

CONFIDENTIAL SETTLEMENT COMMUNICATION

Erin Trudell

Trainee Status Number: ADT2676

January 2026, 2026
15th day

Sharita Sivels-Stevens, LCPC, Board Chair
Maryland State Board of Professional Counselors & Therapists
4201 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

RE: Surrender of Status to Practice as an Alcohol and Drug Trainee
Trainee Status Number: ADT2676
Case Number: 2023-100

Dear Ms. Sivels-Stevens and Members of the Board:

Please be advised that I have decided to **SURRENDER** my status to practice as an Alcohol and Drug Trainee or otherwise, in the State of Maryland, Trainee Status Number ADT2676, effective upon acceptance of this letter by the Maryland State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists (the "Board"). I understand that upon acceptance of this letter of surrender by the Board, I may not represent to the public by title, description of services, methods, procedures, or otherwise that I am an alcohol and drug trainee as it is defined in Maryland Professional Counselors and Therapists Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 17-101 *et seq.* (2021 Repl. Vol. & 2025 Supp.) and other applicable laws. In other words, as of the effective date of this Letter of Surrender, I understand that the surrender of my trainee status places me in the same position as an unlicensed individual in the State of Maryland.

I understand that this Letter of Surrender is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** and, upon the Board's acceptance, becomes a **FINAL ORDER** of the Board.

I have decided to surrender my alcohol and drug trainee status in the State of Maryland to avoid further investigation and prosecution for violating the Act. I acknowledge that if the Board were to issue charges, and if the case were to proceed to an evidentiary hearing, the Board would submit evidence that I violated multiple provisions of the Act including,

Health Occ. § 17-509

(8) violates the code of ethics adopted by the Board;

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- (9) knowingly violates any provision of this title;
- (13) violates any rule or regulation adopted by the Board;
- (16) commits an act of immoral or unprofessional conduct in the practice of clinical or nonclinical counseling or therapy;

and the following provisions of the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board, codified at Md. Code Regs. ("COMAR"):

~~10.58.03.04~~

- (A)(11) a counselor shall be familiar with and adhere to this chapter;
- (A)(14) a counselor shall take reasonable precautions to protect clients from physical or psychological trauma;
- (B)(3) a counselor may not enter into relationships with that could compromise a counselor's objectivity or create a conflict of interest;

10.58.03.05

- (A)(2)(a) a counselor may not place or participate in placing clients in positions that may result in damaging the interests and the welfare of clients, employees, employers, or the public;
- (A)(2)(d) foster dependent counseling relationships;
- (B)(1)(a) a counselor shall avoid dual relationships with clients; and

10.58.03.09

- ~~(A)(1) a counselor may not engage in inappropriate sexual language with a client.~~

I acknowledge that for all purposes relevant to licensure, certification, and/or trainee approval status, the investigative findings in this Letter of Surrender will be treated as if proven.

I understand that by executing this Letter of Surrender, I am waiving any right I may have to contest any charges that would issue from the Board's investigative findings and its vote to issue charges in a formal evidentiary hearing at which I would have had the right to counsel, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to call witnesses on my own behalf and all other substantive and procedural protections provided by law, including the right to appeal.

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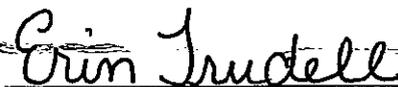
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I understand that the Board, in response to any inquiry, will advise that I have surrendered my alcohol and drug trainee status. I also understand that in the event I would apply for licensure in any form in any other state or jurisdiction that this Letter of Surrender 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., Gen. Prov. § 4-101 *et. seq.* (2019 Repl. Vol. & 2025 Supp.), and that this Letter of Surrender constitutes a disciplinary action by the Board.

I further recognize and agree that by submitting this Letter of Surrender, my trainee status will remain surrendered. I understand that if I should apply for certification or licensure under the Board that I will approach the Board in the same posture as an individual whose trainee status has been revoked.

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

Sincerely,



Erin Trudell, ADT

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NOTARY

STATE OF MARYLAND

CITY/COUNTY OF Frederick

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 15th day of January,

~~2025~~
2026, before me, a Notary Public of the State and City/County aforesaid, personally appeared **Erin Trudell**, and declared and affirmed under the penalties of perjury that signing the foregoing Letter of Surrender was her voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESS my hand and Notarial seal.


Notary Public

My Commission expires: June 24th 2028

JAKE ASHBY
Notary Public
Carroll County
Maryland
My Commission Expires June 24, 2028

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ACCEPTANCE

On this 20 day of February 2026, I, Sharita Sivels-Stevens,

LCPC, Board Chair, on behalf of the Board, accept the **PUBLIC VOLUNTARY SUR**

RENDER of the Alcohol and Drug Trainee status of **ERIN TRUDELL, ADT**, to

practice as an Alcohol and Drug Trainee in the State of Maryland.



Sharita Sivels-Stevens, LCPC
Board Chair
Maryland State Board of Professional
Counselors and Therapists