BEFORE THE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK OF THE STATE OF IOWA

IN THE MATTER OF)	NO. 04-046
DUFFY C. WEITZEL,	Š	NOTICE OF HEARING AND STATEMENT OF CHARGES
RESPONDENT.)	

COMES NOW the Iowa Board of Social Work (Board) and files this Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges pursuant to Iowa Code sections 17A.12(2), 17A.18(3), and 645 Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) 11.6. Respondent was issued Iowa license 304 02887 on December 15, 1997. Respondent's license to practice master's level social work in Iowa is current and next expires on December 31, 2008.

Respondent's address as reported to the Board is 648 South Pierce #3, Mason City, IA 50401.

A. TIME, PLACE AND NATURE OF HEARING

Hearing. A disciplinary contested case hearing shall be held on January 26, 2009, before the Board of Social Work. The hearing shall begin at 12:30 p.m. and shall be located in the Lucas State Office Building, Fifth Floor Board Conference Room 526, Des Moines, Iowa.

Answer. Within twenty (20) days of the date you are served this Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges you are required by 645 IAC 11.12 to file an Answer. The Answer should specifically admit, deny, or otherwise answer all allegations contained in sections C and D of this Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges.

Pleadings shall be filed with the Board at the following address: Iowa Board of Social

Work, Lucas State Office Building-5th Floor, 321 E. 12th St., Des Moines, Iowa, 50319.

<u>Presiding Officer</u>. The Board shall serve as presiding officer, but the Board may request an Administrative Law Judge make initial rulings on pre-hearing matters, and be present to assist and advise the board at hearing.

Hearing Procedures. The procedural rules governing the conduct of the hearing are found at 641 IAC chapter 11. At hearing, you may appear personally or be represented by legal counsel at your own expense. You will be allowed the opportunity to respond to the charges against you, to produce evidence on your behalf on issues of material fact, cross-examine witnesses present at the hearing, and examine and respond to any documents introduced at hearing. If you need to request an alternative time or date for hearing, you must comply with the requirements of 645 IAC 11.18. The hearing may be open to the public or closed to the public at your discretion.

<u>Pre-hearing Conference</u>. Any party may request a pre-hearing conference to discuss evidentiary issues related to the hearing. The Board's rules regarding pre-hearing conferences are contained at 645 IAC 11.17.

Prosecution. The Office of the Attorney General is responsible for representing the public interest (the State) in this proceeding. Copies of pleadings should be provided to counsel for the State at the following address: Heather Adams, Assistant Attorney General, Iowa Attorney General's Office, 2nd Floor, Hoover State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319.

Communications. You may not contact board members in any manner, including by phone, letter, or e-mail, about this Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges.

Board members may only receive information about the case when all parties have notice and an opportunity to participate, such as at the hearing or in pleadings you file with the Board office and serve upon all parties in the case.

B. LEGAL AUTHORITY AND JURISDICTION

<u>Jurisdiction</u>. The Board has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to Iowa Code Chapters 147, Chapter 154C, and 272C.

Legal Authority. If any of the allegations against you are founded, the Board has authority to take disciplinary action against you under Iowa Code Chapters 17A, 147, 154C, and 272C and 645 IAC Chapter 283.

Default. If you fail to appear at the hearing, the Board may enter a default decision or proceed with the hearing and render a decision in your absence, in accordance with Iowa Code Section 17A.12(3) and 645 IAC 11.21.

C. SECTIONS OF STATUTES AND RULES INVOLVED

Count I

Pursuant to Iowa Code Sections 154C.1 (3) "b" and 154C.2 (1) and Iowa

Administrative Code 282.2(12) "q", Respondent is charged with practicing master's level social work without a license and offering social work services at the master's level without a master's level license.

Count II

Pursuant to Iowa Administrative Code 645—282.2(2), Respondent is charged with practicing social work outside the boundaries of her education and license.

Count III

Pursuant to Iowa Administrative Code 645—283.2(3), Respondent is charged with knowingly making untrue representations in the practice of social work.

Count IV

Pursuant to Iowa Administrative Code 645—282.2(8), Respondent is charged with falsification of client records.

Count V

Pursuant to Iowa Administrative Code 645-282.2(12), Respondent is charged with violating a law of this state.

D. FACTUAL CIRCUMSTANCES

- Respondent is licensed as a bachelor's social worker in the state of lowa.
- Under lowa law, the provision of mental health services that include diagnosis
 and therapy are limited to licensed master's level and licensed independent level social
 workers.
 - Respondent provided individual and group therapy.
- Respondent billed for the services she provided under the name of a licensed independent social worker.

E. SETTLEMENT

This matter may be resolved by settlement agreement. The procedural rules governing the Board's settlement process are found at 645 IAC chapter 12. If you are

interested in pursuing settlement of this matter, please contact Heather Adams, Assistant Attorney General, at 515/281-3441.

F. PROBABLE CAUSE FINDING

On November 10, 2008, the Iowa Board of Social Work found probable cause to file this Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges.

This notice of hearing and statement of charges is approved by the board on November 10, 2008.