

February 19, 2014

Carol A. Deel, LCMFT, LCPC  
Board Chair  
Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists  
4201 Patterson Avenue  
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

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Re: Surrender of License as a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC)  
License Number LC2914  
Case Number: 2013-37

Dear Ms. Deel and Members of the Board:

Please be advised that I have decided to **PERMANENTLY SURRENDER** my license to practice Clinical Professional Counseling in the State of Maryland, License Number LC2914. I understand that upon the Board's acceptance of this permanent letter of surrender, I may not represent myself to the public by title, by description of services, methods, or procedures, or otherwise that I am a Professional Counselor. Moreover, I may not practice clinical professional counseling with or without supervision and/or compensation as it is defined in the Maryland Professional Counselor and Therapy Practice Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann. , Health Occ. ("H.O.") § 17-101.

I understand that the effective date of this Letter of Surrender is the date of the Board's acceptance and that upon the Board's acceptance this Letter of Surrender becomes a **FINAL ORDER** of the Board. I understand that the permanent surrender of my license means that I am in the same position as an unlicensed individual.

My decision to permanently surrender my license to practice Clinical Professional Counseling in Maryland has been prompted by an investigation of my license and subsequent charges filed by the Maryland Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists (the "Board"), concerning investigatory findings that I violated the following provisions of the Act: HO § 17-509(7) (made a willful misrepresentation while counseling or providing therapy), HO § 17-509(8)(violated the code of ethics adopted by the Board), HO § 17-509(9)(knowingly violated any provision of this title); HO § 17-509(13)( violated any rule or regulation adopted by the Board), and HO § 17-509(16)(committed an act of immoral or unprofessional conduct in the practice of clinical counseling).

I have decided to permanently surrender my license to practice in Maryland to avoid prosecution of disciplinary charges. I acknowledge that if the Board were to proceed with an evidentiary hearing in this matter, the State would more than likely be able to prove the foregoing violations of the Act by a preponderance of the evidence. I acknowledge for all purposes relevant to clinical professional counseling, that the allegations of fact contained in the Charges against me will be treated as proven. I hereby affirm that I have permanently terminated any professional counseling practice that I had in Maryland.

My decision to permanently surrender my license to practice licensed clinical professional counseling in Maryland has been prompted by an investigation of my license and subsequent charges filed by the Board concerning allegations of sexual misconduct with a client under the guise of therapeutic counseling.

I wish to state clearly that I have voluntarily, knowingly, and freely chosen to submit this Permanent Letter of Surrender, have co-operated with the Board in its investigation of the allegations against me, and complied with the Board's requests. I understand that, by executing this Permanent Letter of Surrender, I am waiving the right to contest the allegations of fact in a formal evidentiary hearing at which I would have the right to counsel, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to call witnesses on my own behalf and to all other substantive and procedural protections provided by law, including the right to appeal.

I acknowledge that on or before the effective date of this Letter of Surrender, I shall present to the Board my Maryland professional counseling license, number LC2914, including any renewal certificates and wallet-sized renewal cards. I understand that the Board will advise the Federation of State Counseling Boards and the National Practitioners Data Bank of this Letter of Surrender, and in any response to inquiry, that I have surrendered my license in lieu of disciplinary action under the Act as resolution of the matters pending against me. I also understand that in the event I would apply for licensure in any form in any other state or jurisdiction, that this Letter of Surrender, and all underlying documents, may be released or published by the Board to the same extent as a final order that would result from disciplinary action pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-611 *et seq.*

I further recognize and agree that by submitting this Permanent Letter of Surrender that my license will remain permanently surrendered. In other words, I agree that I have no right to reapply for a license to practice clinical professional counseling in the State of Maryland. I further agree that the Board is not obligated to consider any application for licensure that I might file at a future date and that I waive any hearing rights that I might possess regarding any such application.

I acknowledge that I may not rescind this Permanent Letter of Surrender in part or in its entirety for any reason whatsoever. I understand the nature and effect of both the Board's actions and this Permanent Letter of Surrender fully. I acknowledge that I understand the language, meaning, terms, and effect of this Letter of Surrender. I acknowledge that I had the opportunity to consult with an attorney before signing this Permanent Letter of Surrender and I make this decision knowingly and voluntarily and without any duress.

Sincerely,



Andrew Clinton Stees, LCPC



**NOTARY**

**STATE OF MARYLAND**  
**CITY/COUNTY OF** Baltimore City

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2014, before me, a Notary Public of the State and City/County aforesaid, personally appear Andrew Clinton Stees, LCPC, and declare and affirm under the penalties of perjury that the signing of the foregoing Permanent Letter of Surrender was his voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESS my hand and official seal.




Notary Public

My commission expires: March 1, 2014

**DENISE M. ALTOBELLI**  
**NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF MARYLAND**  
**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY**  
My Commission Expires March 1, 2014

**ACCEPTANCE**

On this 21<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2014, I, Carol A. Deel, LCMFT, LCPC, on behalf of the Maryland State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists, accept Andrew Clinton Stees' **PUBLIC PERMANENT SURRENDER** of his license to practice clinical professional counseling in the State of Maryland.



Carol A. Deel, LCMFT, LCPC  
Chair  
Maryland State Board of Professional  
Counselors and Therapists