1	BEFORE THE BOARD OF LICENSED			
2	PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS AND THERAPISTS FOR THE STATE OF OREGON			
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4	In the Matter of:	Agency Case No. 2010-014		
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6	ELIZABETH F. WALLACE, LPC,	FINAL ORDER BY DEFAULT IMPOSING DISCIPLINE AND COSTS		
7	Respondent.			
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9	HISTORY OF THE CASE			
10	On October 6, 2010, the Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists			
11	(Board) issued a Notice of Intent to Impose Discipline and Right to Request Hearing (Notice)			
12	stating that the Board intended to impose discipline on Elizabeth F. Wallace, LPC (Respondent)			
13	for various violations of the Code of Ethics.			
14	The Notice was served on Respondent by regular and certified U.S. Mail addressed to			
15	Respondent at Respondent's last known address – 9670 SW Beaverton-Hillsdale Hwy, Beaverton,			
16	Oregon 97005 on October 7, 2010. The Notice informed Respondent of her opportunity for a hearing it			
17	requested in writing and received within twenty-one (21) days of service of the Notice. The Notice also			
18	informed Respondent that if a written request for a hearing is not received within the 21-day period,			
19	Respondent's right to a hearing shall be considered waived. More than 21 days have passed, and			
20	Respondent has failed to request a hearing. Respondent is therefore in default. The Notice further			
21	informed Respondent that in the event the Board issues a Final Order by Default, the Board designates is			
22	file on this matter for purposes of proving a prima facie case.			
23	NOW, THEREFORE, after considerat	ion of the records and files of the Board relating to this		
	matter, including all correspondences and other	material received from Respondent, the Board enters the		
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1 following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Opinion and Order. 2 FINDINGS OF FACT 1. 3 The Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists (Board) is the state agency responsible for licensing, regulating and disciplining licensed professional 4 5 counselors, licensed marriage and family therapists and interns. 2. 6 Respondent is licensed as a Professional Counselor (LPC). 3. 7 The Board has adopted a Code of Ethics (Code) that applies to all licensees. See 8 OAR 833, Division 100. 9 4. In January 2010, Minor Child (MC) was hospitalized after a suicide attempt. 10 Conditions of release included the MC must begin counseling with a trained professional. 11 MC's Mother (Mother) made an appointment for MC to begin counseling with 12 Respondent. 5. 13 During the first session, which occurred on January 26, 2010, Respondent 14 interviewed MC to assess treatment needs. At that time, Respondent learned that MC had 15 been subject to "physical" discipline by Mother. Respondent did not report the suspected 16 abuse to the proper authorities. Instead, Respondent consulted with her supervisor about 17 the suspected abuse, who advised that she tell Mother "that she cannot use belt for 18 discipline and consider reporting if continues." 19 6. The Notice was served on Respondent by certified and regular mail on October 7, 20 2010. The Notice provided that if Respondent failed to request a hearing, the Board may 21 issue a Final Order by Default and impose discipline and costs. 22 7.

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Respondent has never requested a hearing.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1	1.	Respondent is in default.	
2	2.	Respondent violated ORS 675.745(1)(e), OAR 833-100-0041(1), OAR 833-100-	
3		0061(1), OAR 833-100-0021(8) and ORS 419B.010 when she failed to act in	
4		accordance with the highest standards of professional integrity and competence by	
5		not immediately reporting suspected child abuse to the appropriate authorities;	
6		and	
7	3.	Respondent violated ORS 675.745(1)(e), OAR 833-100-0021(1), OAR 833-100-	
8		0031(1) & (2), and ORS 419B.010 when she failed to satisfy her professional	
9		responsibilities to her client by not immediately reporting suspected child abuse to	
10		the appropriate authorities.	
11		<u>OPINION</u>	
12	Licensed professional counselors are included in the group of professionals required by		
13	law to report any suspected child abuse. As the Oregon Legislature observed in adopting this		
14	requirement:		
15		for the purpose of facilitating the use of protective social services	
16		to prevent further abuse, safeguard and enhance the welfare of	
17		abused children, and preserve family life * * * it is necessary and	
18		in the public interest to require mandatory reports and	
19		investigations of abuse of children * * *.	
20	ORS 419B.007.		
21	The Board takes this responsibility seriously, and the Code of Conduct specifically		
22	provides that licensees must comply with all applicable laws, "including, but not limited to, the		
23	reporting of	abuse of children or vulnerable adults" OAR 833-100-0021(8) (emphasis added).	

1	The Board does take note of the fact Respondent consulted with her supervisor about the		
2	suspected abuse. However, as a licensee it was Respondent's responsibility to know the law		
3	regarding her child abuse reporting obligations, which is why discipline must be imposed.		
4			
5		FINAL ORDER	
6	NOV	V THEREFORE, the Board hereby ORDERS that:	
7	1.	Respondent Elizabeth F. Wallace, LPC shall receive a written reprimand;	
8	2.	Respondent shall be required to complete a course in child abuse mandatory	
9		reporting requirements within one (1) year from the date of this Order, no hours	
10		of which may be used to satisfy any continuing education requirements; and	
11	3.	Licensee is ASSESSED the Board's costs associated with this disciplinary	
12		process, including attorney fees, in the amount of \$506.90, pursuant to ORS	
13		675.745(7).	
14	DATED AND ISSUED this day of December, 2010.		
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16		Oregon Board of Licensed Professional	
17		Counselors and Therapists	
18		By Ryan Melton, Chair	
19		Ryan Melton, Chair	
20		NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL	
21	You are entitled to judicial review of this Final Order by Default. You may request judicial review by filing a petition for review with the Oregon Court of Appeals in Salem, Oregon within sixty (60) days from service of this Final Order. Judicial review is pursuant to the		
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23	provisions of	f ORS 183.482.	

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