Louisiana Licensed Professional Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors

BOARD OF EXAMINERS

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LLPVRC Policy on Licensed Rehabilitation Counselor Threatening other Licensed Rehabilitation Counselors, Clients, Plaintiff Attorneys, Defense Attorneys, Clients, Adjustors, and/or General Public

The Louisiana Licensed Professional Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors Board of Examiners was created and empowered by Act 555 of the 1988 Legislature to provide regulation of the practice of vocational rehabilitation counseling and provide for the regulation of the use of the title "Licensed Professional Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor" (R.S. 37:3441). The board shall adopt such rules, regulations, and examination procedures as it may deem necessary to effect the provisions of Act 555 (Chapter 53, R.S. 37:3441-3452 and R.S. 36:478.I).

The Board and the Ethics Committee of the Board has jurisdiction and authority to enforce the code of ethics adopted by the Board, and may by affirmative vote of at least four of its five members, withhold, deny, revoke, or suspend any license issued or applied for in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 37:3441-3452 or otherwise discipline a person holding such a license upon proof that the applicant or licensee has violated the code of ethics adopted by the Board. The code of ethics so adopted includes the following:

Preamble

Licensed rehabilitation counselors are committed to facilitating the personal, social, and economic independence of individuals with disabilities. In fulfilling this commitment, licensed rehabilitation counselors work with various people, programs, institutions, and

service delivery systems. Licensed rehabilitation counselors recognize that their actions (or inaction) can either aid or hinder clients in achieving their rehabilitation objectives, and they accept this responsibility as part of their professional obligations.

Licensed rehabilitation counselors who violate the Code are subject to disciplinary action.

Canon 1: Legal and Moral Standards

Licensed rehabilitation counselors shall behave in a legal, ethical, and moral manner in the conduct of their profession, maintaining the integrity of the Code and avoiding any behavior that would cause harm to others.

R1.4 Licensed rehabilitation counselors will not engage in any act or omission of a dishonest, deceitful or fraudulent nature in the conduct of their professional activities. They will not allow the pursuit of financial gain or other personal benefits to interfere with the exercise of sound professional judgment and skills, nor will they abuse the relationship with a client to promote their personal or financial gain or the financial gain of an employer.

R1.7 Moral and ethical standards of behavior are a personal matter for licensed rehabilitation counselors to the same degree as they are for any other citizen, except as such standards may compromise the fulfillment of the individual's professional responsibilities or reduce public trust in licensed rehabilitation counselors.

R1.8 Licensed rehabilitation counselors will respect the rights and reputation of any institution, organization or firm with which they are associated when making oral or written statements.

CANON 4: PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Licensed rehabilitation counselors shall act with integrity in their relationships with colleagues, organizations, agencies, institutions, referral sources, and other professions in order to provide clients with optimum benefits.

CANON 5: PUBLIC STATEMENT/FEES

Licensed rehabilitation counselors shall adhere to professional standards in establishing fees and promoting their services.

R5.4 Licensed rehabilitation counselors who describe the rehabilitation counseling and other services offered to the public will present such information fairly and accurately, avoiding misrepresentation through sensationalism, exaggeration, or superficiality. Licensed rehabilitation counselors will be guided by their primary obligation to aid the public in forming valid opinions and making informed choices and judgments.

It is the policy of the Board that threats to cause physical or mental harm to any person is a violation of the ethics code. Accordingly, upon receipt of any ethical complaint submitted in accordance with the Board's promulgated rules for filing such complaints, the Board will consider the merits of the complaint in accordance with its rules, and take such disciplinary action against any licensed rehabilitation counselor determined to have engaged in such activity as may be warranted, up to and including possible revocation of the counselor's license.

Sincerely,

Scott Smith, MA, MS, CRC, LRC
Chair
LLPVRC-Board of Examiners

Tom Bott, MS, CRC, CCM, MSCC, CMSPP, LRC
Vice-Chair/Ethics Chair
LLPVRC Board of Examiners

Dr. Jan Case, Ph.D., CRC
Secretary
LLPVRC Board of Examiners

Mary Walker, MSW, LRC, CCM, CRC, CWCP
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