

## SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Settlement Agreement is made by the North Dakota Board of Addiction Counseling Examiners ("Board") and Melissa Johnston ("Johnston").

The Board is authorized pursuant to North Dakota Century Code (N.D.C.C.) ch. 43-41 to license and regulate the profession of social work in the State of North Dakota.

N.D.C.C. § 43-41-10 authorizes the Board to deny or place conditions on a license issued under N.D.C.C. ch. 43-41 on proof at a hearing that the holder of the license has violated the professional code of conduct adopted by the Board.

Johnston submitted an applicant for a license to practice social work in the State of North Dakota on or about March 1, 2018.

Johnston acknowledges she has been informed and understands she has a right to a hearing and appeal pursuant to N.D.C.C. ch. 43-41 and N.D.C.C. ch. 28-32 prior to conditions being placed on her license.

Johnston acknowledges she has been granted the opportunity to be advised by legal counsel with regard to this matter.

The Board and Johnston agree to a licensure being granted to Johnston under the following terms:

1. Johnston waives her right to an administrative hearing and appeal pursuant to N.D.C.C. chs. 43-41 and 28-32.
2. Johnston's application for a license to practice social work as licensed social worker is approved.
3. Johnston's license to practice social work is placed on probation for no less than one year from the date the Agreement is fully executed. As conditions of probation,


Johnston shall comply with all laws and rules relating to the practice of social work during the probation.

4. Without a hearing or appeal pursuant to N.D.C.C. ch. 43-41 or N.D.C.C. ch. 28-32, the Board will determine if Johnston fulfills the terms of this Agreement or violates any condition of probation. If Johnston fails to fulfill the terms of this Agreement or violates any condition of probation, the Board may take further disciplinary action against her license without a hearing or appeal pursuant to N.D.C.C. ch. 43-45 or N.D.C.C. ch. 28-32.

5. There are no covenants, promises, undertakings, or understandings outside this Agreement other than as herein specifically set forth.

6. This Agreement shall be governed by the substantive laws of the State of North Dakota without regards to conflicts of law principles.


Dated this 26 day of June, 2018.

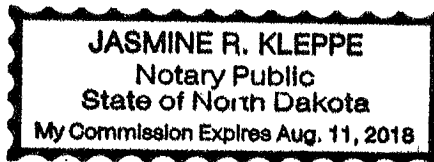
  
Melissa Johnston

State of North Dakota

County of Burleigh

Subscribed and affirmed to before me this 26 day of June, 2018.

  
Notary Public



Dated this 19 day of July, 2018.

NORTH DAKOTA BOARD OF  
BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

  
Heidi Nieuwsma, Chairperson