

COMPLAINT NO. 2025-00023

IN THE MATTER OF

MARY EARNEST

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**BEFORE THE TEXAS BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

**THE TEXAS STATE BOARD
OF SOCIAL WORKER
EXAMINERS**

AGREED ORDER

Pursuant to the authority under §507.305 of the Texas Occupations Code, §2001.056 of the Government Code, and 22 Texas Administrative Code §884.12(e), the Executive Director for the Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council ("Council") hereby approves, ratifies, and enters this Agreed Order with the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order of the Council, which have been approved and accepted by Mary Earnest ("Respondent") and which constitutes a full settlement and compromise of the complaint currently pending against Respondent before the Council in the above-referenced and numbered matter.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is licensed as a clinical social worker (#05301) in the State of Texas and is, therefore, subject to the jurisdiction of the Council.
2. From September of 2022 to September of 2024, Respondent engaged in the practice of social work without an active license.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Respondent voluntarily received a license from the Council and, therefore, is bound by the provisions of Chapters 505 and 507 of the Texas Occupations Code and the Rules of the Council, 22 Texas Administrative Code Parts 34 and 41.
2. Violation of the Council's Rules is unprofessional conduct and constitutes grounds for the imposition of sanctions under §§505.451, 507.301, and 507.351 of the Texas Occupations Code.
3. Based on the above Findings of Fact, the Council finds that Respondent violated Council Rule 882.23(a).

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED THAT:

1. Respondent's license is hereby REPRIMANDED.
2. Respondent is assessed and shall pay, within thirty (30) days of the date this order is ratified, an administrative penalty in the total amount of \$2,000.00; of which \$1,800.00 represents administrative costs and \$200.00 represents administrative penalty.

WARNING

RESPONDENT'S FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ONE OR MORE TERMS OF THIS ORDER MAY CONSTITUTE A VIOLATION OF 22 TEXAS ADMINISTRATIVE CODE §884.55 REQUIRING FURTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTION.


WAIVERS

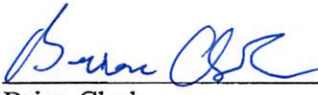
On the underlying investigative file, Respondent has waived his or her right to an informal settlement conference, a formal hearing before an Administrative Law Judge at the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH), and judicial review pursuant to Texas Government Code Chapter 2001, in exchange for the conditions set out in this Agreed Order.

THE RESPONDENT, BY SIGNING THIS ORDER, AGREES TO ITS TERMS, ACKNOWLEDGES UNDERSTANDING OF THE FORMAL NOTICES, FINDINGS OF FACT, AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW SET FORTH HEREIN AND COVENANTS TO SATISFACTORILY COMPLY WITH THE MANDATES OF THIS ORDER IN A TIMELY MANNER. RESPONDENT FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGES AND AGREES THAT HE OR SHE HAS AGREED TO THIS ORDER UPON THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF COUNSEL, OR THAT HE OR SHE HAS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE THIS ORDER REVIEWED BY COUNSEL OF HIS OR HER CHOICE.

FOR THE RESPONDENT:

FOR THE STAFF OF THE COUNCIL:

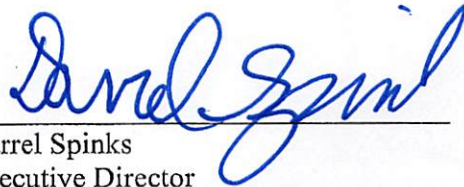

Mary Earnest
Clinical Social Worker
License #05301


Brian Clark
Texas Bar No. 24099457
Staff Attorney
Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council
1801 Congress Ave., Suite 7.300
Austin, Texas 78701

DATE SIGNED: 6-23-25

DATE SIGNED: 6/24/25

APPROVED, RATIFIED, AND ENTERED THIS 30th DAY OF June, 2025.



Darrel Spinks
Executive Director
Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council