WHEREAS, an informal conference was conducted by the Complaint Investigator of the Louisiana Addictive Disorder Regulatory Authority (hereinafter “ADRA”) on May 17, 2013, with GLORIA KERN (hereinafter “Respondent”), holder of LAC No. 615 appearing, and represented by counsel, Aaron W. Guidry, also present;

WHEREAS, pursuant to information received and/or gathered by the ADRA which produced evidence indicating that Respondent may have violated the following laws and/or regulations, by failing to act upon allegations of abuse to a client at the Gloria Kern Center, where she worked as a LAC:

La. R.S. 37:3390.3(A)(3) Violates any provision of the ethical standards to which the department subscribes;

La. R.S. 37:3390.3(A)(11) Grossly negligent in practice as a licensed, certified or registered professional; professional in training, or assistant, as provided for in this Chapter;

La. R.S. 37:3390.3(A)(13) Violated any provisions of this Chapter;

La. R.S. 37:3390.3(A)(15) Guilty of unprofessional conduct, including departing from, or failing to conform to, the minimum standards of acceptable and prevailing practice. Actual injury to a client need not be established;

LAC 46: LXXX.1503(A)(8) Take reasonable personal action to inform responsible authorities and appropriate individuals in cases where a client’s condition
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indicates a clear and imminent danger to the client or others; and

LAC 46:LXXX.1503(A)(9) Take reasonable precautions to protect individuals from physical and/or emotional trauma resulting from interaction within the group.

To facilitate the submission of this Consent Agreement, Respondent agrees to permanently surrender her license as a LAC in Louisiana to avoid disciplinary action.

Respondent further understands that this Consent Agreement shall constitute a Public Record pursuant to La. R.S. 44:1 et seq. and is considered action by the ADRA.

In order to avoid disciplinary action and further administrative and judicial proceedings, Respondent hereby consents to accept and abide by the following order of the Board:

IT IS ORDERED that LAC #615, belonging to Respondent, GLORIA KERN, is withdrawn without opportunity for reinstatement.

By signing this Consent Agreement, Respondent agrees that the ADRA has jurisdiction in this matter, waives her right to informal conference, to Notice of Hearing, to a formal Administrative Hearing, and to judicial review of this Consent Agreement.

By signing this Consent Agreement, Respondent agrees that any failure to comply with the terms of this Agreement is a basis for discipline by the ADRA.

Both Respondent and the ADRA stipulate that this Consent Order shall not become effective and shall not become binding on the ADRA unless and until approved by the ADRA at formal meeting.

I, GLORIA KERN, understand that this Agreement is effective upon affirmative vote by the ADRA at formal hearing. It is also understood that should the ADRA not approve the Consent Agreement, my agreement thereon does not preclude the ADRA from requiring a formal hearing of my case. I further understand that should this Consent Agreement not be accepted by the ADRA, the presentation to and consideration by the ADRA of this
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Agreement, including presented documentary evidence and information, shall not unfairly or illegally prejudice or preclude the ADRA or any of its members from further participation in hearings or resolution of these proceedings.

SIGNED, AGREED TO AND ENTERED ON THIS ___ DAY OF ______, 2013.

GLORIA KERN
LAC #615
329 West Bridge Street
Breaux Bridge, LA 70517

Aaron W. Guidry
100 Rue Iberville, Suite 100
Lafayette, LA 70508

Attorney for Gloria Kern, Respondent

Submitted for ADRA Approval By:

Bernadine Williams
Complaint Investigator

ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONSENT AGREEMENT BY THE LOUISIANA ADDICTIVE DISORDER REGULATORY AUTHORITY:

By a majority vote of the ADRA members voting in favor of the foregoing Consent Agreement at the Board meeting on ___July 28___, 2013, the ADRA hereby adopts said Agreement.

FOR THE ADRA:

[Signature]

CHAIR