

MAY 28 2021

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY

IN RE: JENNIFER A. SHAW, L.C.P. APPLICANT
Case Numbers: 189146, 199889, 201499, 207057

CONSENT ORDER

JURISDICTION AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The Virginia Board of Psychology (“Board”) and Jennifer A. Shaw, Ph.D., as evidenced by their signatures hereto, in lieu of proceeding to a formal administrative proceeding, enter into the following Consent Order affecting Dr. Shaw’s application for licensure to practice clinical psychology in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Jennifer A. Shaw, Ph.D., submitted an application for license by examination to practice clinical psychology in the Commonwealth of Virginia on January 8, 2019.
2. Dr. Shaw is ineligible for licensure in that she did not complete 1500 hours of experience supervised by a Board-approved supervisor, as required by 18 VAC 125-20-41(A)(1) and 18 VAC 125-20-65(B) and (C) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Psychology (“Regulations”).
3. Dr. Shaw violated Virginia Code §§ 54.1-111(A)(1) and (3) and 54.1-3606(A) and 18 VAC 125-20-150(B)(2), 18 VAC 125-20-160(8) and 18 VAC 125-20-65(B)(4) of the Regulations in that beginning in 2011, she practiced clinical psychology and represented herself as a clinical psychologist without a license, and also represented herself as a resident in psychology when she was not under the supervision of a licensed clinical psychologist. Specifically:
 - a. Between September and November 2011, while employed at the Gil Center for Healing and Play, Fairfax, Virginia, she performed an assessment of Patient A, a minor child, without supervision by a Board-approved licensed psychologist. In addition, in her contract with the child’s

guardians, she identified herself as a "clinical psychologist." Further, although the contract and consent for treatment form indicate that she was a resident psychologist under the supervision of a licensed psychologist, she was not actually under the supervision of a licensed psychologist approved by the Board. Finally, the assessment report that she prepared and signed in November 2011 was not co-signed by a licensed psychologist.

b. Between 2010 and 2012, she performed an assessment and provided therapy for Patient B, a minor child, at the Gil Center for Healing and Play, and in November 2013, she provided an update for this child at the Gil Center for Healing and Trauma. At no time during this period was she under the supervision of a Board-approved licensed psychologist. She referred to herself as "therapist" rather than "Resident in Psychology" on progress/session notes for this patient.

c. In January 2016, she testified in the Circuit Court of Fairfax County in a custody matter regarding Patient B. She allowed herself to be qualified by the judge as an expert in child psychology and gave a recommendation regarding reunification between the child and the father. During her testimony, she provided false and misleading information regarding her credentials and supervision status, as evidenced by the following exchange, taken from the transcript of the hearing:

Q. Dr. Shaw, you are a psychologist, are you not?

A. I am.

Q. And licensed in Virginia, are you?

A. I am a post defacto [sic] resident in Virginia, so I am working under licensure for a clinical psychologist, but qualified as a master's, so it is in-resident status.

Q. For how long have you had that status?

A. Since 2012, and in 2008, after my master's, it was a little bit different. It was not in-resident, it was post-doctorate intern.

Q. Why haven't you obtained your license yet?

A. Well, I'm qualified to work as a therapist, but as a clinical psychologist, I haven't obtained the license for a clinical psychologist. So, the supervised hours are completed and it's called a resident status. We have three residents with us.

Q. I'm familiar with that. For how long have you been in-resident status.

A. Two and a half years.

Q. Question, how many hours do you have to have under your belt before you qualify for licensure?

A. It's not - there's no hours. It's pending exam and I'm the owner of a practice, so it's less direct work for me and more opening the practice.

Q. All right. Then why -

A. So that was the shift of my attention.

Q. All right. And why haven't you been licensed by the Commonwealth, why haven't you applied for a license?

A. It's not been the goal up until now since we opened the Gill [sic] Institute. It was a more supportive administrative role when we opened in 2012.

