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8 **BEFORE THE**
9 **BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES**
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. MF-2012-864

13 **MARIA SANTOS ARRIOLA**
14 **AKA MARIA DA CONCEICAO**
15 **DOSSANTOS**
16 **AKA CONNIE MARIA SANTOS**
17 **AKA CONNIE MARIE CARDOSO**
18 **AKA MARIA CONCEICAO CARDOSO**
19 **AKA MARIA C. SANTOS**
20 **142 E. Lewelling Blvd.**
San Lorenzo, CA 94580

ACCUSATION

Marriage and Family Therapist License No.
MFC 49242

Respondent.

21 Complainant alleges:

22 PARTIES

- 23 1. Kim Madsen (“Complainant”) brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity as
24 the Executive Officer of the Board of Behavioral Sciences, Department of Consumer Affairs.
- 25 2. On or about October 30, 2010, the Board of Behavioral Sciences issued Marriage and
26 Family Therapist License Number MFC 49242 to Maria Santos Arriola, aka Maria Da Conceicao,
27 Dossantos, aka Connie Maria Santos, aka Connie Marie Cardoso, aka Marie Conceicao Cardoso,
28 aka Maria C. Santos (“Respondent”). The Marriage and Family Therapist License was in full

1 force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on May 31,
2 2014, unless renewed.

3 JURISDICTION

4 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Behavioral Sciences (“Board”),
5 Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section
6 references are to the Business and Professions Code (“Code”) unless otherwise indicated.

7 4. Section 4982 of the Code states:

8 "The board may deny a license or registration or may suspend or revoke the license or
9 registration of a licensee or registrant if he or she has been guilty of unprofessional conduct.
10 Unprofessional conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

11 ...

12 "(d) Gross negligence or incompetence in the performance of marriage and family
13 therapy.

14 ...

15 "(i) Intentionally or recklessly causing physical or emotional harm to any client.

16 ...

17 "(k) Engaging in sexual relations with a client, or a former client within two years following
18 termination of therapy, soliciting sexual relations with a client, or committing an act of sexual
19 abuse, or sexual misconduct with a client, or committing an act punishable as a sexually related
20 crime, if that act or solicitation is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of
21 a marriage and family therapist.

22 ...”

23 5. Section 726 of the Code states in relevant part that:

24 “The commission of any act of sexual abuse, misconduct, or relations with a patient, client,
25 or customer constitutes unprofessional conduct and grounds for disciplinary action for any person
26 licensed under this division, under any initiative act referred to in this division and under Chapter
27 17 (commencing with Section 9000) of Division 3.”

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1 and allowing him to use her car; inviting Doe to her home and going to Doe's home; attending a
2 Halloween Party with Doe on October 31, 2011; giving Doe her cell phone number; receiving and
3 making telephone calls to and from Doe; texting personal messages to Doe; and sending Doe a
4 graphic photograph of her genitalia.

5 13. Respondent thereafter threatened Doe and/or his mother to prevent them from
6 revealing the nature of her relationship with Doe.

7 14. Doe suffered emotional harm as a result of his relationship with Respondent which
8 included but was not limited to anxiety and depression.

9 15. The relationship between Doe and Respondent ended on or about December 8, 2011,
10 upon a report to the Alameda County Sheriff's Office.

11 FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

12 (Gross Negligence – Sexual Relationship with a Client)

13 16. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code sections 726 and 4982,
14 subdivision (k), in that she engaged in a sexual relationship with her client John Doe. The facts in
15 support of this cause for discipline are set forth above in paragraphs 9 through 11.

16 SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

17 (Gross Negligence – Dual Relationship with a Client)

18 17. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4982, subdivision (d),
19 in that she engaged in a personal relationship with Doe while he was her client. The facts in
20 support of this cause for discipline are set forth above in paragraphs 9 through 12.

21 THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

22 (Gross Negligence – Threats Made to a Client)

23 18. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4982, subdivision (d),
24 in that she threatened Doe and/or his mother to prevent them from disclosing the nature of her
25 relationship with Doe. The facts in support of this cause for discipline are set forth above in
26 paragraph 13.

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1 FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

2 (Gross Negligence – Emotional Harm)

3 19. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4982, subdivision
4 (i), in that she intentionally and/or recklessly caused emotional harm to Doe. The facts in support
5 of this cause for discipline are set forth above in paragraphs 10 through 14.

6 DISCIPLINARY CONSIDERATIONS

7 20. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondent,
8 Complainant alleges the following aggravating circumstance:

9 a. On November 3, 2011, Respondent received a written warning for violation of
10 Alameda County Medical Center’s professional boundary standards with a client.

11 b. This written warning was related to events on October 18, 2011, involving
12 Respondent giving her dog to a female client. The client took the dog home and was reprimanded
13 by her parents, who ordered that she return it to the Fairmont Program. The client became
14 confused, delusional and paranoid, asking if Respondent had “played a Halloween joke on her.”

15 PRAYER

16 WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged,
17 and that following the hearing, the Board of Behavioral Sciences issue a decision:

18 1. Revoking or suspending Marriage and Family Therapist License Number MFC
19 49242, issued to Maria Santos Arriola, aka Maria Da Conceicao Dossantos, aka Connie Maria
20 Santos, aka Connie Marie Cardoso, aka Marie Conceicao Cardoso, aka Maria C. Santos;

21 2. Ordering Respondent to pay the Board of Behavioral Sciences the reasonable costs of
22 the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section
23 125.3; and

24 ///

25 ///

26 ///

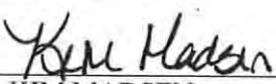
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3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: October 12, 2012



KIM MADSEN
Executive Officer
Board of Behavioral Sciences
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California
Complainant

SF2012402542