Probation

**Violations:** Valerie Brannen, LCSW, violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3) and Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-203(b)(6) and Board Rules X. Code of Ethics, Standard G(5) & XI. Unprofessional Conduct, in that she violated client-therapist boundaries by contacting her former client outside of the professional relationship.

**UPDATED 01/14/2020:** Ms. Brannen met the terms of the Consent Order and has been released from probation.

**Name: Shelia Denise Sanders, LMSW**

**Date of Action:** July 8, 2019

**Action Taken:** Consent Order, Probation

**Violations:** Shelia Denise Sanders, LMSW, violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3) and Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-203(b)(6) and Board Rules X. Code of Ethics, Standard G(2) & H & XI. Unprofessional Conduct, in that she violated a position of trust and dependency by committing an act detrimental to a client and for failure to maintain proper records and documentation of services.

**UPDATED 01/14/2020:** Ms. Sanders met the terms of the Consent Order and has been released from probation.

**Name: Stephanie Stoltz, LCSW**

**Date of Action:** June 10, 2019

**Action Taken:** Consent Order, Probation

**Violations:** Stephanie Stoltz, LCSW, violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3) and Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-203(b)(6) and Board Rules X. Code of Ethics, Standard G(2) & XI. Unprofessional Conduct, in that she acted in a way detrimental to her client. Ms. Stoltz's license was placed on probation on June 10, 2019 and she will be required to submit six (6) hours of continuing education in Ethics within six (6) months. Upon completion of all the conditions, Ms. Stoltz's probationary status may be removed when she presents herself and the documents to the Board.

**UPDATED 12/10/2019:** Ms. Stoltz met the terms of the Consent Order and has been released from probation.

**Name: Stacy Adams, LMSW**

**Date of Action:** June 10, 2019

**Action Taken:** Consent Order, Probation

**Violations:** Stacy Adams, LMSW, violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3) and Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-203(b)(6) and Board Rules X. Code of Ethics, Standard G(4) & XI. Unprofessional Conduct, in that she had a dual relationship with a client.

**UPDATED 12/10/2019:** Ms. Adams met the terms of the Consent Order and has been released from probation.

**Name: Sharlyn Ann Woody, LCSW**

**Date of Action:** April 8, 2019

**Action Taken:** Consent Order, Probation

**Violations:** Sharlyn Ann Woody, LCSW, violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3) and Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-203(b)(6) and Board Rules X. Code of Ethics, Standards G(5) & XI. Unprofessional Conduct, in that she violated client-therapist boundaries. Ms. Woody's license was placed on probation on April 8, 2019 and she will be required to submit six (6) hours of continuing education in Ethics and Boundaries within six (6) months. Upon completion of all of the conditions, Ms. Woody's probationary status may be removed when she presents herself and the documents to the Board.

**UPDATED 10/14/2019:** Ms. Woody met the terms of the Consent Order and has been released from the order.

**Name: Bill W. House, LMSW**

**Date of Action:** March 11, 2019

**Action Taken:** Consent Order to Surrender License

**Violations:** Bill W. House failed to comply with an Audit of continuing education hours. Mr. House's actions violated AR Code Ann. §17-103-203. (b)(8)(9), 304(e) and Rule IX.B. Since Mr. Howse failed to submit proof of the social work continuing education hours listed and Mr. Howse had submitted a request to surrender his license, the Board voted to issue a Consent Agreement for Mr. Howse to surrender his license. Mr. House signed the Consent Agreement to surrender his license and the Board voted to accept it. His license is surrendered as of March 11, 2019.

**Name: Pamela Marie Wright, LCSW AKA: Townsend, Bell, Whitaker**

**Date of Action:** February 11, 2019

**Action Taken:** Consent Order

**Violations:** Pamela Marie Wright's actions constitute a violation of Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-305(a)(3) and Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-203(b)(6) and Board Rules X. Code of Ethics, Standard G(3) & XI. Unprofessional Conduct, in that Respondent had a romantic relationship with a former client within two years after termination of the professional relationship.

**UPDATED 08/12/2019:** Ms. Wright met the terms of the Consent Order and has been released from the order.

**Name: Brittany Danielle Ewing, LMSW**

**Date of Action:** December 12, 2018

**Action Taken:** Consent Order

**Violations:** Brittany Danielle Ewing, LMSW, accessed records of a patient whose care she was not involved in. Ms. Ewing was previously in a relationship with the patient. Ms. Ewing was terminated from her job due to violation of federal HIPAA laws. Ms. Ewing's action violated Ark. Code Ann. 17-103-305(a)(3) and Ark. Code Ann. 17-103-203(b)(6). Unprofessional Conduct, in that Ms. Ewing violated patient confidentiality by accessing patient records of whose care she was not involved. Ms. Ewing must obtain nine (9) hours of continuing education. These hours are to be three (3) hours in Ethics, three (3) hours in Confidentiality, and three (3) hours in HIPAA. These hours are in addition to the hours required for renewal of her license and are due within 6 months of the agreed upon consent agreement.

**UPDATED 08/12/2019:** Ms. Ewing met the terms of the Consent Order and has been released from probation and her license restored.

**Name: Alicia Dawn Whitlock, LMSW**

**Date of Action:** October 8, 2018

**Action Taken:** 2-Year Suspension of license

**Violations:** Alicia Dawn Whitlock accessed multiple patient confidential medical records of persons without permission and in violation of The Health Information Portability and Accountability Act ("HIPAA"). Ms. Whitlock's actions constitute a violation of Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-203 and Regulations X.A. and XI. H. Ms. Whitlock's license is placed on a 2-year suspension. During the 2-year suspension, Ms. Whitlock shall have monthly counseling sessions with an LCSW and obtain additional Continuing Education Hours as specified by the Board's Order.

**UPDATED 10/13/2020:** Ms. Whitlock met the terms of the Consent Order and has been released from probation.

**Name: Mary Catherine Ross, LCSW**

**Date of Action:** October 8, 2018

**Action Taken:** Consent Order

**Violations:** Mary Catherine Ross self-reported to the Social Work Licensing Board that she had tested positive at work for drug use and was in treatment. The Board also received a complaint from her employer notifying the board of the positive testing along with documentation errors and other concerns. The Board's investigation resulted in findings that Ms. Ross' actions violated Board Rule X. Code of Ethics, Standard E. 2.: A social worker must not provide social work services while under the influence of alcohol, other mind-altering or mood-altering drugs, or physical or psychological illness which impairs delivery of such services; X. Code of Ethics, Standard H.: A social worker shall make and maintain records of services provided to a client; XI. Unprofessional Conduct I.: Failing to keep proper records and documentation of services; and XI. Unprofessional Conduct A.: Violating the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board. A Consent Agreement was mailed to Ms. Ross. Ms. Ross signed acceptance agreeing to the Consent Agreement. The Consent Agreement placed Ms. Ross' license on probation for one (1) year, requires random drug screenings, requires attendance at a substance related recovery meeting on a weekly basis, and requires continued appointments with a therapist.

**UPDATED 11/04/2019:** Ms. Ross met the terms of the Consent Order and has been released from the order.

**Name: Cheryl Ann Oswalt, LCSW**

**Date of Action:** May 14, 2018

**Action Taken:** Consent Order

**Violations:** Ms. Oswalt entered into a Consent Order with the Board on April 27, 2018. The Board accepted the Order on May 14, 2018. Ms. Oswalt's actions constituted a violation of Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3), Engaging in a course of unprofessional conduct and Board Rule XI.I, failing to keep proper records and M, Giving or receiving, directly or indirectly, any fee, commission, rebate or other compensation for professional services not actually and personally rendered. Ms. Oswalt must complete six (6) additional hours of Social Work Continuing Education in Ethics, focusing on documentation.

**UPDATED 8/13/2018:** Ms. Oswalt met the terms of the Consent Order and has been released from the order.

**Name: Mercedes Ray, LCSW**

**Date of Action:** April 9, 2018

**Action Taken:** Probation (6 months) **See update**

**Violations:** Ms. Ray's actions violated Arkansas Code Ann. 17-103-203 and Arkansas Social Work Regulations X. Code of Ethics/Standards of Practice: Standard G: Client Relationships, G.1.; G.2.; G.4.a.; G.4.c; G.5. and Regulation XI: Unprofessional conduct: L. Violating the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board. License was put on probation for 6 months. Ms. Ray must complete 6 months of weekly face-to-face supervision. Ms. Ray will also be required to submit nine (9) additional Social Work Continuing Education hours related to client/therapist boundaries and Ethics.

**UPDATED 12/10/2018:** Ms. Ray did not meet the requirements of the Consent Order issued on April 13, 2018. Ms. Ray failed to complete the required social work continuing education hours in the required period. Ms. Ray's actions violated Arkansas Code Ann. 17-103-305(a)(3) and Arkansas Social Work Regulations XI: Unprofessional conduct, in that she failed to comply with an Order of the Board in regards to a disciplinary matter. The Board accepted a Consent Agreement on December 12, 2018. Ms. Ray's social work license is placed on probation and such status may be removed when the following conditions are met: A. Ms. Ray must complete six (6) hours of continuing education in Ethics. Documentation must be received by the Board no later than December 12, 2018. The Board will review when the requirements have been met.

**UPDATED 01/15/2019:** Ms. Ray met the terms of her Consent Orders dated April 13, 2018 and November 14, 2018 and has been released from the Orders and Probation.

**Name: Nancy Sue Gitcho, LCSW 2464-C**

**Date of Action:** April 9, 2018

**Action Taken:** Revocation

**Violations:** Ms. Gitcho entered into a Consent Order with the Board on September 11, 2017. Stipulations of the Consent Order were not met and social worker has failed to contact or respond to the Board. License revoked on April 9, 2018, at a Hearing on the matter.

**Name: Sharon Harshberger, LCSW**

**Date of Action:** March 12, 2018

**Action Taken:** Consent Order

**Violations:** Ms. Harshberger actions constituted a violation of Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-203 and Rule XI.B., Negligence in the practice work or practicing fraudulently or incompletely; Rule XI.I, failing to keep proper records and M, Giving or receiving, directly or indirectly, any fee, commission, rebate or other compensation for professional services not actually and personally rendered. Ms. Harshberger must complete nine (9) additional hours of Social Work Continuing Education, specifically three (3) hours of Ethics and six (6) hours focusing on documentation. Documentation is due December 31, 2018. Ms. Harshberger must also complete six (6) months of Supervision with an LCSW. Supervision is to be completed by December 31, 2018.

