

**BEFORE THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO
BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS**

IN THE MATTER OF:

DARLENE BARELA
License No. M-08868

Respondent.

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Case No.: SW-14-01-02

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the State of New Mexico Board of Social Work Examiners (hereafter the "Board") has issued a Notice of Contemplated Action (hereafter "NCA") in this matter to Respondent, Darlene Barela; and

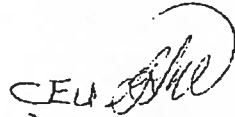
WHEREAS, the parties wish to resolve this matter without the time and expense of a formal hearing.

IT IS AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Social Work Practice Act ("Act"), NMSA 1978, §§ 61-31-1 *et seq.*, and the Rules of the Board ("Rules"), 16.63.1 NMAC *et seq.* and thereby has the power to act allowed by, and in accordance with, the Uniform Licensing Act.
 2. The Respondent holds a license under the Social Work Practice Act, Section 61-31-1 *et seq.*, NMSA 1978, and is subject to the jurisdiction of the Board.
 3. This Settlement Agreement ("Agreement") is subject to the approval of the Board. If the Board rejects this Agreement, this matter will be heard at a later time, date, and place to be set by the Board; any statements made by any party herein in negotiation or furtherance of the Agreement may not be used at a hearing before
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the Board unless otherwise admissible into evidence through a source independent of the settlement negotiations.

4. In order for the Board to have adequate time to consider this Agreement, Respondent waives the right to have this matter heard and decided within the time frame set by the Uniform Licensing Act, NMSA 1978, §§ 61-1-1 through -31.
5. In order resolve this matter, the Respondent does not contest the Board's assertion of the allegations contained in the NCA including allegations of violating NMSA 61-31-4. Respondent acknowledges that she is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 61-31-17 and NMSA 1978, § 61-1-3.2 and does not contest that she is subject to discipline for the actions described in the NCA.
6. **Action:** Respondent agrees that within six (6) months of that last signature date appearing on this Agreement, she will successfully complete six (6) hours of ~~CLE~~ ^{CLE CEU} Ethics credits. These six (6) hours of ethics credits shall be in addition to the credits required for maintenance of licensure. The credits must be for courses approved by the Board of Social Work for the satisfaction of the ethics course requirement. In addition, Respondent shall submit documentation verifying the additional continuing education units to the satisfaction of the Board within six (6) months of the last dated signature appearing on this Agreement. Respondent agrees that within 45 days of the date of the last signature on the Agreement, she will contact the Board to obtain approval on a course.
7. Respondent has researched possible CLE coursework that may satisfy the requirements of this settlement agreement. She will contact the Board to request approval to use a class she has selected in order to satisfy the settlement

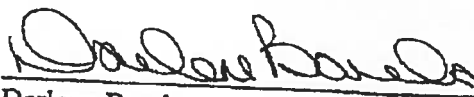


agreement ~~CLE~~ requirement. However, Respondent understands and acknowledges that this agreement does not require the Board to approve a particular course for purposes of fulfilling this agreement.

8. Respondent understands and acknowledges that any violation(s) by Respondent of this Settlement Agreement will result in the filing of an Order to Show Cause as to why the Board should not find the Respondent in violation of the agreement and impose lawful sanctions including but not limited to the imposition of the remainder of the civil penalty, additional fines or penalties and/or take any other disciplinary action described in the Uniform Licensing Act.
9. This Agreement is a settlement of Board case number SW 14-01-02, and only the specific allegations contained therein. The board reserves the right to initiate proceedings for any other violations of the Social Work Practice Act or the Rules and Regulations of the Board adopted pursuant to that act.
10. The NCA and this Agreement are public records within the meaning of the Inspection of Public Records Act, NMSA 1978, § 14-2-6(E). Other data, communications, and information acquired by the Board relating to this matter shall be public as provided by the Social Work Practice Act and promulgated Board regulations.
11. Respondent has read this entire agreement and fully understands each provision. Her signature below acknowledges that she knowingly, intelligently and freely agrees with the terms and conditions of agreement.

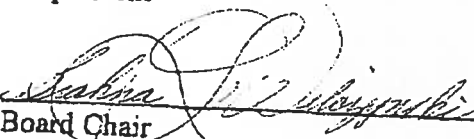
12. This Agreement constitutes a full and complete resolution of all claims and defenses that either party did raise or should have raised in this matter.

IT IS SO STIPULATED AND AGREED:




Darlene Barela
Respondent

9/12/16
Date



Sabina Wilczynski
Board Chair

9/14/16
Date



Julia White
Administrative Prosecutor

9/13/16
Date