





4. The Board received 2 complaints, which allege that Respondent is in a current romantic relationship with Client and engaged to Client.

5. Respondent engaged in a sexual relationship with Client. It is Respondent's contention that the sexual relationship began after Client was discharged from her care.

6. As a result of her conduct, Respondent has agreed to voluntarily surrender her clinical social work license.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board has jurisdiction over Respondent pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3251 *et seq.* and the rules promulgated by the Board relating to Respondent's professional practice as a licensed behavioral health professional.

2. The conduct and circumstances described in the Findings of Fact constitute a violation of A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(v), engaging in any sexual conduct between a licensee and a client or former client.


#### ORDER

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law, the parties agree to the provision and penalties imposed as follows:

1. Respondent's license, LCSW-17121, shall be surrendered to the Board, effective from the date of entry as signed below.

2. The surrender shall be considered a revocation of Respondent's license.

#### PROFESSIONAL ACCEPTS, SIGNS AND DATES THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lindsay R. Merrell

9/13/18  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

#### BOARD ACCEPTS, SIGNS AND DATES THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT

Dated this 10<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2018.

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By:   
TOBI ZAVALA, Executive Director  
Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners

**ORIGINAL** of the foregoing filed  
This 10<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2018 with:

Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners  
1740 West Adams Street, Suite 3600  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

**COPY** of the foregoing mailed via Interagency Mail  
This 10<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2018, to:

Marc Harris  
Assistant Attorney General  
2005 North Central Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85004

**COPY** of the foregoing mailed via  
Certified mail no. 9489009000276060239554  
This 10<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2018, to:

Lindsay R. Merrell  
Address of Record  
Respondent