**UPDATED 01/15/2019:** Ms. Harshberger failed to meet any of the terms of the Consent Order she entered into with the Board on March 21, 2019. Ms. Harshberger has failed to reply with email or mail correspondence. Her social work license expired on December 31, 2018. The Board voted to notify Ms. Harshberger of her expired license and also inform her that should she wish to be licensed in Arkansas in

the future she would be required to meet the terms of the Consent Order dated March 21, 2018 and any others that the Board may require prior to licensure.

**Name:** Emily Kaitlyn Wright, LMSW, 8078-M

**Date of Action:** November 13, 2017

**Action Taken:** Suspension

**Violations:** Ms. Wright's actions constitute a violation of Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-203 and Board Regulation XI.B., K., and M., in that she completed notes on patient sessions that did not occur and submitted charges for services that had not been provided to clients.

**UPDATED 06/10/2019:** Ms. Wright failed to comply with the Board's Order. Ms. Wright's suspended license expired on May 31, 2019 and she is no longer authorized to practice social work or represent herself as a social worker in the State of Arkansas. Should Ms. Wright apply for license in the future, she would be responsible for completing the requirements of the Order and any additional requirements prior to licensure.

**Name:** Nancy Sue Gitcho, LCSW, 2464-C

**Date of Action:** September 11, 2017

**Action Taken:** Consent Order

**Violations:** Ms. Gitcho's actions constitute a violation of Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-203(b)(6), 17-103-305(a)(3) and Board Ethics Standard X.G in that Respondent crossed boundary lines by driving a client to Fort Smith, acting as a friend to the client and even giving the client money (3 checks).

**Name:** Megan Lee Mitchell, LMSW

**Date of Action:** September 11, 2017

**Action Taken:** Letter of Reprimand

**Violations:** Ms. Mitchell entered into a Consent Order for a Letter of Reprimand. Ms. Mitchell failed to comply with an Audit of continuing education hours. Ms. Mitchell's actions violated AR Code Ann. §17-103-203. (b)(8)(9) and Rule IX.B.

**Name:** Kyle Patrick Francis, PLMSW

**Date of Action:** August 14, 2017

**Action Taken:** Consent Order

**Violations:** Background waiver request approved. Consent Order issued with stipulations.

**UPDATED:** Stipulations met. Mr. Francis was released from the Consent Order on 1/13/2020.

**Name:** Sky Marie Collins, LMSW, 6686-M

**Date of Action:** August 14, 2017

**Action Taken:** Consent Order

**Violations:** Ms. Collin's conduct constituted a violation of the Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Code of Ethics/Standards for Practice, Board Regulation X.H and X.I, which provides that a social worker shall make and maintain records of services provided to a client.

**UPDATED 2/12/2018:** Ms. Collins met the terms of the Consent Order and has been released from the order.

**Name:** Ashley Danelle Dicks, LCSW, 3726-C

**Date of Action:** July 12, 2017

**Action Taken:** Consent Order

**Violations:** Violation of Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-203(b)(6), 17-103-305(a)(3) and Rule XI.K. Ms. Dicks did not properly terminate her social worker-client relationships resulting in abandonment of clients.

**UPDATED 8/14/2017:** Ms. Dicks met the terms of the Consent Order and has been released.

**Name:** Laura April Combs, LCSW, 3590-C

**Date of Action:** March 13, 2017

**Action Taken:** License Revoked



**Violations:** Violation of Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3) Engaging in a course of unprofessional conduct as defined by the rules established by the board or violation of the code of ethics made and published by the board. Rule X. Code of Ethics/Standards for Practice Standard A. Confidentiality and Standard XI. H Failing to maintain confidentiality. Licensee cannot reapply for licensure with this Board for not less than thirty (30) years.

**Name:** Jackie Suzanne Friend, LCSW, 2612-C

**Date of Action:** February 13, 2017

**Action Taken:** License Revoked

**Violations:** Violation of Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3) Engaging in a course of unprofessional conduct as defined by the rules established by the board or violation of the code of ethics made and published by the board. Rule X. Code of Ethics/Standards for Practice Standard A. Confidentiality and Standard XI. H Failing to maintain confidentiality. Licensee cannot reapply for licensure with this Board for not less than five (5) years.

**Name:** Joshua Scott Morrison, LMSW, 7165-M

**Date of Action:** January 10, 2017

**Action Taken:** License Revoked

**Violations:** Mr. Morrison violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(3) as well as Rule X.G because of a relationship with a client. Mr. Morrison's actions constitute a violation of Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3) for violating the boundary between professional and client. Licensee cannot reapply for licensure with this Board for not less than thirty (30) years.

**Name:** Marcileno K. Reed, LMSW, 1075-M

**Date of Action:** November 14, 2016

**Action Taken:** Letter of Reprimand

**Violations:** Mr. Reed was issued a Letter of Reprimand. Failure to comply with an Audit of Continuing Education hours. Mr. Reed's actions violated AR Code Ann. §17-103-203. (b)(8)(9) and Rule IX.B.

**Name:** Nicole Emily Petersen, LMSW, 2147-M

**Date of Action:** November 14, 2016

**Action Taken:** Letter of Reprimand

**Violations:** Ms. Petersen was issued a Letter of Reprimand. Failure to comply with an Audit of Continuing Education hours. Ms. Petersen's actions violated AR Code Ann. §17-103-203. (b)(8)(9) and Rule IX.B.

**Name:** Laura Suzanne Bewley, LMSW, 20196-M

**Date of Action:** October 10, 2016

**Action Taken:** Consent Agreement Probation and drug screening

**Violations:** Violation of Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a)(3), Violation of the Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Code of Ethics/Standards for Practice, Board Regulation X.E.2, which provides that a social worker must not provide social work services while under the influence of alcohol, other mind-altering or mood-altering drugs, or physical or psychological illness, which impairs delivery of such services. Ms. Bewley license will be on probation from October 10, 2016 until October 10, 2017. Ms. Bewley consented to random drug screening for one-year effective October 10, 2016. A drug assessment is required to be submitted within 30 days of the agreement. Ms. Bewley must also obtain six additional hours of social work continuing education in Ethics, focusing on the areas of drug and alcohol use as well as impaired professional.

**UPDATED 2/12/2018:** Ms. Bewley met the terms of the Consent Order and has been released from the order.

**Name:** Jackie Suzanne Friend, LCSW, 2612-C

**Date of Action:** September 12, 2016

**Action Taken:** Consent Agreement

**Violations:** Violation of Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305(a) which states, The Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board may refuse to issue or renew a license or may revoke or suspend a license issued under this chapter or may impose other appropriate restrictions or additional imposition, including without limitation supervision, probation, counseling, reporting, drug screening, and additional continuing education for any of the following reasons: (3) Engaging in a course of unprofessional conduct as defined by the rules established by the board or violation of the code of ethics made and published by the board. and Board Rule XI.E. Definition of Unprofessional Conduct, Misrepresenting type or status of education, training, expertise, licensure, or professional affiliations. Ms. Friend must obtain 6 additional hours of social work continuing education within nine (9) months. These are to be in Ethics and must be face-to-face. These 6 hours are in addition to the 48 hours required for renewal of her license.

**Name:** Laura April Combs, LCSW, 3590-C

**Date of Action:** September 12, 2016

**Action Taken:** Consent Agreement:

**Violations:** Violation of Ark Ann. §17-103-305(a) which states, The Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board may refuse to issue or renew a license or may revoke or suspend a license issued under this chapter or may impose other appropriate restrictions or additional imposition, including without limitation supervision, probation, counseling, reporting, drug screening, and additional continuing education for any of the following reasons: (3) Engaging in a course of unprofessional conduct as defined by the rules established by the board or violation of the code of ethics made and published by the board. and Board Rule XI.B Definition of Unprofessional Conduct: Negligence in the practice of social work or practicing fraudulently or incompetently. Ms. Combs must obtain 6 additional hours of social work continuing education in the area of boundary issues and must be face-to-face. These 6 hours are in addition to the 48 hours required for renewal of her license.

**Name:** Cheryl Felder Stuart, LSW, 1569-B

**Date of Action:** August 8, 2016

**Action Taken:** License Surrendered

**Violations:** Consent Agreement to Surrender signed after failure to comply with Board request. (Audit of Social Work Continuing Education)

**Name:** Boyd V. Ford, LMSW, 2414-M

**Date of Action:** August 8, 2016

**Action Taken:** License Revoked

**Violations:** Failure to comply with Board request. (Audit of Social Work Continuing Education)

**Name:** Douglas E. Watkins, LCSW, 1540-C

**Date of Action:** August 8, 2016

**Action Taken:** License Suspended

**Violations:** Failure to comply with Board request. (Audit of Social Work Continuing Education)

**Name:** Robert E. Pruitt, Jr., LMSW, No. 7492-M

**Date of Action:** June 13, 2016

**Action Taken:** Consent Agreement to Surrender License

**Violations:** Mr. Pruitt had written the Board a request to surrender his social work license. A Consent Agreement was signed by Mr. Pruitt and approved by the Board.

**Name:** Shirley Anne McMurray, No. 2613-C

**Date of Action:** May 9, 2016

**Action Taken:** Consent Agreement

**Violations:** Shirley Anne McMurray resigned her position without providing notice to her employer and Ms. McMurray failed to close and transfer her clients. Ms. McMurray's actions constitute a violation of Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-305(a)(3) and Arkansas Social Work Licensing Regulations XI.K. in that she neglected or abandoned a client who was under her care. and constitute a violation of Ark. Code Ann. §

17-103-305(a)(3), Arkansas Social Work Licensing Regulations XI.L., and Arkansas Social Work Licensing Regulations X.G.2 in that she violated such positions of trust and dependency by committing acts detrimental to clients. Ms. McMurray signed a consent order which the Board accepted, requiring her to complete 1 year of LCSW Supervision and 6 additional hours of continuing education in the area of client abandonment and termination of the therapist-client relationship.

**Action Update:** 6/12/2017 Terms of Consent agreement met and Ms. McMurray has been released from the Consent Agreement.

**Name:** Lauren Jones Carroll, No. 2333-C

**Date of Action:** May 9, 2016

**Action Taken:** Consent Agreement 8/8/2016: License Surrendered

**Violations:** Lauren Jones Carroll violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-105(1) in that she represented herself to be a licensed social worker and engaged in the practice of social work, during a period of time in which her license was expired and, therefore, she was not licensed. Her actions constitute a violation of Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-301(a) in that a person shall not practice or offer to practice social work unless the person is licensed. Ms. Carroll signed a consent order which the Board accepted, requiring her to complete 1 year of LCSW Supervision and 12 additional hours of continuing education in the area of client abandonment and termination of the therapist-client relationship.

