

**IN THE MATTER OF** \* **BEFORE THE MARYLAND STATE**  
**MARGARET YOOR, ADT** \* **BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL**  
**Respondent** \* **COUNSELORS AND THERAPISTS**

**Trainee Number: ADT2371** \*  
**Case Numbers: 2024-029 &**  
**2024-128**

\* \* \* \* \*

**FINAL ORDER**

On or about June 24, 2024, the Maryland State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists (the “Board”) notified **MARGARET YOOR** (the “Respondent”), of the Board’s intent to rescind her Alcohol and Drug Trainee Approval Status (the “Notice”), Trainee Number ADT2371, under the Maryland Professional Counselors and Therapists Act (the “Act”), codified at Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 17-101 *et seq.* (2021 Repl. Vol. and 2023 Supp.).

Specifically, the Board bases its intent to rescind on the following provisions of the Act:

**§ 17-509. Denial, probation, suspension or revocation of license of trainee status, license or certificate.**

Subject to the hearing provisions of § 17-511 of this subtitle, the Board, on the affirmative vote of a majority of its members then serving, may deny trainee status, a license, or a certificate to any applicant, place any trainee, licensee, or certificate holder on probation, reprimand any trainee, licensee, or certificate holder, or suspend , rescind, or revoke the status of any trainee, a license of any licensee, or a certificate of any certificate holder if the applicant, trainee, licensee, or certificate holder:

- (8) Violates the code of ethics adopted by the Board;
- (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[.]

Pursuant to Health Occ. § 17-509(8), (9), (13), and (16) shown above, the Board also bases its intent to rescind on the following provisions of the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board, codified at Md. Code Regs. (“COMAR”) 10.58.03 *et seq.*, in particular:

**COMAR 10.58.03.04**

A. A counselor shall:

- (11) Be familiar with and adhere to this chapter;
- (14) Take reasonable precautions to protect clients from physical or psychological trauma.

B. A counselor may not:

- (3) Enter into relationships that could compromise a counselors objectivity or create a conflict of interest.

**COMAR 10.58.03.05**

A. Client Welfare and Rights

- (2) A counselor may not:
  - (a) Place or participate in placing clients in positions that may result in damaging the interests and welfare of clients, employees, employers, or the public[.]

**COMAR 10.58.03.09**

C. Relationship with Former Clients.

- (1) Except as set forth in §C(3) of this regulation, a counselor may not engage in sexual behavior with a former client.
- (2) A counselor may not terminate professional services or a professional relationship with a client in order to enter into a nonprofessional, social, or sexual relationship with a client or

an individual with whom a client has a close personal relationship.

- (3) A counselor may enter into a relationship with an individual with whom a counselor's prior professional contact was brief, peripheral, consultative, or indirect, and did not constitute a therapeutic relationship.

### **PROCEDURAL HISTORY AND HEARING BEFORE THE BOARD**

The Notice informed the Respondent of the right to an evidentiary hearing on the rescission of her ADT trainee status and the Board received a timely request for an evidentiary hearing from the Respondent. The hearing was scheduled for April 18, 2025 via Google Meet.

On or about April 1, 2025, the Board notified the Respondent that the hearing was rescheduled to May 16, 2025 at 2:00 p.m., due to a cancellation of the Board's April 2025 meeting (the "Rescheduling Notice"). The Board received a certified mail receipt indicating that the Respondent received the Rescheduling Notice on April 3, 2025. By 2:15 p.m. on May 16, 2025, the Respondent had not joined the Google Meet and the hearing was rescheduled. On July 29, 2025, the Board notified the Respondent that an evidentiary hearing would be postponed to November 21, 2025 at 12:30 p.m (the "Postponement Notice"). The Board received a certified mail receipt, dated August 1, 2025 executed by the Respondent, confirming her receipt of the Postponement Notice.

On November 21, 2025, the Board held an evidentiary hearing, and a quorum of the Board was present. An Administrative Prosecutor was present on behalf of the State, but the Respondent failed to appear. The Board waited until 12:57 p.m. to begin the hearing, nearly half an hour after the hearing was scheduled to begin. Board staff attempted to call

the Respondent before going forward. The Respondent indicated that she believed the hearing had already occurred and would not be joining.

The State introduced Exhibit Numbers 1 - 13, which were marked, identified, and admitted into evidence. The Exhibits were identified as follows:

1. Respondent Licensing Data
2. Complaint 2024-029 with Attachments
3. Complaint 2024-128
4. Interview Transcript of Respondent, dated September 8, 2023
5. Affidavit, signed by Respondent on October 13, 2023
6. Notice of Intent to Rescind Alcohol and Drug Trainee Approval Status
7. Respondent's Request for Hearing on the Charges, email dated November 7, 2024
8. Notice of Hearing, dated January 16, 2025
9. Email Notice of Rescheduled Hearing with Attached Letter, dated March 26, 2025
10. Notice of Rescheduled Hearing sent via Certified Mail, dated April 1, 2025
11. Certified Mail Return Receipt, April 2025
12. Notice of Rescheduled Hearing sent via Certified Mail, dated July 29, 2025
13. Certified Mail Return Receipt, August 2025

The State elicited testimony from one Witness, Board investigator Shelly-Ann Barnes, which was under oath and entered into the record.

