

1 **BEFORE THE BOARD OF LICENSED**
2 **PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS AND THERAPISTS**
3 **FOR THE STATE OF OREGON**

4 In the Matter of:

Agency Case No. 2012-042

5 **TODD ARMSTRONG, LPC**
6

7 Respondent.

**FINAL ORDER BY DEFAULT IMPOSING
DISCIPLINE**

8
9 **HISTORY OF THE CASE**

10 On September 30, 2013, the Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists
11 (Board) issued a Notice of Intent to Impose Discipline and Right to Request Hearing (Notice)
12 stating that the Board intended to impose discipline on Todd Armstrong (Respondent).

13 The Notice was served on Respondent by regular and certified U.S. Mail addressed to
14 Respondent at his last known address at Lighthouse Counseling Center PC, 94176 10th Street,
15 Gold Beach, Oregon 97444. The Notice informed Respondent of the opportunity for a hearing if
16 requested in writing and received within twenty-one (21) days of service of the Notice. The
17 Notice further informed Respondent that if a written request for hearing was not received within
18 this 21-day period, Respondent's right to a hearing shall be considered waived.

19 The Board received a written response from Respondent stating that he does not intend to
20 request a hearing and is willing to accept the imposed discipline by the Board. Respondent is
21 therefore in default.

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1 that Child was “defiant” with him, refused to do her chores and used defiant
2 language and tone with him.

3 6. Step Father also disclosed to Respondent that Step Father had spanked Child on
4 one occasion.

5 7. Respondent then met with Child alone, and Child confirmed that she had been
6 spanked by Step Father and that it scared her.

7 8. Although Respondent noted the spanking in Child’s session notes, he failed to
8 report this suspected abuse to the proper authorities despite the fact the spanking
9 was so hard it bruised Child’s bottom.

10 9. Respondent continued to practice despite personal issues that interfered with his
11 ability to provide services.

12 10. In spring 2012, Child began seeing a licensed psychologist (Psychologist) who
13 specializes in child and family therapy. Beginning in June 2012, Father contacted
14 Respondent by telephone on numerous occasions requesting that Respondent
15 release Child’s counseling records to Child’s Psychologist. Father provided
16 Respondent with a signed release, and had both the Psychologist and Child’s
17 Mother contact Respondent and make the same request, but the documents were
18 not provided.

19 11. When Father was finally able to talk to Respondent on the telephone on June 13,
20 2012, Respondent promised that the documents would be placed in the mail to
21 him shortly, but Respondent never sent the material.

22 12. After waiting two more months for the requested material, Father sent Respondent
23 a letter outlining all of his attempts to contact Respondent and reminding

1 Respondent of his promise to promptly provide the documents. Respondent still
2 failed to provide the requested documents.

3 13. Respondent admitted that Father's complaints were justified, but believed that his
4 conduct was excused because he was under stress in his personal life, so sought to
5 avoid a difficult custody dispute.

6 14. The Notice was served on Respondent on September 30, 2013 by certified and
7 regular mail.

8 15. By letter dated **[insert date]**, Respondent notified the Board that he would not be
9 requesting a hearing and would accept the discipline imposed.

10 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

11 1. Respondent is in default.

12 2. Respondent violated ORS 675.745(1)(e), OAR 833-100-0021(1) & (8), OAR 833-060-
13 0031(1) & (2) and ORS 419B010 when he ignored his professional responsibility to Child, and
14 failed to take care to do no harm or avoid harming Child when he failed to immediately report
15 the suspected abuse of Child to the appropriate authorities.

16 3. Respondent violated ORS 675.745(1)(e) and OAR 833-100-0051(12) when he failed to
17 provide Child's Father with requested counseling records.

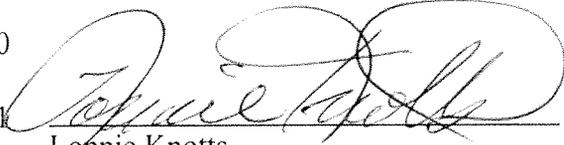
18 4. Respondent violated ORS 675.745(1)(d) and OAR 833-100-0021(7) when he continued
19 to practice when he knew his personal situation was interfering with his ability to provide
20 professional services.

21 5. Respondent violated ORS 675.745(1)(e) and OAR 833-100-0041(1) when he failed to
22 act in accordance with the highest standards of professional integrity and competence when he
23 engaged in the conduct described above.

1 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

2 I hereby certify that on the 16th day of December, 2013, I served the foregoing **Final**
3 **Order by Default Imposing Discipline** by depositing a true copy of the same in a sealed
4 envelope sent by regular mail, addressed as follows:

5
6 Todd Armstrong
7 Lighthouse Counseling Center, PC
8 94176 10th Street
9 Gold Beach OR 97444

10
11 
12 Lonnie Knotts
13 Oregon Board of Licensed Professional
14 Counselors and Therapists

15 cc: Kelly M. Gabliks, Sr. AAG
16 Department of Justice
17 General Counsel/Business Activities Section
18 1162 Court Street NE
19 Salem OR 97310
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