**Updated:** On July 15, 2016 Ms. Carroll entered into a Consent to Surrender agreement. The Board accepted on July 19, 2016. Her license to practice social work in the State of Arkansas expired on July 19, 2016 and she is no longer eligible to practice social work. Under the terms of the Consent to Surrender if she applies for licensure in the future she will be required to comply with the terms of the Consent Agreement dated May 9, 2016.

**Updated: 8/8/2016:** Lauren Jones Carroll entered into a Consent Agreement with the Social Work Licensing Board on May 9, 2016. The Consent Agreement required monthly reports to be submitted. Ms. Carroll failed to submit the documentation required. Ms. Carroll voluntarily surrendered her license by signing the Consent to Surrender. Terms of the Consent are that should she reapply for license she will be subject to all the terms and stipulations of the Consent Agreement dated May 9, 2016.

**Name:** Lauren Karla Davis, No. 7143-M (Lauren Burnette)

**Date of Action:** May 9, 2016

**Action Taken:** Consent Agreement

**Violations:** Lauren Karla Davis left her employment without proper termination with clients and without records being completed. Ms. Davis' actions constitute a violation of Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-305(a)(3) and Arkansas Social Work Licensing Regulations XI.I. in that she failed to keep proper records and documentation of services provided; constitute a violation of Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-305(a)(3) and Arkansas Social Work Licensing Regulations XI.K. in that Respondent neglected or abandoned a client who was under Respondent's care; and constitute a violation of Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-305(a)(3), Arkansas Social Work Licensing Regulations XI.L., and Arkansas Social Work Licensing Regulations X.G. and X.I. in that Respondent's actions were detrimental to her clients and Respondent did not maintain records of services provided to clients. Ms. Davis signed a consent order which the Board accepted, requiring her to complete 6 months of LCSW Supervision and 6 additional hours of continuing education in the area of client abandonment and termination of the therapist-client relationship.

**Updated 8/14/2017:** Terms and conditions of the Consent Order have been met and Ms Davis (now Burnette) has been released from the Order.

**Name:** Bridget Kyle Shelnut, LMSW, No. 5613-M

**Date of Action:** April 11, 2016

**Action Taken:** Consent Agreement

**Violations:** Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-305(3) and Rule XI.I. Ms. Shelnut failed to keep proper records and documentation of services. A Consent Agreement was entered into ordering LCSW supervision for one year beginning May 1, 2016 and completion of six hours of education in the area of ethics prior to her license renewal on October 31, 2016.

**Action Update:** 6/12/2017 Terms of Consent agreement met and Ms. Shelnut has been released from the Consent Agreement.

**Name:** Joseph Graham, LCSW, No. 2153-C

**Date of Action:** March 14, 2016

**Action Taken:** Letter of Reprimand

**Violations:** Mr. Graham entered into a Consent Order for a Letter of Reprimand. Failure to comply with an Audit of Continuing Education hours. Mr. Graham's actions violated ARK. Code Ann. §17-103-304. Expiration and renewal. (e) and ARK Regulation IX. Continuing Education Guidelines: §17-103-203. (B)(4).

**Name:** Nancy L. Webb, LCSW No. 1612-C

**Date of Action:** February 8, 2016

**Action Taken:** Consent Order

**Violations:** Ms. Webb's actions constitute a violation of ARK. Code Ann. § 17-103-203 and Rule XI.B in that she billed for individual and group therapy services provided by social work interns.

**Name:** Robert E. Pruitt, Jr., LMSW, No. 7492-M

**Date of Action:** 12/30/2015

**Action Taken:** Probation.

Mr. Pruitt applied for LMSW licensure on January 30, 2015 and his application was denied on February 9, 2015 because he surrendered his license in 2010. Mr. Pruitt appealed and was granted a hearing. A hearing was held on May 11, 2015. The Board order granted Mr. Pruitt to proceed to seek a LMSW license subject to specific conditions including his license being placed on probation for four years from the issued date. Additional requirements are 12 additional continuing education hours, Supervision by a LCSW, and 6 months of therapy with a mental health therapist with a minimum of 20 visits over the six-month period.

**Name:** Lesa Lackey Doan

**Date of Action:** September 14, 2015

**Action Taken:** License Suspended for Two-Weeks (September 20-October 3, 2015); One-year Probation effective September 14, 2015; additional Continuing Education

**Violations:** Ms. Doan entered into a Consent Order without admission of liability to resolve a complaint alleging she violated various sections of the Arkansas Social Work Licensing Act and Regulations, including Regulations XI.I Failing to keep proper records and documentation of services; XI.M Giving or receiving, directly or indirectly, any fee, commission, rebate or other compensation for professional services not actually and personally rendered; XI.L Violating the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board. The Consent Order places Ms. Doan's license on probation for one year from date signed by the Board, suspends Ms. Doan's license for a period of two (2) consecutive weeks, to be served beginning five business days following the execution of the Consent Order and required Ms. Doan to obtain 12 additional hours of social work continuing education with at least four hours in the area of ethics. These hours are in addition to and not counted toward the continuing education hours required for renewal of Respondent's license.

**UPDATED September 16, 2016:** Ms. Doan has completed all requirements of the consent order and her license is fully restored.

**Name:** Tausha Helton

**Date of Action:** August 10, 2015

**Action Taken:** License Suspended for 5-Days (August 17-21, 2015)

**Violations:** Ms. Helton violated Arkansas Social Work Licensing Regulation XI.K. which defines unprofessional conduct as "neglecting or abandoning a client in need of immediate care or who is under the social worker's care." and Arkansas Social Work Licensing Regulation X.G.2. states

that “a social worker must not violate such positions of trust and dependency by committing any act detrimental to a client, student or supervisee.”

**UPDATED January 10, 2017:** Ms. Helton has completed all requirements of the consent order and her license is fully restored.

**Name:** Jamie LeAne Deere, LSW

**Date of Action:** June 8, 2015

**Action Taken:** License Suspended

**Violations:** Licensee violated the Social Work Licensing Act and engaged in unprofessional conduct as prohibited by Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-305 and Regulation XI.P., in that Ms. Deere failed to comply with the Board’s Order by submitting her reports in an untimely manner.

**Updated:** Ms. Deere entered into a Consent Order to voluntarily surrender her social work license.

**Name:** Benjamin Robert Moore

**Date of Action:** May 11, 2015

**Action Taken:** Consent Order to Revocation of License

**Violations:** Benjamin Moore violated the Social Work Licensing Act and engaged in unprofessional conduct as prohibited by Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-305 and Board Rules XI.L and X.G.2; Mr. Moore violated the Social Work Licensing Act and engaged in unprofessional conduct as prohibited by Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-305 and Board Rules XI.L and X.G.5

**Name:** Jamie LeAne Deere, LSW

**Date of Action:** February 9, 2015

**Action Taken:** Consent Order

**Violations:** Licensee violated the Social Work Licensing Act and engaged in unprofessional conduct as prohibited by Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-305 and Regulation XI and X.E.2. by presenting to work to perform services as a social worker while under the influence of alcohol. Additional requirements for reporting placed on licensee.

**Name:** Janet Lynn Inman, LSW

**Date of Action:** February 9, 2015

**Action Taken:** Letter of Reprimand

**Violations:** Failure to comply with Board request. (Audit of Social Work Continuing Education)

**Name:** Lewis W. Hyde

**Date of Action:** August 22, 2014

**Action Taken:** Revocation

**Violations:** Mr. Hyde’s actions constitute a violation of the Social Work Licensing Act, Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-305, and the following Board Rules: XI.L and X.G.2., in that he violated his position of trust and dependency by committing acts detrimental to a client; Board Rules XI.L and X.G.5., in that he violated client-therapist boundaries; and Board Rules XI.H and X.A.1., in that he failed to maintain confidentiality and safeguard information given by clients.

**Name:** Laura D. Baker, LSW

**Date of Action:** August 11, 2014

**Action Taken:** Letter of Reprimand

**Violations:** Failure to comply with Board request. (Audit of Social Work Continuing Education)

**Name:** Elizabeth Nicole Hickey

**Date of Action:** August 11, 2014

**Action Taken:** Probation

**Violations:** Ms. Hickey’s actions violated A.C.A. 17-103-305(a) and A.C.A. 17-103-307(f)(24).

**Updated:** October 12, 2015. Ms. Hickey has successfully completed the requirements of the Consent Order and is now released from those requirements effective October 12, 2015.

**Name:** Karen Melissa Moon, AKA Melissa Moon Rowland

**Date of Action:** July 14, 2014

**Action Taken:** Revocation

**Violations:** Ms. Moon's actions violated A.C.A. 17-103-305 and Board Rules XI and X due to her engaging in a sexual relationship with a former client within two years of terminating the professional relationship. Ms. Moon may not apply for licensure in Arkansas for 25 years.

**Updated:** In November of 2019 Ms. Moon requested the Board review her case and the penalty of 25-year revocation. The Board voted to allow Ms. Moon the opportunity to apply for licensure again and they would consider it at that time. Ms. Moon applied and was granted approval to test for the exam and given stipulations. Ms. Moon gained licensure in December of 2019.

**Name:** Erin M. DeGostin (Name changed to Erin DeGostin Lytle 6/02/2016)

**Date of Action:** August 28, 2014

**Action Taken:** Consent to Drug Screening.

**Violations:** One-year consent order entered into from date license was issued.

**Updated:** September 14, 2015. Ms. DeGostin has successfully completed the requirements of the Consent Order and is now released from those requirements effective September 14, 2015.

**Name:** Caleigh Bysshye Catt, AKA Caleigh Romine

**Date of Action:** June 9, 2014

**Action Taken:** Revocation

**Violations:** Failure to comply with Board request. (Audit of Social Work Continuing Education)

**Name:** Jessica Elaine Ronk (Lester-Ronk)

**Date of Action:** May 5, 2014

**Action Taken:** Consent Order Suspension

**Violations:** On or about February 28, 2014, Ms. Ronk was arrested and charged with False Imprisonment in the First Degree, a Class C Felony, in connection with the detention of her mother-in-law. In lieu of an emergency hearing, Ms. Ronk agreed to a temporary suspension of her social work license until such time as a full hearing on the merits may be had. Consent order was agreed upon effective May 5, 2014.

