
CITATION NUMBER: MF-2009-1071-M
DATE OF ISSUANCE: **November 24, 2009**
NAME: Alison Carlton Camhi
ADDRESS: 30343 Canwood Street, Ste 208A
Agoura Hills, CA 91301

Pursuant to Sections 125.9 and 148 of the Business and Professions Code, and Title 16, California Code of Regulations Section 1886, KIM MADSEN issues this citation in his official capacity as the Acting Executive Officer for the Board of Behavioral Sciences (hereinafter referred to as the "Board").

Registration/Licensing History

The records of the Board reflect that **Alison Carlton Camhi** was issued Marriage and Family Therapist license number **MFC 44370** on **March 7, 2007**. Said license became delinquent due to non-payment of renewal fees on **October 1, 2008**. The Board received renewal payment, which included a delinquency fee, with an incomplete renewal application, on **January 30, 2009**. On **February 10, 2009**, the Board notified licensee by letter detailing the needed information to complete the renewal application. The Board received the completed renewal application on **July 20, 2009**. Said license will expire on **September 30, 2010**, unless renewed.

Citation

A citation containing a fine and Order of Abatement is hereby issued to you in accordance with Title 16, California Code of Regulations Sections 1886, 1886.10, 1886.20, 1886.30, and 1886.40 for the violation(s) described below.

Applicable Statutes and Regulations

Violation of Section **4980(b)** of the Business and Professions Code, which states as follows:

"(b) No person may engage in the practice of marriage and family therapy as defined by Section 4980.02, unless he or she holds a valid license as a marriage and family therapist, or unless he or she is specifically exempted from that requirement, nor may any person advertise himself or herself as performing the services of a marriage, family, child, domestic, or marital consultant, or in any way use these or any similar titles, including the letters "M.F.T." or "M.F.C.C.," or other name, word initial, or symbol in connection with or following his or her name to imply that he or she performs these services without a license as provided by this chapter. Persons licensed under Article 4 (commencing with Section 4996) of Chapter 14 of Division 2, or under Chapter 6.6 (commencing with Section 2900) may engage in such practice or advertise that they practice marriage and family therapy but may not advertise that they hold the marriage and family therapist's license."

Section **4980.02** of the Business and Professions Code states as follows:

"The application of marriage and family therapy principles and methods includes, but is not limited to, the use of applied psychotherapeutic techniques, to enable individuals to mature and grow within marriage and the family, the provision of explanations and interpretations of the psychosexual and psychosocial aspects of relationships, and the use, application, and integration of the coursework and training required by Sections 4980.37, 4980.40, and 4980.41."

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Section **4980.10** of the Business and Professions Code states as follows:

“A person engages in the practice of marriage and family therapy who performs or offers to perform or holds himself or herself out as able to perform this service for remuneration in any form, including donations.”

Violation of Section **4982(e)** of the Business and Professions Code, which states, in pertinent part, that the board may discipline a license for “unprofessional conduct”, which includes:

“Violating, attempting to violate, or conspiring to violate any of the provisions of this chapter or any regulation adopted by the board.”

Cause for Citation

Investigation revealed that you were working in a private practice setting and providing psychotherapy for remuneration from October 1, 2008 through July 20, 2009, without a valid Marriage and Family Therapist license.

On or about April 3, 2009, the Board received a complaint alleging you were working on an expired license. The Board contacted you in writing regarding this issue and asked for written clarification as to the services you provided, the timeframe you provided services, the employment setting in which you were employed, and whether or not you were collecting fees for your services. The Board received a letter from your attorney dated July 15, 2009, which confirmed you were providing psychotherapy in a private practice setting for remuneration between October 1, 2008 and July 20, 2009.

During the Informal Citation Conference held on November 16, 2009, your attorney notified the Board that you never received the February 10, 2009 letter informing you that the renewal you submitted in January was incomplete. Had you received the February letter you would have taken corrective action. Therefore, the Board is recognizing January 30, 2009, as your renewal date. This shows that between October 1, 2008, and January 30, 2009, you provided services while your license was in a delinquent status. As a result, the fine has been reduced.

Based on the facts stated above, it is the Board’s finding that you violated Business and Professions Code Sections 4980(b), 4980.02, 4980.10, and 4982(e).

Cause exists for the Board to take enforcement action. Accordingly, a citation containing an Order of Abatement and a fine has been ordered for the aforementioned violation of the Business and Professions Code.

Orders

(1) Order of Abatement:

The Board of Behavioral Sciences orders you to:

1. Obey all laws governing your license as a Marriage and Family Therapist.

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Within 30 days from the date of this citation, but no later than **December 24, 2009**, you **must** submit proof that you have brought yourself into compliance with the order imposed by the Board of Behavioral Sciences as stated above. Proof of compliance should be sent to the Board to the attention of the Enforcement Unit at 1625 North Market Blvd., Suite S200, Sacramento, CA 95834.

(2) Order to Pay Administrative Fine:

In addition, you must pay an administrative penalty (fine) in the amount of **\$1000.00**, within thirty (30) days from the date this citation was served, but no later than **December 24, 2009**. In assessing this penalty, the Board considered that you had performed psychotherapeutic services for remuneration in a private practice on an expired Marriage and Family Therapist license for nearly 4 months.

Payment of the administrative penalty should be made to the Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS), 1625 North Market Blvd., Suite S200, Sacramento, CA 95834. Please note your citation number on the check or money order.

Pursuant to the enclosed copy of Title 16, California Code of Regulations section 1886.70, you may appeal this citation or any portion thereof, by requesting a formal Administrative Hearing. The request for a formal Administrative Hearing must be in writing and be submitted to the Board within thirty (30) calendar days. (Please refer to the enclosed Instructions to Cited Person for additional appeal information.)

You may withdraw a Request for Administrative Hearing anytime prior to the date of the hearing.

Failure to request a formal Administrative Hearing in a timely manner will waive your right to contest this citation.

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.9, payment of the fine does not constitute an admission of the violation alleged. Further, where a fine is paid to satisfy an assessment based on the finding of a violation, payment of the fine shall be represented as satisfactory resolution of the matter for purposes of public disclosure.

IF YOU NEITHER PAY THE FINE NOR REQUEST AN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING WITHIN THE ALLOTTED TIME FRAME, YOUR LICENSE WILL NOT BE RENEWED FOR THE NEXT RENEWAL PERIOD UNTIL THE FINE IS PAID.

Original Signed By

KIM MADSEN
Acting Executive Officer

Date: November 24, 2009

- Attachments: Statement of Rights
Section 125.9, Business and Professions Code
Section 1886.70, Title 16, California Code of Regulations
Notice of Appeal
Acknowledgment Receipt of Citation form