Before the Board of Mental Health Practice Concord, New Hampshire 03301

In the Matter of: **Paul Donahue, LCMHC License No.: 213** (Misconduct Allegations)

VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF LICENSE

Recognizing that professional misconduct allegations are now pending against me before the Board of Mental Health Practice ("Board"), I, Paul Donahue, LCMHC, hereby agree to a voluntary surrender of my New Hampshire license (#213), effective on the date that I sign this *Voluntary Surrender of License*.

By voluntarily surrendering my license, I understand that:

- 1. I relinquish all rights and privileges to practice mental health counseling in the State of New Hampshire, effective as of the date that I sign this document.
- 2. I admit that this *Voluntary Surrender of License* has occurred in settlement of pending misconduct allegations that I: (a) failed to memorialize in writing the treating relationship for a couple when starting to see them for couple's counseling; (b) failed to conduct a formal intake with the couple, to include not having them complete standard intake forms or sign informed consent forms; (c) did not provide sufficient information to the couple regarding the therapeutic process; (d) failed to review the right to confidentiality and any potential limitations on autonomy with the couple; (e) failed to obtain written consent before disclosing personal information from one client to the other in

the couple's therapy relationship; (f) did not specify with the couple what information would be shared and how the sharing of information would occur; (g) kept incomplete and inaccurate records of counseling sessions; (h) intentionally left out relevant information disclosed during sessions; (i) failed to document phone calls as well as the initial joint session and at least one individual session with one of the clients; (j) failed to maintain objectivity in the couple's counseling relationship; (k) provided false information during the investigation regarding record keeping practices and whether one of the clients reported being afraid of the other client; and (l) shared information from one client with the other client that could have put the disclosing client in danger given the temper, anger, and physical abuse allegations that she previously shared during her individual sessions.

- I recognize that the fact of my Voluntary Surrender of License will be reported by the Board as a disciplinary action.
- 4. I understand that this *Voluntary Surrender of License* shall be distributed to all relevant licensing authorities and professional societies in the same manner as a final decision making specific finding of professional misconduct.
- I understand that this Voluntary Surrender of License shall become a permanent part of my file, and will be maintained by the Board as a public document.
- 6. I understand that should I again seek licensure by this Board, I must meet, and shall bear the burden of proving compliance with, all of the standards and

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prerequisites then required by the Board for new applicants, including all professional character requirements.

- 7. I further understand that the pending misconduct allegations shall be resolved in any future licensure application submitted to the Board and that such allegations may form the basis for the Board to deny any such application. I therefore specifically waive any statute of limitations or laches defense, which might then be available as to these misconduct allegations.
- 8. I voluntarily submit this *Voluntary Surrender of License* to the Board and state that no promises or representations have been made to me other than those terms and conditions expressly stated herein.
- 9. I have had the opportunity to seek and obtain the advice of an attorney of my choosing in connection with my decision to sign this *Voluntary Surrender of License*.
- 10. I am not under the influence of any substance that would impair my judgment at the time I sign this *Voluntary Surrender of License*.

I hereby affix my signature on this $\underline{16}$ day of March, 2021.

Paul Donahue, LCMHC

Jason Major, Esq. Counsel for Paul Donahue, LCMHC N.H. Board of Mental Health Practice In the Matter of Paul Donahue, LCMHC Voluntary Surrender of License

ACCEPTED BY THE N.H. BOARD OF MENTAL HEALTH PRACTICE on this

day of <u>March</u>, 2021.

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(Signature) Authorized Representative of the N.H. Board of Mental Health Practice