

**STATE COMMITTEE OF PSYCHOLOGISTS  
STATE OF MISSOURI**

|                                  |   |                        |
|----------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| In the matter of the license of: | ) |                        |
|                                  | ) | License Number 943     |
| <b>THOMAS DeVOL,</b>             | ) |                        |
|                                  | ) | AHC Case No. 02-0007PS |
| Respondent.                      | ) |                        |

**FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS  
OF LAW, AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

The Administrative Hearing Commission, in a decision dated November 7, 2005, found cause for the State Committee of Psychologists to discipline the psychology license of Thomas DeVol. The Committee convened a hearing on March 10, 2006, to determine what discipline, if any, should be imposed.

DeVol appeared personally and with his attorney, Devon Sherwood. The Committee was represented by Assistant Attorney General Earl Kraus. Division of Professional Registration Legal Counsel David Barrett served as legal advisor to the Committee. Evidence was adduced, an exhibit was received, and the matter was taken under advisement. The Committee now enters its findings of fact, conclusions of law, and disciplinary order in this matter:

**Findings of Fact**

1. The State Committee of Psychologists is an agency of the State of Missouri created and established pursuant to § 337.050 RSMo. for the purpose of executing and enforcing the provisions of §§ 337.010-.090 RSMo.

2. Thomas DeVol is licensed by the Committee as a psychologist, license number 943. The license is current and active.

3. The Administrative Hearing Commission's decision November 7, 2005, is incorporated herein by reference as though fully set out. Generally, the Commission found that DeVol is subject to discipline for three broad categories of violations: A) violations of professional standards; B) acts of incompetence, misconduct and gross negligence; and, C) violations of professional trusts or confidences.

#### **Conclusions of Law**

4. The Committee has jurisdiction in this proceeding pursuant to § 337.035.3 RSMo. to determine the appropriate discipline to be imposed on DeVol's license

#### **Decisions and Orders**

The Administrative Hearing Commission's decision in this case is 57 pages long, and finds cause to discipline for more than 60 discrete violations of the statutes and the rules governing the practice of psychology. The Committee has decided to follow the organization used by the Commission in its conclusions of law in rendering the disciplinary decision, and address the violations in discrete groups distinguished by the statute or rule that the Commission found DeVol

violated. Each of the discrete groups was considered separately by the Committee and the disciplinary decision for each group was reached independently.

#### A. Violations of Professional Standards

##### Exploiting Professional Relationships

The State Committee of Psychologists, for the violations found and classified by the Administrative Hearing Commission as “Exploiting Professional Relationships,” determines that the license of Thomas DeVol to practice psychology should be and is hereby **REVOKED**.

##### Providing Unnecessary Service

The State Committee of Psychologists, for the violations found and classified by the Administrative Hearing Commission as “Providing Unnecessary Service,” determines that the license of Thomas DeVol to practice psychology should be and is hereby **REVOKED**.

##### Clients’ Freedom of Choice

The State Committee of Psychologists, for the violations found and classified by the Administrative Hearing Commission as “Clients’ Freedom of Choice,” determines that the license of Thomas DeVol to practice psychology should be and is hereby **REVOKED**.

Unclear Cost Information

The State Committee of Psychologists, for the violations found and classified by the Administrative Hearing Commission as “Unclear Cost Information,” determines that the license of Thomas DeVol to practice psychology should be and is hereby **REVOKED**.

Excessive Fees

The State Committee of Psychologists, for the violations found and classified by the Administrative Hearing Commission as “Excessive Fees,” determines that the license of Thomas DeVol to practice psychology should be and is hereby **REVOKED**.

Exploiting Professional Relationships

The State Committee of Psychologists, for the violations found and classified by the Administrative Hearing Commission as “Exploiting Professional Relationships,” determines that the license of Thomas DeVol to practice psychology should be and is hereby **REVOKED**.

Improper Financial Arrangements

The State Committee of Psychologists, for the violations found and classified by the Administrative Hearing Commission as “Improper Financial

Arrangements,” determines that the license of Thomas DeVol to practice psychology should be and is hereby **REVOKED**.

Safeguarding Confidential Information

The State Committee of Psychologists, for the violations found and classified by the Administrative Hearing Commission as “Safeguarding Confidential Information,” determines that the license of Thomas DeVol to practice psychology should be and is hereby **REVOKED**.

Competency in Testing

The State Committee of Psychologists, for the violations found and classified by the Administrative Hearing Commission as “Competent Testing,” determines that the license of Thomas DeVol to practice psychology should be and is hereby **REVOKED**.

B. Acts of Incompetence, Misconduct and Gross Negligence

Incompetence

The State Committee of Psychologists, for the violations found and classified by the Administrative Hearing Commission as incompetence under § 337.035.2(5) RSMo., determines that the license of Thomas DeVol to practice psychology should be and is hereby **REVOKED**.

Misconduct

The State Committee of Psychologists, for the violations found and classified by the Administrative Hearing Commission as misconduct under § 337.035.2(5) RSMo., determines that the license of Thomas DeVol to practice psychology should be and is hereby **REVOKED**.

Gross Negligence

The State Committee of Psychologists, for the violations found and classified by the Administrative Hearing Commission as gross negligence under § 337.035.2(5) RSMo., determines that the license of Thomas DeVol to practice psychology should be and is hereby **REVOKED**.

C. Violations of Professional Trusts or Confidences

The State Committee of Psychologists, for the violations found and classified by the Administrative Hearing Commission as violations of professional trust or confidence under § 337.035.2(13) RSMo., determines that the license of Thomas DeVol to practice psychology should be and is hereby **REVOKED**.

Further Orders

The State Committee of Psychologists, having determined that the license to practice psychology of Thomas DeVol should be revoked, directs DeVol to immediately return all indicia of licensure to the Committee.

The Committee will maintain this Order as an open and public record of the Committee as provided in Chapters 337, 610, and 620, RSMo.

Entered this 22nd day of March, 2006.

**STATE COMMITTEE OF PSYCHOLOGISTS**



*Pamela Groose*

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Pamela Groose  
Executive Director