**Updated:** Licensee was found to be a victim and charges were dismissed against her.

**Name:** Pamela G. Harness

**Date of Action:** February 10, 2014

**Action Taken:** Consent Order Letter of Reprimand

**Violations:** Violation of A.C.A. §17-103-105 (1) prohibits individuals from practicing social work or representing themselves to the public as social workers without being licensed by the Social Work Licensing Board. Violation of A.C.A. §17-103-301 – No individual shall practice or offer to practice social work within the meaning of this chapter unless he is licensed, a student under the provisions of this chapter, or otherwise entitled under subsections (b) and (c) of this section. Ms. Harness practiced social work and/or represented herself to the public as a social worker without being licensed between the dates of January 1, 2014 and January 6, 2014.

**Name:** Jennifer Brooke Dziubanek

**Date of Action:** December 9, 2013

**Action Taken:** Consent Order – Drug Screening for one year.

**Violations:** Violation of Board Regulation Section X(E)(2). A social worker must not provide social work services while under the influence of alcohol, other mind-altering or mood-altering drugs, or physical or psychological illness which impairs delivery of such services.

**Update:** A hearing was held on April 14, 2014. It was found that Ms. Dziubanek violated the Social Work Licensing Act and engaged in unprofessional conduct as prohibited by Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-305 and Regulation XI by failing to submit to a drug screening within the requisite timeframe as required by the Consent Order. Ms. Dziubanek was ordered to submit to one additional year of random drug screening to conclude on December 9, 2015. Ms. Dziubanek's license was ordered suspended for a total of seven days. Suspension was to begin on the 31<sup>st</sup> day following notification service of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order. The suspension was appealed and Circuit Court of Washington County Civil Division upheld the Board decision. Suspension was served.

**Update:** 12/14/2015, Ms. Dziubanek met all requirements of previous orders.

**Name:** William Michael Leatherwood

**Date of Action:** August 12, 2013

**Action Taken:** Two-Year Probationary status once license issued. Random Drug Screenings for the period of probation. Attend Alcoholics Anonymous or Narcotics Anonymous three times per week during probationary period. Contact with sponsor one time per week during probationary period. Must engage in individualized therapy focusing on the areas of addiction, dual relationships, appropriate boundaries and ethics for three months. Upon licensure, must complete six additional hours of continuing education. Must obtain LCSW supervision on a weekly basis during the probationary period.

**Violations:** Violation of Board Regulation Section XI and Social Work Licensing Code of Ethics. Violation of Board Regulation Section X, Standard G, which states that licensed social workers are prohibited from exploiting clients for personal gain, violating the trust and dependency inherent in the relationship by committing any act detrimental to a client, and generally violating client-therapist boundaries.

**Update:** 12/14/2015, Mr. Leatherwood met all requirements of the Board's Order and his license is full restored.

**Name:** Thomas Burns

**Date of Action:** August 12, 2013

**Action Taken:** Revocation

**Violations:** Violation of Board Regulation Section XI, unprofessional conduct in the practice of social work includes, but is not limited to, the following: (B) Negligence in the practice of social work or practicing fraudulently or incompetently; (I) Failing to keep proper records and documentation of services; (M) Giving or receiving, directly or indirectly, any fee, commission, rebate or other compensation for professional services not actually and personally rendered; and Violating the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board. Regulation Section X, Standard G (1) The Code of Ethics adopted by the Board provides that "relationships with clients, students and supervisees must not be exploited by the social worker for personal gain." The Code of Ethics adopted by the Board provides that "[a] social worker must not violate client-therapist boundaries."

**Name:** Victoria Jeanette Hall

**Date of Action:** July 8, 2013

**Action Taken:** Surrender of License

**Violations:** Victoria Jeanette Hall was found to have violated Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-305(a) Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-305(b), and Ark. Code Ann. § 17-103-305(c), and Social Work Licensing Regulation X(G)(3) and Social Work Licensing Regulation X(H)(1).

**Name:** Johnnie M. Branch

**Date of Action:** July 8, 2013

**Action Taken:** Surrender of License

**Violations:** Failure to comply with Board request. (Audit of Social Work Continuing Education)

**Name:** LaToya LaTrice Curb

**Date of Action:** December 10, 2012

**Action Taken:** Revocation

**Violations:** Failure to comply with Board request. (Audit of Social Work Continuing Education)

**Name:** Elesha Jade Easter

**Date of Action:** September 10, 2012

**Action Taken:** Revocation of Provisional License

**Violations:** Elesha Jade Easter was found guilty of a disqualifying factor pursuant to A.C.A. §17-103-307.

**Name:** James Anthony Price

**Date of Action:** July 9, 2012

**Action Taken:** Revocation of Provisional License

**Violations:** James Anthony Price was found guilty of offenses listed in A.C.A. §17-103-307 9f).

**Name:** Ebony La'Roya Tolbert

**Date of Action:** March 12, 2012

**Action Taken:** Revocation of Provisional License

**Violations:** Failure to comply with Board request.

**Name:** Geneva Lawson Smith, LCSW

**Date of Action:** January 9, 2012

**Action Taken:** Suspension

**Violations:** Geneva Lawson Smith was found to have violated Regulation XI of the Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board. The specific violations are: Standard B. Negligence in the practice of social work or practicing fraudulently or incompetently; Standard D. Permitting, aiding, or abetting an unlicensed person to perform activities requiring a license; Standard I. Failing to keep proper records and documentation of services; Standard M. Giving or receiving, directly or indirectly, any fee, commission, rebate or other compensation for professional services not actually and personally rendered.

**Date of Action:** July 9, 2012

**Action Taken:** License Fully Restored

**Name:** Mary Guin, LMSW

**Date of Action:** October 10, 2011

**Action Taken:** Letter of Reprimand

**Violations:** Practicing without a license in the state of Arkansas. Ms. Guin's license expired on September 30, 2010 and she failed to renew it within the allowed time period. Ms. Guin applied for licensure through reciprocity with Kansas and was issued a new license on June 14, 2011. Ms. Guin admitted practicing social work after her license expired on September 30, 2010.

**Name:** Marianne Margaret Falk, PLSW

**Date of Action:** August 8, 2011

**Action Taken:** Revocation of Provisional License

**Violations:** Failed to submit a request to the Board within the required period.

**Name:** Perry K. Parsons, License 2100-C

**Date of Action:** July 19, 2011

**Action Taken:** Summary Suspension

**Violations:** Mr. Parsons violated Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Code-of-Ethics/Standards for Practice, Board Regulation X, Standard G(2) which prohibits social workers from violating the position of trust and dependency by committing any act detrimental to a client and Arkansas Social Work Act, 17-103-307 (f)(32) Computer Child pornography, as prohibited in § 5-27-603.

**Name:** Katherine Ann Carpenter, License 2350-M

**Date of Action:** July 11, 2011

**Action Taken:** Revocation



**Violations:** Ms. Carpenter violated Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulations X. Code-of-Ethics/Standards for Practice Standard G(2) which prohibits social workers from violating the position of trust and dependency by committing any act detrimental to a client; Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulations XI, which defines unprofessional conduct in the practice of social work, (A) Violations of The Social Work Licensing Act or Regulations published by the board, (B) Negligence in the practice of social work or practicing fraudulently or incompetently, (G) Intentionally or recklessly causing physical or emotional harm to any client, (I) Failing to keep proper records and documentation of services, (K) Neglecting or abandoning a client in need or immediate care or who is under the social worker's care, (L) Violating the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board, (M) Giving or receiving, directly or indirectly, any fee, commission, rebate or other compensation for professional services not actually and personally rendered.

**Name:** Kenyatta Abdoul-Shinte, License 2020-C

**Date of Action:** July 11, 2011

**Action Taken:** Revocation

**Violations:** Mr. Abdoul-Shinte violated Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulations X. Code-of-Ethics/Standards for Practice Standard G(2) which prohibits social workers from violating the position of trust and dependency by committing any act detrimental to a client; G(4) which prohibits social workers from entering into, or promising, a relationship if the relationship might harm or exploit the other party.; G(5) which prohibits social workers from violating client-therapist boundaries; Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulations XI, which defines unprofessional conduct in the practice of social work, (A) Violations of The Social Work Licensing Act or Regulations published by the board, (B) Negligence in the practice of social work or practicing fraudulently or incompetently, (G) Intentionally or recklessly causing physical or emotional harm to any client, (L) Violating the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board.

**Name:** Charles Allen Livingston, License 161-C

**Date of Action:** May 9, 2011

**Action Taken:** Agreed Order of Revocation

**Violations:** Mr. Livingston violated State of Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulations, Section X. Code of Ethics/Standard for Practice and Section XI Unprofessional Conduct of the State of Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulations.

**Name:** Richard Cameron Dahlquist, License 2162-C

**Date of Action:** May 9, 2011

**Action Taken:** Revocation

**Violations:** Mr. Dahlquist violated State of Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulations, Section X Standard G (2) which prohibits social workers from violating the position of trust and dependency by committing any act detrimental to a client; Standard G (4) which prohibits social workers from entering into, or promising, a relationship if the relationship might harm or exploit the other party; Standard G(5) which prohibits social worker from violating client-therapist boundaries; The Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulation XI (A), (B), (G), and (L).

**Name:** Demetra Roberts

**Date of Action:** February 14, 2011

**Action Taken:** Revocation

**Violations:** Ms. Robert failed to comply with an audit of the social work continuing education she listed for August 31, 2010 renewal of her license.

**Name:** Robert Todd Jorgensen

**Date of Action:** February 14, 2011

**Action Taken:** Letter of Reprimand and requirement to complete additional Social Work Continuing Education (SWCE) hours in the area of client/therapist boundaries.

**Violations:** Mr. Jorgensen violated State of Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulations, Section X. Code of Ethics/Standards for Practice Standard G and Section XI, Unprofessional Conduct.

**Additional Information:** 8/13/12 Mr. Jorgensen has met the additional Social Work Continuing Education requirements.

**Name:** Charles M. Gibbs

**Date of Action:** December 13, 2010

**Action Taken:** Revocation

**Violations:** Mr. Gibbs violated State of Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulations, Section X. Code of Ethics/Standards for Practice and Section XI. Unprofessional Conduct. Mr. Gibbs admitted to submitting billing and documentation for services that were not performed on the dates and times contained in the documentation and forged signatures on some paperwork.