Q. But all of your reports, as I understand it, have to be co-signed by your supervisor, correct?

A. Not with the resident status if it's not a formal report, not status reports.

Q. If you meet with a patient and you take notes during the interview, do you not?

A. Um-hum.

Q. And you compile those notes and ultimately have a report sometimes?

A. Um-hum. Essentially through therapy charts and so Dr. Iliana Gill [sic] is my partner and the one that signs off on those, although this case is a little bit different because originally we were Gill [sic] Center and so -

Q. Let me ask you differently. Did you have those kind of therapy sessions with [Patient B]?

A. Yes.

Q. And were those signed off by your supervising clinical psychologist?

A. Yes.

d. Between March 2017 and December 2018, she provided "Therapeutic Parent Child Sessions following Separation" with Patients C and D, a minor child and her father, at the Gil Institute for Trauma and Recovery, without supervision by a licensed psychologist. She provided a summary of this treatment that was not co-signed by a licensed psychologist. She referred to herself as a clinical psychologist and as a therapist during treatment sessions.

e. On a resume provided to an investigator for the Department of Health Professions (“DHP Investigator”) in 2018, she indicated that from April 2010 to the present, she had practiced as a clinical psychologist at the Gil Center for Healing and Play and the Gil Institute for Trauma Recovery and Education.

f. In 2018, the website for the Gil Institute indicated that Dr. Shaw provided individual, family, and group therapy to children, adolescents, and adults. There was no indication that she did not hold a license to practice as a clinical psychologist or that she was a resident under the supervision of a Board-approved psychologist. In addition, the website indicated that Dr. Shaw was a member of the American Psychological Association, when she was not actually a member.

3. Dr. Shaw violated 18 VAC 125-20-160(4) and 18 VAC 125-20-150(B)(1), (5), and (7) of the Regulations in that in addition to practicing without a license or Board-approved supervision, in her treatment of Patients C and D, during a session on November 12, 2018, when Patient C said that she was not worried she was hurting her father’s feelings, Dr. Shaw inappropriately told Patient C “that’s abnormal for a kid to a father” and suggested that Patient C felt no empathy.

4. Dr. Shaw violated 18 VAC 125-20-160(4) and 18 VAC 125-20-150(B)(13) of the Regulations in that she failed to maintain records of the treatment that she provided to Patients C and D.

5. Dr. Shaw does not meet the requirements of 18 VAC 125-20-41 of the Regulations.

CONSENT

Jennifer A. Shaw, Ph.D., by affixing her signature to this Consent Order, agrees to the following:

1. I have been advised to seek advice of counsel prior to signing this document and am represented by Jonathan Joseph, Esq.;

2. I am fully aware that without my consent, no legal action can be taken against me or my license except pursuant to the Virginia Administrative Process Act, Virginia Code § 2.2-4000 *et seq.*;


3. I acknowledge that I have the following rights, among others: the right to a formal administrative hearing before the Board; the right to representation by counsel; and the right to cross-examine witnesses against me;
4. I waive my right to a formal hearing;
5. I neither admit nor deny the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained herein but waive my right to contest such Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and any sanction imposed hereunder in any future judicial or administrative proceeding in which the Board is a party;
6. I consent to the entry of the following Order affecting my license to practice clinical psychology in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Virginia Board of Psychology hereby ORDERS that the application of Jennifer A. Shaw for licensure to practice clinical psychology in the Commonwealth of Virginia is DENIED.

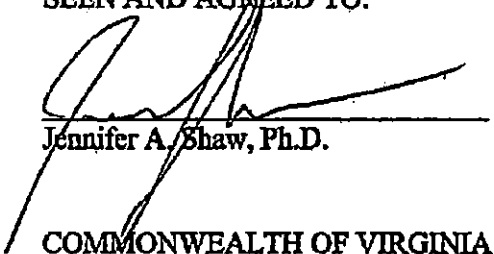
Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4023 and 54.1-2400.2, the signed original of this Order shall remain in the custody of the Department of Health Professions as a public record, and shall be made available for public inspection and copying upon request.

FOR THE BOARD


for Jaime Hoyle, J.D.
Executive Director
Virginia Board of Psychology

ENTERED: JUNE 7, 2021

SEEN AND AGREED TO:



Jennifer A. Shaw, Ph.D.


COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

COUNTY/CITY OF MANASSAS, TO WIT:

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a notary public in and for the Commonwealth of Virginia at large, on

this 25th day of MAY, 2021.





Notary Public

My commission expires: 02/28/2023

Registration No.: 7812580