

**CONSENT AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
JULIA MARIE THOMAS  
AND  
OHIO SPEECH AND HEARING PROFESSIONALS BOARD**

This CONSENT AGREEMENT is entered into by and between JULIA MARIE THOMAS ("Ms. Thomas"), and the OHIO SPEECH AND HEARING PROFESSIONALS BOARD (the "Board"), the state agency charged with enforcing Chapters 4744, 4747, 4753 of the Ohio Revised Code and all rules promulgated thereunder.

Ms. Thomas voluntarily, knowingly, and without duress, enters into this CONSENT AGREEMENT after being fully informed of her rights under Chapter 119 of the Ohio Revised Code, including the right to representation by counsel and the right to a formal adjudication hearing on the issues, which are the subject of this CONSENT AGREEMENT.

This CONSENT AGREEMENT constitutes the entire agreement and understanding between the Parties hereto, and shall supercede all prior agreements, oral or written representations, and all communications, if any, which shall be considered merged herein and shall not survive.

WHEREAS, in consideration of the mutual promises contained herein, the parties hereby agree as follows:

1. The Board is empowered by Chapters 4744 and 4753 of the Ohio Revised Code and the rules promulgated thereunder to discipline a speech-language for violations of these chapters and rules.
2. The Board enters into this CONSENT AGREEMENT in lieu of further formal proceedings. The Board expressly reserves the right to institute formal proceedings based upon violations of Chapters 4744 and 4753 of the Ohio Revised Code and rules promulgated thereunder that are not the subject of this CONSENT AGREEMENT.
3. For the purpose of settlement and for no other purpose, Ms. Thomas admits the following:
  - a) She has been licensed as a Speech-Language Pathologist, since August 28, 2024, License No. SP.16132.
  - b) She renewed her speech-language pathology license on February 11, 2025 after the December 31, 2024 renewal deadline.
  - c) She practiced without a valid license and provided speech therapy services for 26 days when her license was expired from January 1, 2025 through February 22, 2025. During this period of unlicensed practice her employer billed patients and made billing adjustments.
  - d) This was her first renewal.

- e) This is her first offense.
4. For the purpose of settlement, Ms. Thomas acknowledges that the conduct stated in Paragraph 3, above, constitutes a violation of the following statutes and administrative rules:
- a) **Ohio Revised Code (ORC) §4753.02** entitled “Unauthorized Practice,” which states, No person shall practice, offer to practice, or aid and abet the practice of the profession of speech-language pathology or audiology, or use in connection with the person's name, or otherwise assume, use, or advertise any title or description tending to convey the impression that the person is a speech-language pathologist or audiologist unless the person is licensed or permitted under this chapter.
  - b) ORC §4753.09 entitled “License Renewal,” which states in pertinent part, "A license issued by the state speech and hearing professionals board shall be renewed biennially in accordance with the standard renewal procedure contained in Chapter 4745. of the Revised Code."
  - c) ORC §4753.10, entitled “Disciplinary Actions,” and stating at Paragraph (A)(13), “Violating this chapter or any lawful order given or rule adopted by the board.”
  - d) **Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 4753-3-10**, entitled “Exempt Practice,” and stating at Paragraph (A), “All persons licensed by this board, including those licensed by waiver pursuant to division (D) of section 4753.08 of the Revised Code, shall meet all requirements for license renewal in accordance with agency 4753 of the OAC;” and
  - e) OAC 4753-3-10 at Paragraph (B) which states in pertinent part, “Any practice after expiration of the license is a violation of section 4753.02 of the Revised Code and shall be reported to the employer of the applicant when applicable.”
  - f) OAC 4753-9, entitled “Code of Ethics,” and it states at Paragraph (B)(9), “Licensees shall hold tantamount the health and welfare of person(s) served or participants in research and licensees shall subscribe to these principles and the code of ethics adopted by the board and agree to abide by the rules of the board and Chapters 4744. and 4753. of the Revised Code”; and
  - g) OAC 4753-9, at Paragraph (C)(1), which states: “Fundamental rules considered essential. Violation of the code of ethics shall be considered unprofessional conduct, (a) Licensees shall maintain professional behavior, (e) Licensees shall maintain a professional relationship with the board, (i) Licensees shall conduct their practice according to Chapters 4744. and 4753. of the Revised Code and agencies 4744 and 4753 of the Administrative Code.”

5. Ms. Thomas wishes to settle this matter in lieu of a hearing pursuant to Ohio Revised Code, Chapter 119.

In consideration of the mutual covenants set forth herein, solely for the purpose of settlement of this matter before the Board, Ms. Thomas hereby agrees that the Board may impose the following terms and conditions:

A. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 1) Ms. Thomas is hereby REPRIMANDED.
- 2) Ms. Thomas shall complete an additional two hours of continuing education in the area of ethics. Proof of these two hours shall be submitted to the Board office on or before 90 days from the effective date of this CONSENT AGREEMENT. The effective date is defined in Paragraph P, below. The two additional hours of continuing education shall not be applied towards the 20 hours required for the current licensure biennium, for renewal.
- 3) Ms. Thomas shall successfully complete and pass the Board's jurisprudence examination within 90 days from the effective date of this CONSENT AGREEMENT. The effective date is defined in Paragraph P, below.
- 4) Ms. Thomas shall comply with Chapters 4744 and 4753 of the Ohio Revised Code and all other federal and state statutes and rules governing the practice of speech-language pathology.