**Name:** Malcolm D. Gayfield

**Date of Action:** October 12, 2010

**Action Taken:** Revocation of Provisional License.

**Violations:** Failure to comply with Board's request.

**Name:** Katie Wolfe, LCSW

**Date of Action:** September 13, 2010

**Action Taken:** Letter of Reprimand

**Violations:** Ms. Wolfe was audited on the social work continuing education courses, which she submitted for the June 30, 2010 renewal of license number 1553-C. Certificates of attendance for two of the courses did not agree with the information submitted by Ms. Wolfe. Ms. Wolfe was also not able to produce a certificate for one of the courses listed. Ms. Wolfe was able to produce additional documentation of other social work courses, which had not been listed. The Board voted to approve her audit but issue a Letter of Reprimand due to inaccurate reporting of the actual hours in attendance.

**Name:** Cheri Hill, LCSW

**Date of Action:** August 9, 2010

**Action Taken:** Suspended License for 90-days. Twelve Months Probation to follow once employed in a social work position.

**Violations:** Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-107 which provides that no licensed social worker may disclose any information he or she may have acquired from persons consulting her in her professional capacity to those except with the written consent of the person or persons. Arkansas Social Work Licensing Regulation X, Standard A: Confidentiality, which requires that a social worker must safeguard information given by clients. Stand G: Client Relationships, which provides that the social worker must not exploit relationships with clients, students and supervisees for personal gain and that the social worker must not violate client-therapist boundaries. Arkansas Social Work Licensing Regulation XI defining unprofessional conduct as (A) violations of The Social Work Licensing Act or the Regulations published by the Board and (L) violating the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board.

**Name:** Leslie A. Mussington

**Date of Action:** March 18, 2010

**Action Taken:** Provisional License Revoked.

**Violations:** Failure to comply with Board's request.

**Name:** Halee Fawne Roberts, LCSW, No. 2168-C

**Date of Action:** March 8, 2010

**Action Taken:** License placed on probation March 8, 2010 until one year from Board approval of Supervision and Counseling Plans. Date to be determined at that time.

**Violations:** Ms. Roberts' conduct violated the Social Work Licensing Regulations Section X, Standard G (2) which provides that a social worker must not violate such position of trust and dependency by committing any act detrimental to a client, student or supervisee; Standard H(1) which requires that a

social worker shall make and maintain record of services provided to a client.; Section XI, Section B which defines unprofessional conduct as negligence in the practice of social work or practicing fraudulently or incompetently, Section XI, Section I which defines unprofessional conduct as failing to keep proper records and documentation of services. Section XI, Section K which defines unprofessional conduct as neglecting or abandoning a client in of immediate care or who is under the social worker's care. Section XI, Section L, which defines unprofessional conduct as violating the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board.

**Date of Action:** May 9, 2011

**Action Taken:** License fully restored.

**Name:** Lisa Barber Martin

**Date of Action:** March 8, 2010

**Action Taken:** Revocation of License

**Violations:** Lisa Barber Martin held Arkansas licensed certified social worker (LCSW) license 867-C that expired on January 31, 2009; Ms. Martin continued to practice social work until issued a Cease and Desist by the Social Work Licensing Board on December 15, 2009 which is a violation of Arkansas Code § 17-103-105 (1), (4) and the Arkansas Social Work Licensing Regulation XI: Definition of Unprofessional Conduct (A), (B), (E).

**Name:** Robert E. Pruitt, Jr.,

**Date of Action:** March 8, 2010

**Action Taken:** Surrender of License

**Name:** Robert E. Pruitt, Jr., LMSW, No. 1766-M

**Date of Action:** January 11, 2010

**Action Taken:** License Suspended. Hearing Date of July 12, 2010 has been set for review.

**Violations:** Mr. Pruitt's conduct as described in the Board's Finding of Facts paragraph 6 constitutes unprofessional conduct in violation of A.C.A. § 17-103-101 *et seq.* and the Rules and Regulations of the Board.

**Name:** Candice Evetta Cox, LMSW, No. 2304-M

**Date of Action:** December 14, 2009

**Action Taken:** Letter of Reprimand

**Violations:** Ms. Cox's conduct violated Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-105 (1), Representing oneself to be a social worker, licensed social worker, licensed master social worker, or licensed certified social worker unless licensed as such under this chapter or under titles or descriptions offering to give or giving services to individual, groups, agencies, or corporations without a license, and (2) Entering the private independent practice of social work without being certified by the board. Ms. Cox was also found to have violated the Social Work Licensing Regulations Section VI. Subsection (A) (2) The social work practice of an LMSW should be supervised by an LCSW or other qualified professional from a related field. The supervision should be provided at a minimum on a weekly basis; Section X. Code of Ethics/Standards for Practice, Standard D, Misrepresentation, A social worker must not misrepresent his/her qualifications, training or experience. If a social worker engages in advertising, his education, training and expertise must be presented factually.; Section XI: Definition of Unprofessional Conduct, Subsections A, Violations of The Social Work Licensing Act (No. 791 of 1981) or the Regulations published by the Board and E, Misrepresenting type or status of education, training, expertise, licensure or professional affiliations.

**Name:** Melody M. Duke, LMSW, No. 774-M

**Date of Action:** September 14, 2009

**Action Taken:** Letter of Reprimand

**Violations:** Ms. Duke failed to present proof of her timely completion of her continuing education, which is a violation of Ark. Code Ann. §17-103-203(9).

**Name:** Patricia A. Stricker, LCSW, No. 265-C

**Date of Action:** August 10, 2009

**Action Taken:** Probation of License extended until December 15, 2009.

**Violations:** Ms. Stricker did not timely submit a supervision plan as required by the terms of the Consent Order dated April 13, 2009. Ms. Stricker did not timely submit to the supervision of social work practice as required by the terms of the Consent Order. Ms. Stricker did not timely complete the continuing education units as required by the Consent Order. Supervision must continue weekly through December 14, 2009. Documentation of supervision must be submitted monthly by the 5<sup>th</sup> day of the month.

**Date of Action:** January 11, 2010

**Action Taken:** License completely restored.

**Name:** Tiffany McCullough, LCSW, No. 2096-C

**Date of Action:** July 13, 2009

**Action Taken:** Denied license renewal

**Violations:** Pursuant to Board Regulation VIII.B.5, a license that has lapsed for six months or longer is non-renewable.

**Name:** Paul Pattison, LCSW, No. 1962-C

**Date of Action:** July 13, 2009

**Action Taken:** License Revoked

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-103-203 (G) (2) prohibits social workers from violating the position of trust and dependency by committing any act detrimental to a client; (G) (4) prohibits social workers from entering into, or promising a relationship if the relationship might harm or exploit the other party; (G) (5) prohibits social workers from violating client-therapist boundaries; A.C.A. 17-103-203 (XI) (A) Violation of the Social Work Licensing Act or Regulations published by the Board; (B) Negligence in the practice of social work or practicing fraudulently or incompetently; (G) Intentionally or recklessly causing physical or emotional harm to any client; and (L) Violating the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board.

**Name:** Matthew Coven, LCSW, No. 1904-C

**Date of Action:** May 11, 2009

**Action Taken:** License Completely Restored

**Name:** Robert E. Pruitt, Jr., LMSW

**Date of Action:** May 11, 2009

**Action Taken:** License Restored, probationary status.

**Violations:** A.C.A. § 17-103-101; Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulation X, Standard A, which mandates that social workers must safeguard information given by clients; Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulation X, Standard G (2), Which prohibits social workers from violating the position of trust and dependency by committing any act detrimental to a client; Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulation X, Standard G (4), Which prohibits social workers from entering into, or promising a relationship if the relationship might harm or exploit the other party; Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulation X, Standard G (5), which prohibits social workers from violating client-therapist boundaries; Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulation XI, which defines unprofessional conduct in the practice of social work. The relevant portions follow:(A), Violations of The Social Work Licensing Act or Regulations published by the Board; (B), Negligence in the practice of social work or practicing fraudulently or incompetently; (G), Intentionally or recklessly causing physical or emotional harm to any client; (H), Failing to maintain confidentiality, except as otherwise required or permitted by law, of all information that has been received from a client in confidence during the course of treatment and all information about the client which is obtained from tests or other means; (L), Violating the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board; (R), Failing to terminate the professional relationship when it is apparent that the service no longer serves the needs of the client.

**Name:** Tiffany McCullough, LCSW

**Date of Action:** April 13, 2009

**Action Taken:** License Suspended until 5/31/2009 - During the suspension, the licensee is required to submit signed proof of attendance for the continuing education in question. Failure to submit the proof of attendance by 05/31/2009 will result in the revocation of Ms. McCullough's social work license.

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-103-305 (a) (3) pertaining to engaging in a course of unprofessional conduct as defined by the rules established by the board or violation of the code-of-ethics made and published by the Board; 17-103-203 XI (B1) (B3) (B 4) pertaining to the audit of social work continuing education required for license renewal.

**Name:** Patricia A. Stricker, LCSW

**Date of Action:** April 13, 2009

**Action Taken:** Probation of License for a period of 6 months effective 4/13/2009. Order requires supervision and nine (9) hours of Continuing Education Units in addition to the hours already required.

**Violations:** A.C.A. § 17-103-101; Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulation X, Standard G (2), which provides that a "a social worker must not violate such positions of trust and dependency by committing any act detrimental to a client, student or supervisee; Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulation X, Standard G (4)(a), which provides that in "many communities and situations, it may not be possible for social workers to avoid social or other nonprofessional contacts with clients, students or supervisees. A social worker must always be sensitive to the potential harmful effects of other contacts on his/her work and on those persons with whom they deal. A social worker must refrain from entering into, or promising, a relationship with such persons if it appears the relationship might impair the social worker's objectivity or his/her ability to effectively perform social work functions. A social worker must also refrain from entering into, or promising a relationship with such persons if it appears that the relationship might harm or exploit the other party.; Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulation X, Standard G (4)(c), which provides that, if due to unforeseen factors, the social worker finds "a potentially harmful multiple relationship has arisen, the social worker must attempt to resolve it with due regard for the best interest of the affected person and maximum compliance with the Code of Ethics..

