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BEFORE THE DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OF THE STATE OF UTAH

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF)	
LORRAINE F. RUIZ)	STIPULATION AND ORDER
TO PRACTICE AS A)	
SOCIAL SERVICE WORKER)	CASE NO. DOPL 2008- 64
IN THE STATE OF UTAH)	

LORRAINE F. RUIZ (“Respondent”) and the **DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING** of the Department of Commerce of the State of Utah (“Division”) stipulate and agree as follows:

1. Respondent admits the jurisdiction of the Division over Respondent and over the subject matter of this action.
2. Respondent acknowledges that Respondent enters into this Stipulation knowingly and voluntarily.

3. Respondent understands that Respondent has the right to be represented by counsel in this matter and Respondent's signature below signifies that Respondent has either consulted with an attorney or Respondent waives Respondent's right to counsel in this matter.

4. Respondent understands that Respondent is entitled to a hearing before the State of Utah's Social Worker Licensing Board ("Board"), or other Division Presiding Officer, at which time Respondent may present evidence on Respondent's own behalf, call witnesses, and confront adverse witnesses. Respondent acknowledges that by executing this document Respondent hereby waives the right to a hearing and any other rights to which Respondent may be entitled in connection with said hearing.

5. Respondent waives the right to the issuance of a Petition and a Notice of Agency Action in this matter.

6. Respondent acknowledges that this Stipulation and Order, if adopted by the Director of the Division, will be classified as a public document. The Division may release this Stipulation and Order, and will release other information about this disciplinary action against Respondent's license, to other persons and entities.

7. Respondent admits the following facts are true:

- a. Respondent was first licensed as a social service worker in the State of Utah on or about August 20, 1997.
- b. Respondent was employed by the Utah Division of Child and Family Services ("DCFS") for approximately 10 years from 1997 to 2007.
- c. From approximately March 2007 to August 2007 Respondent failed to properly document accurate services provided by her in her role as assigned caseworker in several child abuse cases. Respondent failed to document interviews with victims, interviews with witnesses, and interviews with alleged perpetrators. Respondent failed to document consultation with peer colleagues and/or

supervisor. Respondent failed to include documentation that supported findings of abuse and/or neglect. Respondent also failed to enter correct information in her records regarding the date and time services were provided.

8. Respondent admits that Respondent's conduct described above is unprofessional conduct as defined in Utah Code Ann. § 58-1-501(2)(a) and (b), Utah Administrative Code R156-60a-502(24), and Ethical Standards 3.04(a) and (b) of the Code of Ethics of the National Association of Social Workers, and that said conduct justifies disciplinary action against Respondent's license pursuant to Utah Code Ann. § 58-1-401(2)(a). Respondent agrees that an Order, which constitutes disciplinary action against Respondent's license by the Division pursuant to Utah Administrative Code R156-1-102(7) and Utah Code Ann. § 58-1-401(2), shall be entered in this matter as follows:

- a. Respondent's license shall be publicly reprimanded.
- b. Respondent shall meet with the Board and Division within thirty (30) days of signing of the accompanying Order to discuss this Stipulation and Order.

9. This Stipulation and Order, upon approval by the Director of the Division, shall be the final compromise and settlement of this non-criminal administrative matter. Respondent acknowledges that the Director is not required to accept the terms of this Stipulation and Order and that if the Director does not do so, this Stipulation and the representations contained therein shall be null and void, except that the Division and the Respondent waive any claim of bias or prejudice Respondent might have with regard to the Director by virtue of her having reviewed this Stipulation, and this waiver shall survive such nullification.

10. Respondent agrees to abide by and comply with all applicable federal and state laws, regulations, rules and orders related to the Respondent's licensed practice.

11. This document constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes and cancels any and all prior negotiations, representations, understandings or agreements between the parties regarding the subject of this Stipulation and Order. There are no verbal agreements that modify, interpret, construe or affect this Stipulation.

12. The terms and conditions of this Stipulation and Order become effective immediately upon the approval of this Stipulation and signing of the Order by the Division Director. Respondent must comply with all the terms and conditions of this Stipulation immediately following the Division Director's signing of the Order page of this Stipulation and Order. Respondent shall complete all the terms and conditions contained in the Stipulation and Order in a timely manner. If a time period for completion of a term or condition is not specifically set forth in the Stipulation and Order, Respondent agrees that the time period for completion of that term or condition shall be set by the Board. Failure to complete a term or condition in a timely manner shall constitute a violation of the Stipulation and Order and may subject Respondent to revocation or other sanctions.

13. If Respondent violates any term or condition of this Stipulation and Order, the Division may take action against Respondent, including imposing appropriate sanction, in the manner provided by law. Such sanction may include revocation or suspension of Respondent's license, or other appropriate sanction.

14. Respondent has read each and every paragraph contained in this Stipulation and Order. Respondent understands each and every paragraph contained in this Stipulation and Order. Respondent has no questions about any paragraph or provision contained in this Stipulation and Order.

DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL &
PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

RESPONDENT

BY: *Richard J. Oborn*
RICHARD J. OBORN
Bureau Manager

BY: *Lorraine F. Ruiz*
LORRAINE F. RUIZ

DATE: 4/7/08

DATE: 4.7.08

MARK L. SHURTLEFF
ATTORNEY GENERAL

BY: *Mark L. Shurtleff*
L. MITCHELL JONES
Counsel for the Division

DATE: 7 Apr 2008

ORDER

THE ABOVE STIPULATION, in the matter of **LORRAINE F. RUIZ**, is hereby approved by the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing, and constitutes my Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in this matter. The issuance of this Order is disciplinary action pursuant to Utah Administrative Code R156-1-102(7) and Utah Code Ann. § 58-1-401(2). The terms and conditions of the Stipulation are incorporated herein and constitute my final Order in this case.

DATED this 9 day of April, 2008.

DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL LICENSING


F. DAVID STANLEY
Director

Investigator: Brittany Butsch