B. If, in the discretion of the Board, Ms. Thomas violates or does not comply with the TERMS AND CONDITIONS of this CONSENT AGREEMENT in any manner, the Board, after giving notice and the opportunity to be heard, may institute whatever disciplinary action it deems appropriate as provided by Chapters 4744 and 4753 of the Ohio Revised Code. Any administrative action initiated by the Board based on an alleged or admitted violation of this CONSENT AGREEMENT shall comply with the Administrative Procedures Act, Chapter 119 of the Ohio Revised Code.

C. In exchange for Ms. Thomas's compliance with the TERMS AND CONDITIONS set forth in this CONSENT AGREEMENT, the Board agrees not to proceed further with any disciplinary action against Ms. Thomas for the conduct set forth in Paragraph 3, above.

D. This CONSENT AGREEMENT shall not in any way or manner limit or affect the authority of the Board to proceed against Ms. Thomas by initiating a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing or by other appropriate means on the basis of any act, conduct, or admission of Ms. Thomas justifying disciplinary action, which occurred before or after the date of this CONSENT AGREEMENT and that is not related to the specific facts and circumstances contained herein.

E. By her signature on this CONSENT AGREEMENT, Ms. Thomas agrees that in the event the Board, in its discretion, does not approve this CONSENT AGREEMENT, this

settlement offer is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value and shall not be relied upon or introduced in any disciplinary action or appeal by either party to this agreement.

- F. Ms. Thomas waives any and all claims or causes of action she may have against the State of Ohio, the Board, and its members, officers, employees and/or agents of either, arising out of matters which are the subject of this CONSENT AGREEMENT.
- G. Ms. Thomas hereby releases the Board, its members, officers, employees, representatives and/or agents jointly and severally from any and all liability arising from the matters, which are the subject of this CONSENT AGREEMENT.
- H. Ms. Thomas waives all her rights under Chapter 119 of the Ohio Revised Code as they relate to matters which are the subject of this CONSENT AGREEMENT.
- I. Ms. Thomas agrees that any breach of this CONSENT AGREEMENT shall be deemed to be a violation of a lawful order of the Board, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 4753.10(A)(13).
- J. This CONSENT AGREEMENT shall be reflected in the Minutes of a regularly scheduled Board Meeting, and as a Formal Action recorded on the license history of Ms. Thomas, SP.16132, originally issued on August 28, 2024.
- K. This CONSENT AGREEMENT shall be considered a public record as that term is used in Section 149.43 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- L. For purposes of this CONSENT AGREEMENT, formal notification consists of written notice to the following: (1) Ohio licensees receiving any newsletter issued by the Board; (2) individuals/organizations who have requested formal notification of Board actions; and (3) the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB), and/or any reporting required by the federal legislation creating NPDB or any similar state or federal legislation. Further, Ms. Thomas agrees to cooperate with the Board in providing any information required for the Board to complete such a mandated report within the required time period(s).
- M. Ms. Thomas agrees that the Board may release her social security number to organizations that are legally required to request it for tracking or monitoring purposes. Ms. Thomas acknowledges that by signing this CONSENT AGREEMENT she knowingly and voluntarily waives any expectation of privacy or constitutional privacy interests that she may have in maintaining the confidentiality of her social security number as regards such entities. Ms. Thomas understands and does not contest that the Board is required to collect and report her social security number pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Section 1320a-7e(b), 5 U.S.C. Section 552a, and 45 C.F.R. pt 61 for compliance with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' NPDB.
- N. This CONSENT AGREEMENT is not an adjudication order within the meaning of Section 119.01(D) of the Ohio Revised Code.
- O. This CONSENT AGREEMENT may be modified, amended or terminated only by written instrument executed by the Parties to this CONSENT AGREEMENT.

- P. This CONSENT AGREEMENT shall be effective upon the date executed by the Board's President.
- Q. Ms. Thomas acknowledges that she had an opportunity to review this CONSENT AGREEMENT with legal counsel of her choosing.
- R. This CONSENT AGREEMENT may be executed in counterparts by scanned or fax signature pages, with each counterpart, scanned, fax or electronic signature having the same force and effect as an original. All executed counterparts and each of them shall be deemed to be one and the same instrument.

Julia Marie Thomas  
 Julia Marie Thomas  
 SP.16132

Tammy H. Brown  
 Tammy H. Brown, Audiologist, Board  
 President, Ohio Speech and Hearing  
 Professionals Board

Date: 6/75/2025

Date: July 7, 2025

None  
 None  
 Counsel for Ms. Thomas

Crystal Richie  
 Crystal Richie  
 Principal Assistant Attorney General  
 Counsel for the Ohio Speech and  
 Hearing Professionals Board

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: July 7, 2025