**Name:** Robert E. Pruitt, Jr., LMSW

**Date of Action:** February 9, 2009

**Action Taken:** Suspension of License for a period of 12 weeks effective 2/9/2009.

**Violations:** A.C.A. § 17-103-101; Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulation X, Standard A, which mandates that social workers must safeguard information given by clients; Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulation X, Standard G (2), Which prohibits social workers from violating the position of trust and dependency by committing any act detrimental to a client; Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulation X, Standard G (4), Which prohibits social workers from entering into, or promising a relationship if the relationship might harm or exploit the other party; Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulation X, Standard G (5), which prohibits social workers from violating client-therapist boundaries; Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Regulation XI, which defines unprofessional conduct in the practice of social work. The relevant portions follow:(A), Violations of The Social Work Licensing Act or Regulations published by the Board; (B), Negligence in the practice of social work or practicing fraudulently or incompetently; (G), Intentionally or recklessly causing physical or emotional harm to any client; (H), Failing to maintain confidentiality, except as otherwise required or permitted by law, of all information that has been received from a client in confidence during the course of treatment and all information about the client which is obtained from tests or other means; (L), Violating the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board; (R), Failing to terminate the professional relationship when it is apparent that the service no longer serves the needs of the client.

**Name:** Erin M. DeGostin, LMSW (Name changed to Erin DeGostin Lytle 6/02/2016)

**Date of Action:** February 9, 2009

**Action Taken:** Revocation of License.

**Violations:** According to the terms of the November 17, 2008 Consent Order, Ms. DeGostin's failure to comply with any term of condition of the Consent Order constitute grounds for the imposition of disciplinary action pursuant to A.C.A. §17-103-305(a) (3). Ms. DeGostin failed to comply with the terms of the November 17, 2008 Consent Order.

**Name:** Stuart A. Clark, LCSW  
**Date of Action:** February 1, 2009  
**Action Taken:** License Completely Restored

**Name:** Erin M. DeGostin, LMSW (Name changed to Erin DeGostin Lytle 6/02/2016)  
**Date of Action:** December 8, 2008  
**Action Taken:** Emergency Hearing before the Social Work Licensing Board resulted in suspension of Ms. DeGostin's license.  
**Violations:** According to the terms of the Order, Ms. DeGostin's failure to comply with any term or condition of the Consent Order shall constitute grounds for the imposition of disciplinary action pursuant to A.C.A. §17-103-305(a) (3), for which the Board may suspend or revoke Respondent's license or take other appropriate action after notice and opportunity for a hearing pursuant to Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act.

**Name:** Erin M. DeGostin, LMSW (Name changed to Erin DeGostin Lytle 6/02/2016)  
**Date of Action:** November 17, 2008  
**Action Taken:** Two-Years Probation, effective 11/17/2008. The terms and conditions of the Consent Order entered June 9, 2008 shall remain in effect with the following modifications. A) The two-year period of probation will start from today. B) Ms. DeGostin will continue to be subject to random drug screens, and she is required to submit to the drug screen within eight (8) hours of being contacted by the Board.  
**Violations:** Ms. DeGostin demonstrated unprofessional behavior by failing to comply with the terms and conditions of the Consent Order dated June 9, 2008.

**Name:** Juanita Aldridge Tillman, LSW  
**Date of Action:** July 14, 2008  
**Action Taken:** License reinstated after suspension. One year Probation began effective 6/30/2008.

**Name:** Erin M. DeGostin, LMSW (Name changed to Erin DeGostin Lytle 6/02/2016)  
**Date of Action:** June 9, 2008  
**Action Taken:** Suspension vacated on 6/9/2008. Two-Years Probation. During the probationary period, Ms. DeGostin must secure six (6) additional hours of continuing education in ethics in the area of client care for her current licensing period; in addition to the required hours for the two (2) year licensing period; Submit to random drug screening at the request of the Social Work Licensing Board; attend NA (Narcotics Anonymous) meetings weekly for the duration of the probationary period and provide proof of attendance to the Board monthly; Provide, within 15 days of the entry of the Consent Order, a copy of her "Relapse Prevention Plan"; Submit to supervision of social work practice by a LCSW pre-approved by the Board for one (1) hour per week, beginning from the time Ms. DeGostin regains practice of social work; Said supervising LCSW shall send a report to the Board once each month by the 5<sup>th</sup> day of the month.  
**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-103-203; Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Code of Ethics/Standards for Practice, Board Regulation X, Standard E (2), which provides that a "social worker must not provide social work services while under the influence of alcohol, other mind-altering or mood-altering drugs, or physical or psychological illness, which impairs delivery of such services".

**Name:** Larry Mark Starr, LMSW  
**Date of Action:** May 12, 2008  
**Action Taken:** Letter of Admonition  
**Violations:** A.C.A. §17-103-305; Board Regulation X H: Records, which provides that a social worker shall make and maintain records of services provided to a client; Board Regulation XI, specifically provision XI.A, a violation of The Social Work Licensing Act (No. 791 of 1981) or the Regulations published by the Board and provision XI.I., by failing to keep proper records and documentation of services.

**Name:** Erin M. DeGostin, LMSW (Name changed to Erin DeGostin Lytle 6/02/2016)

**Date of Action:** March 28, 2008

**Action Taken:** Emergency Order of Summary Suspension.

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-103-203; Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board Code of Ethics/Standards for Practice, Board Regulation X, Standard E (2), which provides that a “social worker must not provide social work services while under the influence of alcohol, other mind-altering or mood-altering drugs, or physical or psychological illness, which impairs delivery of such services”.

**Name:** Robert Jorgensen

**Date of Action:** February 11, 2008

**Action Taken:** Two-Years Probation. Dates to be determined after license is issued. During the probationary period the licensee must comply with the following: The licensee must submit to random drug testing; comply with weekly one-hour supervision to be done with a LCSW who is pre-approved by the Board. Authorize his employer or any other employer, treatment facility, therapist counselor, or supervisor to furnish copies of any reports and evaluations to the Board and answer any questions by the Board regarding those reports and evaluations. Comply with monthly counseling for at least six months by a pre-approved therapist. Said counseling will be monthly for at least six months and ongoing scheduling and duration or treatment at the discretion of the therapist, must comply with the following: Professional boundaries, ethics, triggers and relapse prevention; Comply with regular weekly attendance at an AA or NA program, and provide documentation of licensee’s attendance. Must notify the Board immediately if he changes employment during the probationary period.

**Date of Action:** August 9, 2010

**Action Taken:** License completely restored.

**Name:** Ruth A. Wooldridge, LMSW

**Date of Action:** December 10, 2007

**Action Taken:** License completely restored.

**Name:** Susan E. Bensberg, LCSW, No. 1701-C

**Date of Action:** 11/12/2007

**Action Taken:** License voluntarily surrendered in lieu of complying with stipulations of license suspension.

**Name:** Matthew Coven, LCSW, No. 1904-C

**Date of Action:** 11/12/2007

**Action Taken:** License reinstated after suspension. Probation began effective 11/14/2007.

**Name:** Donny Wright LCSW, No. 1366-C

**Date of Action:** 8/13/2007

**Action Taken:** License Suspended – 8/13/2007 – 8/13/2011 During the entire suspension period, the licensee must participate in one hour weekly sessions with a Board approved counselor/therapist for the purpose of helping the licensee gain insight into interpersonal boundaries, client relationships, ethical behaviors, misrepresentation, record keeping and unprofessional conduct in the practice of social work. Upon license reactivation, the licensee will be required to practice under supervision for a period of two years with a Board approved supervisor.

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-103-203 X Standard B (1): Responsibility; Standard D (1) Misrepresentation; Standard G (1) (2) (3) (5): Client Relationships; Standard H Records; and A.C.A. 17-103-203 XI (A) (B) (E) (G) (I) (L) (M) (R) Unprofessional Conduct in the practice of social work.

**Addendum:** 8/8/2011, Mr. Wright surrendered his license on July 1, 2007 and did not meet the Board Ordered requirements.

**Name:** Matthew Coven, LCSW, No. 1904-C

**Date of Action:** 3/12/2007

**Action Taken:** License Suspended – 3/12/2007 - 11/14/2007 followed by eighteen months probation. During the suspension, the licensee must undergo therapy with a board-approved LCSW at the rate of two one-hour sessions per month. The sessions must include professional development, ethics, practice management, billing and attention to detail. During the probation period, the licensee must be supervised by a board-approved LCSW at the rate of one hour per week. At the end of the probation period, the LCSW supervisor must submit a supervision evaluation form and attest to the licensee's fitness to practice social work autonomously.

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-103-203 XI Definition of Unprofessional Conduct (P) Failing to comply with any stipulation or agreement with the board involving probation or a settlement of any disciplinary matters.

**Name:** Susan E. Bensberg, LCSW, No. 1701-C

**Date of Action:** 1/8/2007

**Action Taken:** License Suspended - eight weeks (1/8/07-3/5/07) two-years probation (1/8/07-1/8/09)– During the two-years probation, the licensee must undergo treatment by a psychiatrist for the purposes of medication management and psychiatric care, must receive weekly therapy from a master's level (or greater) therapist and when gainfully employed must have weekly supervision by an LCSW.

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-103-203 XI Definition of Unprofessional Conduct (P) Failing to comply with any stipulation or agreement with the board involving probation or a settlement of any disciplinary matters.

**Name:** Juanita Aldridge Tillman, LSW

**Date of Action:** December 11, 2006

**Action Taken:** License Suspended - December 11, 2006 until June 30, 2008 – One-year probation beginning June 30, 2008. To be eligible for reinstatement of license, licensee must under go counseling with an LCSW and complete twelve hours of continuing education in ethics/boundary issues.

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-103-203 Regulation X Code-of-Ethics/Standards for Practice – X (G) Client Relationships G (1) pertaining to exploiting relationships with clients, G (2) pertaining to violating positions of trust and dependency by committing any act detrimental to a client, G (3) pertaining to engaging in sexual activity with a client, G (4) pertaining to multiple relationships with clients; and G (5) pertaining to violation client/therapist boundaries; A.C.A. 17-103-203 XI Definition of Unprofessional Conduct XI (A) pertaining to violations of the Social Work Licensing Act and Regulations); XI (G) pertaining to causing physical or emotional harm to a client; and XI (L) pertaining to violating the code-of-ethics adopted by the Board.

**Name:** Ruth A. Wooldridge, LMSW

**Date of Action:** November 13, 2006

**Action Taken:** Consent Agreement – Probation 11/13/06-11/13/07 – Monthly LCSW supervision focused on confidentiality and documentation of services. During the probationary period, licensee must complete six hours of continuing education in confidentiality and documentation of service.

