

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
BUREAU OF HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS

In re: Chris Salonia, CADC

Petition No. 2000-053-045-001
0

CONSENT ORDER

WHEREAS, Chris Salonia of Meriden (hereinafter "respondent") has been issued certificate number 000287 to practice as a Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor by the Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") pursuant to Chapter 376b of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended; and,

WHEREAS, the Department alleges that:

1. From approximately July 1999 to approximately March 2000, respondent provided professional services to K.R.
2. The professional service provided to K.R. by respondent was below the acceptable standards of care in one or more of the following ways:
 - a. in that respondent failed to recognize that K.R. needed treatment for issues in addition to those related to alcohol and drugs, and failed to refer K.R. to a practitioner licensed to treat such issues;
 - b. respondent treated K.R. and her boyfriend in "couples therapy," which is outside the scope of her certification; and/or,
 - c. respondent failed to create or maintain adequate records regarding the treatment of K.R.
3. The above described facts constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to the General Statutes of Connecticut, §20-74s.

WHEREAS, respondent, in consideration of this Consent Order has chosen not to contest the above allegations of wrongdoing but, while admitting no guilt or wrongdoing, agrees that for

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purposes of this or any future proceedings before the Department, this Consent Order shall have the same effect as if proven and ordered after a full hearing held pursuant to §§19a-10, 19a-14 and 20-74s of the General Statutes of Connecticut.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to §§19a-14, 19a-17 and 20-74s of the General Statutes of Connecticut, respondent hereby stipulates and agrees to the following:

1. Respondent waives her right to a hearing on the merits of this matter.
2. Respondent's certificate shall be placed on probation for a period of one year under the following terms and conditions:
 - i. Respondent shall obtain at her own expense, the services of a licensed alcohol and drug counselor, pre-approved by the Department (hereinafter "supervisor"), to conduct a monthly random review of twenty-five percent (25%) or twenty (20) of respondent's patient records, whichever is the larger number. In the event respondent has thirty (30) or fewer patients, the supervisor shall review all of respondent's patient records.
 - (1) Respondent's supervisor shall conduct such review and meet with her not less than once every month for the one-year period of her probationary period.
 - (2) The supervisor shall have the right to monitor respondent's practice by any other reasonable means which he or she deems appropriate. Respondent shall fully cooperate with the supervisor in providing such monitoring.
 - (3) Respondent shall be responsible for providing written supervisor reports directly to the Department monthly for the one-year period of the probationary period. Such supervisor's reports shall include documentation of dates and duration of meetings with respondent, number and a general description of the

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patient reviewed, additional monitoring techniques utilized, and statement that respondent is practicing with reasonable skill and safety.

ii. Within one year of the effective date of this Consent Order, respondent shall successfully complete and provide proof of completion to the satisfaction of the Department, 16 (sixteen) hours of Continuing Education Units, pre-approved by the Department on documentation in standards of practice.

3. All correspondence and reports are to be addressed to:

Bonnie Pinkerton, Nurse Consultant
Department of Public Health
Division of Health Systems Regulation
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #12HSR
P.O. Box 340308
Hartford, CT 06134-0308

4. All reports required by the terms of this Consent Order shall be due according to a schedule to be established by the Department of Public Health.
5. Respondent shall comply with all state and federal statutes and regulations applicable to her certification.
6. Respondent shall pay all costs necessary to comply with this Consent Order.
7. Any alleged violation of any provision of this Consent Order may result in the following procedures at the discretion of the Department:
- a. The Department shall notify respondent in writing by first-class mail that the term(s) of this Consent Order have been violated, provided that no prior written consent for deviation from said term(s) has been granted.
 - b. Said notification shall include the acts or omission(s) which violate the term(s) of this Consent Order.
 - c. Respondent shall be allowed fifteen (15) days from the date of the mailing of notification required in paragraph 7a above to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the

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Department that she has complied with the terms of this Consent Order or, in the alternative, that she has cured the violation in question.

