

IN THE MATTER OF
CHRISTINA ABEL-RIGNEY

License Number: 03276

Case Number AHSM-10-2025

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BEFORE THE MARYLAND
BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR
AUDIOLOGISTS, HEARING
AID DISPENSERS, SPEECH
LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS
& MUSIC THERAPISTS

CONSENT ORDER OF REPRIMAND AND FINE

On or about June 4, 2025, the Maryland Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech-Language Pathologists & Music Therapists (the “Board”) received information regarding the speech-language pathology practice of Christina Abel-Rigney (the “Respondent”), license number 03276. The Board referred the matter to its Disciplinary Committee for investigation and a possible resolution. The Respondent and the Board subsequently agreed to the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order in an effort to reach a resolution of the case prior to the issuance of formal charges for violations of the Maryland Audiology, Hearing Aid Dispensing, Speech-Language Pathology, and Music Therapy Act (the “Act”), Md. Code Annotated, Health Occupations Article (“Health Occ.”), §2-101 *et seq.* and the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR), Chapter 10, Subchapter 41.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Board finds that:

1. The Board originally issued the Respondent a license to practice Speech-Language Pathology on October 17, 1996.
2. The Respondent’s license to practice Speech-Language Pathology expired on May 31, 2023.

3. The Respondent failed to renew her license prior to its expiration in May 2023 and failed to renew her license prior to the end of the Board's 30 day grace period for late renewals ending on June 30, 2023. , 2023.

4. The Respondent submitted an application for reinstatement on or about June 4, 2025, which verified that she treated patients between June 1, 2023 and May 31, 2025, while her license was expired.

5. The Respondent's license to practice speech-language pathology was subsequently reinstated with an expiration date of May 31, 2027.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing findings of fact, the Board concludes that the Respondent is subject to discipline for violations of :

Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 2-314:

(11) Violates any lawful order given or regulation adopted by the the Board;

(12) Violates any provision of this title[.]

Md. Code. Ann. Health Occ. §2-301(a)(1) states that:

(a)(1) Except as otherwise provided in this title, an individual **shall** be licensed by the Board before the individual may practice audiology, hearing aid dispensing, or speech-language pathology, or assist in the practice of speech-language pathology in this State. (*emphasis added*).

COMAR 10.41.03.05(C) states that:

A licensee who has failed to renew a license to practice in this State by June 30 the year in which the license is due to be renewed is prohibited from practicing in this State.

ORDER

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is hereby:

ORDERED that the license of the Respondent to practice as a speech-language pathologist in the State of Maryland, Lic. No. 03276, is hereby **REPRIMANDED**; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent's license, Lic. No. 03276, will be placed on **PROBATION** for a period of **SIX (6) MONTHS** subject to the following condition:

1. No later than **ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY (180) DAYS** of the effective date of this Consent Order, the Respondent shall pay to the Board a monetary fine of **ONE THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,500.00)** in full by money order or cashier's check made payable to the Board and delivered personally or by certified mail to the Board within **ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY (180) DAYS** of the effective date of this Consent Order. Failure to pay this monetary fine in full to the Board within **ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY (180) DAYS** of the effective date of this Consent Order shall constitute a violation of this Consent Order; and it is further

ORDERED that at the conclusion of the **SIX (6) MONTH** probationary period, the Respondent may petition the Board for termination of her probation. When ruling on the Respondent's petition to terminate probation, the Board shall review whether she has fulfilled the terms and conditions of the Consent Order, including the payment of fines contained in this Order, and whether there are any pending complaints against her; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent shall comply with and practice within all statutes and regulations governing the practice of hearing aid dispensing in the State of Maryland; and it is further,

ORDERED that if the Respondent violates any of the terms and conditions of this Consent Order, the Board, in its discretion, after notice and an opportunity for an evidentiary

hearing before the Board, if there is a genuine dispute as to the material fact(s), or an opportunity for a show cause hearing before the Board, may impose any other disciplinary sanction which the Board may have imposed in this case under Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 2-314 including a probation, suspension, revocation, and/or additional monetary fine, said violation being proven by a preponderance of the evidence; and it is further

ORDERED that this is a Final Decision and Order of the Board and, as such, is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** pursuant to Maryland Code Ann., General Provisions § 4-101 *et seq.*

3/20/26

Date



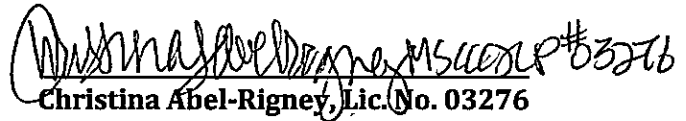
Dr. Jana Brown, AuD., Chair
Maryland Board of Examiners for Audiologists,
Hearing Aid Examiner, and Speech-Language Pathologists

CONSENT

By this Consent, I acknowledge that I have read this Consent Order in its entirety and I hereby admit the truth of the Findings of Fact, and accept and submit to the foregoing Consent Order and its conditions. I acknowledge the validity of this Consent Order as if entered into after the conclusion of a formal evidentiary hearing in which I would have had the right to legal counsel authorized to practice law in Maryland, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to request subpoenas for witnesses, to call witnesses on my own behalf, to introduce testimony and evidence on my own behalf, and to all other substantive and procedural protections provided by law. I waive these rights, as well as any appeal rights under Maryland Code Annotated, State Government Article § 10-222.

I sign this Consent Order after having an opportunity to consult with an attorney, voluntarily and without reservation, and I fully understand and comprehend the language, meaning, terms, and effect of this Consent Order.

3/11/2026 3pm
Date


Christina Abel-Rigney, Lic. No. 03276