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-103-203 Regulation X: Code-of-Ethics/Standards for Practice – X (H) (1) Records; Regulation XI: Definitions of Unprofessional Conduct - XI (A) pertaining to violations of the Social work Licensing Act and Regulations; XI (B) pertaining to negligence in the practice of social work or practicing fraudulently or incompetently; XI (H) pertaining to confidentiality; XI (I) pertaining to keeping proper records and documentation of services; XI (L) pertaining to violating the code-of-ethics adopted by the Board; and XI (M) pertaining to giving or receiving fees for services not actually and personally rendered.

**Name:** Stuart A. Clark, LCSW

**Date of Action:** September 11, 2006

**Action Taken:** Consent Agreement – Probation 10/9/06 – 1/31/09 – weekly supervision by a board-approved LCSW supervisor in the areas of boundaries, sexuality and multiple relationships. To be eligible for license renewal licensee must complete 12 additional hours of continuing education in ethics.

**Violations:** A.C.A. § 17-103-203 and Regulation X: Code-of Ethics/Standards for Practice – Standard G5: A social worker must not violate client-therapist boundaries.



**Name:** Donny Wright, LCSW  
**Date of Action:** September 11, 2006  
**Action Taken:** License completely restored

**Name:** Michael H. Teague, LMSW, No. 758-M  
**Date of Action:** July 10, 2006  
**Action Taken:** Prior to December 31, 2006, licensee must complete three hours of continuing education in ethics in addition to the three hours required for license renewal.  
**Violations:** A.C.A. §17-103-203-Regulation X: Code-of Ethics/Standards for Practice - Standard A: Confidentiality

**Name:** Matthew Coven, LCSW, No. 1904-C  
**Date of Action:** June 12, 2006  
**Action Taken:** Consent Agreement – six months probation – During the six months probation, licensee must complete three hours of ethics in addition to the ethics required for license renewal. Licensee will be subject to one hour monthly LCSW supervision focused on billing practices and documentation of services, and must submit a plan regarding how documentation and billing practices will occur in the future.  
**Violations:** A.C.A. § 17-103-203 X I Definitions of Unprofessional Conduct – XI (M) pertaining to giving or receiving, directly or indirectly, any fee, commission, rebate or other compensation for professional services not actually and personally rendered; XI (L) pertaining to violating the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board; and XI (I) pertaining to failing to keep proper records and documentation of services.

**Name:** Thomas Craig Burns  
**Date of Action:** February 9, 2006  
**Action Taken:** License Fully Restored

**Name:** Susan E. Bensberg, LCSW, No. 1701-C  
**Date of Action:** 11/14/2005  
**Action Taken:** two-years probation – During the two-years probation, the licensee must undergo treatment by a psychiatrist for the purposes of medication management and psychiatric care, must receive weekly therapy from a master's level (or greater) therapist and must have weekly supervision by an LCSW.  
**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-103-305 (a) (3) pertaining to engaging in a course of unprofessional conduct as defined by the rules established by the board or violation of the code-of-ethics made and published by the Board; A.C.A. 17-103-203 X Code-of-Ethics/Standards for Practice (E) Competence; (G) Client Relationships (1), (2), (4a) and (5); and A.C.A. 17-103-203 XI Definition of Unprofessional Conduct (A), (B), (G), (L), and (R).

**Name:** Dwight F. Merritt  
**Date of Action:** 11/14/2005  
**Action Taken:** Two-year probation effective October 10, 2015 – During the two-year probation, the licensee must submit to random drug screenings, submit a copy of his relapse prevention plan, and attend weekly AA/NA meetings and provide proof of attendance.  
**Action Taken October 10, 2007:** Probationary period ended and license fully restored.

**Name:** William Michael Leatherwood, LMSW, No. 1561-M  
**Date of Action:** 8/8/2005  
**Action Taken:** License Renewal Denied  
**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-103-305 (a) (3) pertaining to engaging in a course of unprofessional conduct as defined by the rules established by the board or violation of the code-of-ethics made and published by the Board; A.C.A. 17-103-203 X Code-of-Ethics/Standards for Practice (G) Client Relationships

**Name:** Charles Scott McCaleb, LCSW, No. 1278-C

**Date of Action:** 2/14/2005

**Action Taken:** License completely restored

**Name:** Tracy Pefferkorn, LSW, No. 1976-B

**Date of Action:** 12/31/2004

**Action Taken:** License Reinstated

**Name:** George Gurst Allen, LMSW

**Date of Action:** 11/14/2004

**Action Taken:** License completely restored

**Name:** Brenda Boyd, LSW, No. 1716-B

**Date of Action:** 11/8/2004

**Action Taken:** Revoked License

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-103-305 (a) (3) pertaining to engaging in a course of unprofessional conduct as defined by the rules established by the board or violation of the code-of-ethics made and published by the Board; 17-103-203 IX (B1) (B3) (B 4) pertaining to the audit of social work continuing education required for license renewal.

**Name:** Tracy Pefferkorn, LSW, No. 1976-B

**Date of Action:** 11/8/2004

**Action Taken:** License Suspended until 12/31/04 - During the suspension, the licensee is required to submit signed proof of attendance for the continuing education in question. Failure to submit the proof of attendance by 12/31/04 will result in the revocation of Ms. Pefferkorn's social work license.

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-103-305 (a) (3) pertaining to engaging in a course of unprofessional conduct as defined by the rules established by the board or violation of the code-of-ethics made and published by the Board; 17-103-203 IX (B1) (B3) (B 4) pertaining to the audit of social work continuing education required for license renewal.

**Name:** Gary Allen DuVall

**Date of Action:** 9/13/2004

**Action Taken:** Voluntarily Surrendered License

**Violations:** Incomplete investigation

**Name:** Donny Wright, LCSW, No. 1366-C

**Date of Action:** 7/12/2004

**Action Taken:** two-year probation – weekly supervision by a board-approved LCSW supervisor in the areas of ethics; boundaries and service agreements The probation will begin upon approval of the supervisor (9/13/04-9/13/06).

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-103-203 X (B) (1) pertaining to providing a clear description of what the client may expect in the way of services, reports, fees, billing and schedules; X (G) (2) pertaining to violating positions of trust and dependency by committing any act detrimental to a client, student or supervisee; X (G) (4) (a) pertaining to entering into relationships that might impair the social worker's objectivity or ability to effectively perform social work functions and entering into a relationship that might harm or exploit the other party; X (G) (4) (b) pertaining to taking on professional obligations when preexisting relationships would create a risk of harm; X (G) (4) (c) pertaining to terminating a relationship when a potentially harmful multiple relationship has arisen; X (G) (5) pertaining to violating client-therapist boundaries; XI (A) pertaining to violations of the Social Work Licensing Act or the Regulations; X I (B) pertaining to negligence in the practice of social work or practicing fraudulently or incompetently; XI (I) pertaining to keeping proper records and documentation of services; XI (L) pertaining to violating the code-of-ethics adopted by the Board.

**Name:** Thomas Craig Burns

**Date of Action:** February 9, 2004

**Action Taken:** Probation

**Violations:** Mr. Burns was issued a LCSW license on a probationary period from February 9, 2004 through February 9, 2006 under a consent order issued by the Board. The probation agreement required Mr. Burns to 1.) Submit to random drug screenings as requested by the Board; 2.) Mr. Burns must notify the Board immediately if he changed employment; 3.) Immediate submission of a relapse prevention plan; 5.) Daily attendance at AA and/or NA meetings for the first 90 days of the agreement then weekly AA and/or NA meetings until the end of the probationary period.

**Comments:** **Stipulations met and license is in good standing.**

**Name:** Dusty L. Linn, LMSW, No. 1455-M

**Date of Action:** 2/9/2004

**Action Taken:** Letter of Reprimand; Cease & Desist private practice and consultation

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-103-301 (b) pertaining to engaging in the private independent practice of social work without being licensed as a Licensed Certified Social Worker (c) pertaining to engaging in social work consultation without being licensed as a Licensed Certified Social Worker; A.C.A. 17-103-306 VI (C) (4) pertaining to supervision of a Licensed Master Social Worker; A.C.A. 17-103-203; A.C.A.17-103-203 XI (A) pertaining to violations of the Social work Licensing Act and Regulations; XI (B) pertaining to negligence in the practice of social work or practicing fraudulently or incompetently; XI (L) Pertaining to violating the code-of-ethics adopted by the Board; X (E) (1) pertaining to practicing beyond licensee's competence.

**Comments:** **Stipulations met and license is in good standing.**

**Name:** Charles Scott McCaleb, LCSW

**Date of Action:** 12/8/2003

**Action Taken:** Restricted Practice – Supervision with female clients – Effective until June 13, 2006

**Violations:** Unprofessional Conduct with client

**Comments:** Licensee agreed to abide by restrictions placed on his licensure by the Department of the Air Force in lieu of an administrative hearing before the AR Social Work Licensing Board.

**Name:** Robert Todd Jorgensen, LCSW, No. 1375-C

**Date of Action:** 7/14/2003

**Action Taken:** Revoked License

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-103-203 X (G) (1) pertaining to relationships with clients, students and supervisees being exploited by the social worker for personal gain; X (G) (2) pertaining to violating positions of trust and dependency by committing any act detrimental to a client, student or supervisee; X (G) (4) (b) pertaining to taking on professional obligations when preexisting relationships would create a risk of harm; X (G) (4) (c) pertaining to termination of a potential harmful relationship; X (G) (5) pertaining to client-therapist boundaries; XI (A) pertaining to violations of the Social Work Licensing Act or Regulations; XI (B) pertaining to negligence in the practice of social work or practicing fraudulently or incompetently; XI (G) pertaining to intentionally or recklessly causing physical or emotional harm to any client; XI (L) pertaining to violating the code-of-ethics adopted by the Board; XI (S) pertaining to offering medication, prescription or otherwise, controlled substances or alcoholic beverages to a client, or accepting these substances from a client.