- d. If respondent does not demonstrate compliance or cure the violation by the limited fifteen (15) day date certain contained in the notification of violation to the satisfaction of the Department, she shall be entitled to a hearing before the Department which shall make a final determination of the disciplinary action to be taken.
 - e. Evidence presented to the Department by either the Department or respondent in any such hearing shall be limited to the alleged violation(s) of the term(s) of this Consent Order.
8. In the event respondent violates any term of this Consent Order, respondent agrees immediately to refrain from practicing as a certified alcohol and drug counselor, upon request by the Department for a period not to exceed 45 days. During that time period, respondent further agrees to cooperate with the Department in its investigation of the violation, and to submit to and complete a medical, psychiatric and/or psychological evaluation, if requested to do so by the Department; and, that the results of the evaluation shall be submitted directly to the Department. Respondent further agrees that failure to cooperate with the Department in its investigation during said 45 day period shall constitute grounds for the Department to seek a summary suspension of respondent's certificate. In any such summary action, respondent stipulates that failure to cooperate with the Department's investigation shall constitute an admission that her conduct constitutes a clear and immediate danger as required pursuant to the General Statutes of Connecticut, sections 4-182(c) and 19a-17(c).
9. In the event respondent violates any term of this Consent Order, said violation may also constitute grounds for the Department to seek a summary suspension of her certificate

before the Department.

10. In the event respondent is not employed as a certified alcohol and drug counselor for periods of thirty (30) consecutive days or longer, or is employed as a certified alcohol and drug counselor less than twenty (20) hours per week, or is employed outside of the State of Connecticut, respondent shall notify the Department in writing. Such periods of time shall not be counted in reducing the probationary period covered by this Consent Order.
11. Legal notice shall be sufficient if sent to respondent's last known address of record reported to the Office of Practitioner Licensure and Certification of the Bureau of Healthcare Systems of the Department.
12. This Consent Order is effective on the first day of the month immediately following the date this Consent Order is accepted and ordered by the Department.
13. Respondent agrees that this Consent Order shall be deemed a public document, and the Department's allegations as contained in this Consent Order shall be deemed true in any subsequent proceeding before the Department in which her compliance with this Consent Order or with §20-74s of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended, is at issue.
14. Any extension of time or grace period for reporting granted by the Department shall not be a waiver or preclude the Department from taking action at a later time. The Department shall not be required to grant future extensions of time or grace periods.
15. This Consent Order and terms set forth herein are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review under any form or in any forum. Further, this Order is not subject to appeal or review under the provisions of Chapters 54 or 368a of the General Statutes of Connecticut, provided that this stipulation shall not deprive respondent of any rights that she may have under the laws of the State of Connecticut or of the United States.

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16. This Consent Order is a revocable offer of settlement which may be modified by mutual agreement or withdrawn by the Department at any time prior to its being executed by the last signatory.
17. Respondent permits a representative of the Legal Office of the Bureau of Healthcare Systems to present this Consent Order and the factual basis for this Consent Order to the Department. Respondent understands that the Department has complete and final discretion as to whether this executed Consent Order is approved or accepted.
18. Respondent understands and agrees that she is responsible for satisfying all of the terms of this Consent Order during vacations and other periods in which she is away from her residence.
19. Respondent has the right to consult with an attorney prior to signing this document.

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

Chris Salonia
Chris Salonia

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 17th day of OCTOBER 2002.

Cornelius J. Ivers
Notary Public or person authorized
by law to administer an oath or affirmation
Cornelius J. Ivers
Commissioner of Superior Court

The above Consent Order having been presented to the duly appointed agent of the
Commissioner of the Department of Public Health on the 18th day of
October 2002, it is hereby accepted.

Stanley K. Peck
Stanley K. Peck, Director, Legal Office
Bureau of Healthcare Systems

Salonia/ConsentO /

The above Consent Order having been presented to the duly appointed agent of the
Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Public Health on the 31st day
of October 2002, it is hereby ordered and accepted.

Olinda Morales
Olinda Morales, Hearing Officer



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

December 2, 2003

Chris E. Salonia
82 Smithfield Avenue
Meriden, CT 06451

Re: Consent Order
Petition No. 2000-0530-045-001
License No. 000287
D.O.B. [REDACTED]

Dear Ms. Salonia:

Please accept this letter as notice that you have satisfied the terms of your license probation, effective November 1, 2003.

Notice will be sent to the Department's Licensure and Registration section to remove all restrictions from your license related to the above-referenced Consent Order.

Please be certain to retain this letter as documented proof that you have completed your license probation.

Thank you for your cooperation during this process.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Olive Tronchin".

Olive Tronchin
Division of Health Systems Regulation

cc: J. Fillippone
letter amended on 12/17/03 incorrect petition number



Phone: (860) 509-7400
Telephone Device for the Deaf (860) 509-7191
410 Capitol Avenue - MS # 12HSR
P.O. Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134
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