BEFORE THE IOWA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK

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| IN THE MATTER OF: | ) | CASE NUMBER: 09-028 |
| | ) | |
| ANN M. NOVAK, | ) | **SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER** |
| | ) | |
| Respondent. | ) | |

COME NOW the Iowa Board of Social Work ("Board") and Ann M. Novak ("Respondent"), and pursuant to Iowa Code sections 17A.10 and 272C.3(4), enter into the following Settlement Agreement and Final Order of the contested case currently on file against the Respondent:

1. Respondent is licensed to practice as a master level social worker in the state of Iowa. Respondent was issued license number 04338 to practice as a social worker in the state of Iowa on August 11, 1998.

2. The Board filed a Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges against the Respondent on September 17, 2012.

3. Respondent's current address on file with the Board is 506 Payton Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50315.

4. The Board has jurisdiction over the parties and subject matter.

5. Execution of this Settlement Agreement and Final Order constitutes the resolution of this contested case. Respondent has a right to a hearing on the charges, but waives her right to hearing and all attendant rights, including the right to appeal, by freely and voluntarily agreeing to this Settlement Agreement and Final Order. Once entered, this Order shall have the force and effect of a disciplinary order entered following a contested case hearing.

6. Respondent is freely and voluntarily entering into this Settlement Agreement and Final Order, and she agrees that the State's counsel may present this agreement to the Board and may have ex parte communication with the Board while presenting it.

7. This agreement is subject to approval of the Board. If the Board approves this agreement, it becomes the final disposition of this matter. If the Board fails to approve this agreement, it shall be of no force or effect to either party. If this agreement is not approved, settlement discussions and related materials shall not be admissible as evidence in this or any subsequent matters.

8. If approved, this Settlement Agreement and Final Order is a public record available for inspection and copying in accordance with the requirements of Iowa Code chapters 22 and 272C. The Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges is also a public record available for inspection and copying in accordance with the requirements of Iowa Code chapters 17A, 22 and 272C.

9. The Board's approval of this agreement shall constitute a FINAL ORDER of the Board.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

10. Respondent agrees to **voluntarily surrender** her license to practice social work in the State of Iowa and understands that pursuant to 645 Iowa Administrative Code Section 12.1(5) a voluntary surrender, when accepted by the Board, shall have the same force and effect as an order of revocation. This agreement shall constitute Respondent's written statement of intention to surrender her license pursuant to 12.1(5).

11. Respondent shall surrender her social work license to the Board within 10 days of the execution date of this Agreement. The execution date is that date which accompanies the Board Chairperson's signature.

12. By voluntarily surrendering her license, Respondent agrees not to use any words or titles which imply or represent that she is a licensed social worker or to otherwise hold herself out to the public as a licensed social worker or to engage in the practice of social work for which a license is required in the state of Iowa.

13. Respondent agrees that should she ever seek reinstatement of her license to practice social work in the State of Iowa, such application shall be subject to the provisions of 645 Iowa Administrative Code Section 11.31. In any application for reinstatement, Respondent shall be required to submit evidence that demonstrates to the Board's satisfaction that the basis for the surrender of Respondent's license no longer exists and that it will be in the public interest for the license to be reinstated. Respondent shall bear the burden of proof establishing these facts.

AGREED AND ACCEPTED:

ANN M. NOVAK,
RESPONDENT

Dated this 30 day of November 2012.

CHAIRPERSON,
IOWA BOARD OF
SOCIAL WORK

Dated this 3 day of Dec., 2012.

Copies to:

Sara Scott
Assistant Attorney General
Hoover State Office Building
Des Moines, IA 50319

Ann M. Novak