**Name:** George Gurst Allen, LMSW 1563-M

**Date of Action:** 05/14/2003

**Action Taken:** Probation Agreement

**Violations:** Initial license application was approved based on Probation agreement.

**Name:** Sheryl Susan Miles, LCSW, No. 660-C

**Date of Action:** 8/19/2002

**Action Taken:** 18-month probation – Supervision by a board-approved supervisor – six hours of continuing education in ethics in addition to the three required for license renewal

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-103-203 X (B) pertaining to responsibility; X (G) (2) pertaining to violating positions of trust and dependency by committing any act detrimental to a client, student or supervisee; X (G) (4) (a) pertaining to entering into a relationship that might impair the social worker's objectivity or his/her ability to effectively perform social work functions and entering into a relationship that might harm or exploit the other party; X (G) (4) (b)...pertaining to taking on professional obligations when preexisting relationships would create a risk of harm; X (H) pertaining to maintaining client records; XI (A) pertaining to violations of the Social Work Licensing Act or Regulations; XI (I) pertaining to keeping proper records and documentation of services; XI (L) pertaining to violating the code-of-ethics adopted by the Board; XI (G) pertaining to intentionally or recklessly causing physical or emotional harm to any client; XI (J) pertaining to ordering or providing excessive or unnecessary test or services; A.C.A. 17-103-305 (a) (3) pertaining to engaging in a course of unprofessional conduct as defined by the rules established by the board or violation of the code-of-ethics made and published by the Board.

**Comments:** Upon receipt of the Board's order, the licensee surrendered her social work license. The Board accepted the surrender with the understanding that the conditions of the Board's order have not been met and that the licensee must immediately cease practicing social work and representing herself to the public as a social worker. The conditions of the Board's order must be met before the licensee will be approved for licensure in the future.

**Name:** Albert Robin Wright, LCSW, No. 944-C

**Date of Action:** 10/8/2001

**Action Taken:** Letter of reprimand – obtain five hours of continuing education in ethics in addition to the current requirement

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-103-107 Privileged Communication - pertaining to disclosure of information acquired from clients without written consent; A.C.A. 17-103-203 X (A) pertaining to confidentiality; XI (A) pertaining to violations of the Social Work Licensing Act or the Regulations; XI (H) pertaining to failing to maintain confidentiality; XI (L) pertaining to violations of the code-of-ethics adopted by the Board

**Comments:** Stipulations met and license is in good standing.

**Name:** Thomas Craig Burns

**Date of Action:** May 14, 2001

**Action Taken:** Probation

**Violations:** Mr. Burns provisional license was issued on a probationary status due to information received regarding revocation of his Texas license. Probationary period was from May 14, 2001 through May 14, 2003. Mr. Burns's provisional license was only for a 6-month period but he honored the terms of the probation.

**Name:** Robert Todd Jorgensen, LCSW, No. 1375-C

**Date of Action:** 5/14/2001

**Action Taken:** Eighteen-month probation – Must attend AA/NA meetings - must submit a copy of relapse plan - must continue to see therapist and psychiatrist - must notify board of any change in employment

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-103-203 X (E) (2) pertaining to providing social work services while under the influence of alcohol, other mind-altering or mood-altering drugs; A.C.A. 17-103-305 (a) (3) pertaining to engaging in a course of unprofessional conduct as defined by the rules established by the board or violation of the code-of-ethics made and published by the Board.

**Name:** Robert Todd Jorgensen, LCSW, No. 1375-C

**Date of Action:** 1/8/2001

**Action Taken:** Four-month suspension – must attend AA/NA meetings – must continue to see therapist and psychiatrist – must undergo random drug screenings

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-103-203 X (E) (2) pertaining to providing social work services while under the influence of alcohol, other mind-altering or mood-altering drugs; A.C.A. 17-103-305 (a) (3) Pertaining to engaging in a course of unprofessional conduct as defined by the rules established by the board or violation of the code-of-ethics made and published by the Board.

**Name:** Lori Ann McKenzie, LSW, No. 2241-B

**Date of Action:** 2/14/2000

**Action Taken:** Six-month probation – Cease & Desist

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-46-301 (b) pertaining to engaging in the private independent practice of social work without being licensed as a Licensed Certified Social Worker; A.C.A. 17-46-306 VI (C) (3) pertaining to the supervision of a Licensed Social Worker; A.C.A. 17-46-203 XI (A) pertaining to violations of the Social Work Licensing Act or Regulations

**Comments:** Stipulations met and license is in good standing.

**Name:** Samuel Lee Bowden

**Date of Action:** 9/13/1999

**Action Taken:** Consent Agreement – Issued a six-month probationary license - During the six months, applicant must: (1) have a psychological evaluation; (2) complete 30 hours of community service; and (3) complete six hours of continuing education in ethics.

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-46-105 (4) pertaining to knowingly making a false statement on any form promulgated by the Board

**Comments:** Stipulations met and license is in good standing.

**Name:** Gary Allen DuVall, LSW, No. 1004-B

**Date of Action:** 6/22/1998

**Action Taken:** One-year suspension followed by one-year probation – Undergo counseling on boundaries with a Board approved therapist - Obtain five hours of continuing education in ethics and boundaries.

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-46-203 X G (2) pertaining to violating positions of trust and dependency by committing any act detrimental to a client; (4) (a) pertaining to entering into a relationship that might impair objectivity or ability to effectively perform social work functions and entering into a relationship that might harm or exploit the other party. G (4) (b) pertaining to taking on professional obligations when preexisting relationships would create a risk of harm; G (4) (c) pertaining to termination of a potentially harmful multiple relationship; G (5) (A) pertaining to violating client-therapist boundaries; XI (A) pertaining to violations of the Social Work Licensing Act or the Regulations; (G) pertaining to intentionally or recklessly causing physical or emotional harm to any client; (L) pertaining to violating the code-of-ethics adopted by the Board; and A.C.A. 17-46-305 (a) (3) pertaining to engaging in a course of unprofessional conduct as defined by the rules established by the board or violation of the code-of-ethics made and published by the Board.

**Comments:** Stipulations met and license is in good standing.

**Name:** Charles Franklin Thurmond, LCSW, No. 1248-C

**Date of Action:** 2/9/1998

**Action Taken:** Revoked License

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-46-203 XI (P) pertaining to failing to comply with any stipulation or agreement with the board involving probation or a settlement of any disciplinary matters; A.C.A. 17-46-305 (a) (3) pertaining to engaging in a course of unprofessional conduct as defined by the rules established by the board or violation of the code-of-ethics made and published by the Board.

**Name:** Charles Franklin Thurmond, LCSW, No. 1248-C

**Date of Action:** 12/09/1996

**Action Taken:** One-year probation – one-year supervision – a minimum of 24 hours of the continuing education required for license renewal must be in boundaries & ethics – one-year of therapy

**Violations:** pertaining to unprofessional conduct/disciplinary action taken in another State prior to licensee applying for licensure in Arkansas.

**Name:** William R. Barling, LCSW, No. 312-C

**Date of Action:** 9/13/1996

**Action Taken:** Six months probation - Must submit a plan for corrective action within 30 days

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-46-203 X (B) (1) pertaining to providing a clear description of what the client may expect in the way of services, reports, fees, billing and schedules; X (E) (1) pertaining to practicing beyond his/her competence and making appropriate referrals when the client's needs exceed the social worker's competency level; XI (B) pertaining to negligence in the practice of social work or practicing fraudulently or incompetently; XI (L) pertaining to violating the code-of-ethics adopted by the Board.

**Comments:** **Stipulations met and license is in good standing**

**Name:** Kathleen V. Williams, LCSW, No. 352-C

**Date of Action:** 8/1/1996

**Action Taken:** License suspended for two months – one-year LCSW supervision

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-46-203 X (B) (1) pertaining to responsibility in providing a clear description of what the client may expect in the way of services, reports, fees, billing and schedules; A.C.A. 17-46-203 XI (L) pertaining to violations of the code-of-ethics adopted by the Board.

**Comments:** **Stipulations met and license is in good standing.**

**Name:** Charles A. Bullock, LCSW, No. 691-C

**Date of Action:** 1/27/1995

**Action Taken:** Revoked License

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-39-203 IX (A) (1) pertaining to confidentiality; (G) (1) Pertaining to exploiting relationships with clients for personal gain and committing acts detrimental to clients; X (G) pertaining to intentionally or recklessly causing physical or emotional harm to any client; X (H) pertaining to maintaining confidentiality; X (L) pertaining to violating the code-of-ethics adopted by the Board; and A.C.A. 17-39-305 (a) (3) pertaining to engaging in a course of unprofessional conduct as defined by the rules established by the board or violation of the code-of-ethics made and published by the Board.

**Name:** Nancy Kaye Spriggs, LSW, No. 2062-B

**Date of Action:** 11/04/1994

**Action Taken:** Revoked License

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-39-203 IX (G) (1) pertaining to exploiting a relationship for personal gain and committing an act detrimental to a client, student or supervisee; X (L) pertaining to violating the code-of-ethics adopted by the Board; 17-39-305 (a) (3) pertaining to engaging in a course of unprofessional conduct as defined by the rules established by the board or violation of the code-of-ethics made and published by the Board.

**Name:** Theia Bankhead, Unlicensed

**Date of Action:** 4/12/1994

**Action Taken:** Referred to Prosecuting Attorney

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-103-105 (1) pertaining to representing oneself to be a social worker and/or practicing social work without a license

**Name:** Richard E. Maxwell, LMSW, No. 443-M

**Date of Action:** 3/4/1994

**Action Taken:** Revoked License

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-39-203 IX (G)(2) pertaining to engaging in sexual activity with a client; X (L) pertaining to violating the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board; A.C.A. 17-39-305 (a) (3) pertaining to engaging in a course of unprofessional conduct as defined by the rules established by the board or violation of the code-of-ethics made and published by the Board.

**Name:** Ellen Fernicola, LCSW, No. 766-C

**Date of Action:** 4/12/1993

**Action Taken:** One-year suspension - To be re-licensed, individual must reapply and pass the exam.

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-203 XI (B) pertaining to negligence in the practice of social work or practicing fraudulently or incompetently; (K) pertaining to neglecting or abandoning a client

**Name:** Jerry Lynn Smith, LSW, No. 2006-B

**Date of Action:** 10/20/1991

**Action Taken:** Revoked License

**Violations:** Licensee did not contest the allegations that he violated A.C.A. 17-103-203 G (3) pertaining to engaging in sexual activity with a client or with a former client within two years after termination of the professional relationship.

**Name:** Benny James Butler, Unlicensed

**Date of Action:** 8/31/1990

**Action Taken:** Referred to Prosecuting Attorney

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-39-105 (1) pertaining to representing oneself to be a social worker and/or practicing social work without a license

**Name:** Danny Jay Yancey, Unlicensed

**Date of Action:** 8/15/1985

**Action Taken:** Referred to Prosecuting Attorney

**Violations:** A.C.A. 17-39-105 (1) pertaining to representing oneself to be a social worker and/or practicing social work without a license.