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

The Board makes the following Findings of Fact:

#### **BACKGROUND**

1. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent held an active approval status to practice as an alcohol and drug trainee in the State of Maryland under an approved alcohol and drug supervisor (the “ADT Status”). The Respondent was originally issued the ADT Status on March 10, 2021, under Trainee Number ADT2371. The Respondent’s ADT Status is currently inactive, having expired on March 31, 2025.

2. The Respondent was employed as a counselor at a facility (the “Facility”)<sup>1</sup> from on or about February 7, 2022, until on or about August 8, 2023.

#### **COMPLAINTS**

3. On or about August 9, 2023, the Board received a Complaint (“Complaint 1”) submitted by the Program Director (“Program Director”) of the Facility, which alleged that the Program Director was informed of a Facebook post showing the Respondent and her former patient (the “Patient”) were married. Enclosed with Complaint 1 were screenshots of two Facebook posts which appeared to be from the Respondent’s account

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<sup>1</sup> For confidentiality and privacy purposes, the names of individuals and facilities involved in this case are not disclosed in this document. The Respondent may obtain the names of all individuals and facilities referenced in this document by contacting the administrative prosecutor.

and included the Respondent's name and photo. The Facebook posts included the following information:

- a. The Respondent and Patient eloped on August 3, 2023.
- b. The Patient was pictured in the Facebook post.
- c. The physical marriage certificate naming the Respondent and the Patient was also pictured in the Facebook post.
- d. In a comment response to a post from the Respondent's Facebook account, an individual referred to himself as the Respondent's husband and by the Patient's full name.

4. On or about January 1, 2024, the Board received a second Complaint ("Complaint 2") filed by a healthcare provider ("Healthcare Provider") at a hospital ("Hospital"), which alleged the Healthcare Provider was told by the Patient that his wife was his counselor.

5. After receiving the complaints from the Respondent's Program Director and the Healthcare Provider, the Board initiated an investigation of the Respondent under Case Numbers 2019-029 and 2024-128.

## **BOARD INVESTIGATION**

6. As part of its investigation, the Board subpoenaed personnel records, obtained an affidavit from the Respondent, and interviewed the Respondent.

7. According to an affidavit dated and signed by the Respondent on October 13, 2023, the Respondent affirmed under the penalties of perjury that the following were true to the best of her personal knowledge:

- a. The Patient began receiving services at the Facility on or about April 2023.
- b. The Patient received treatment at the Facility until on or about July 1, 2023.
- c. The Respondent provided counseling to the Patient at the Facility from April 2023 to July 1, 2023.
- d. In 2021, the Respondent provided counseling to the Patient during her prior employment as a counselor at a different facility.
- e. The Respondent's employment at the Facility ended after the Patient transferred to another treatment facility.

8. On September 8, 2023, the Board's investigator interviewed the Respondent, at which time, the Respondent stated the following under oath:

- a. The Respondent was first introduced to the Patient through a mutual friend in 2015. The Respondent has been friends with the Patient on Facebook since 2016.
- b. The Respondent was the Patient's counselor at her prior place of employment.
- c. The Patient requested the Respondent as his counselor when he started at the Facility.

- d. The Patient transferred to another facility on or around July 12, 2023.
- e. The Patient contacted the Respondent via text message and Facebook Messenger after he transferred to another facility.
- f. The Respondent and the Patient were together for approximately two weeks before they decided to elope.
- g. The Respondent admitted to sharing information on her Facebook account about her marriage to the Patient.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes as a matter of law that the Respondent's conduct as described above constitutes violations of the Act and a basis on which to rescind the Respondent's alcohol and drug trainee approval status. Specifically:

The Respondent's marriage to a former client constitutes violations of Health Occ. § 17-509 (8) (violates the code of ethics adopted by the Board), (9) (knowingly violates any provision of this title), (13) (violates any rule or regulation adopted by the Board), and (16) (commits an act of immoral or unprofessional conduct in the practice of clinical or nonclinical counseling or therapy) in that the Respondent violated COMAR 10.58.03.04(A)(11), (A)(14), and (B)(3), COMAR 10.58.03.05(A)(2)(a), and COMAR 10.58.03.09(C)(1),(2), and (3).

### **ORDER**

Based on the foregoing, it is this 20th day of March, 2026, by the Board hereby:

**ORDERED** that the Respondent's Alcohol and Drug Trainee Approval Status is hereby **RESCINDED**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that this is a Final Order and as such is a **PUBLIC RECORD** pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101-4-601 (2019).

03/20/2026

Date

*Kimberly Poole-Sykes*

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Kimberly Poole-Sykes, Rh.D., LCPC  
Board Secretary  
Maryland Board of Professional  
Counselors and Therapists

**NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL**

Pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §17-512 (b), the Applicant has the right to take a direct judicial appeal. Any appeal shall be filed within thirty (30) days from the date of this Final Order and shall be made as provided for judicial review of a final decision in the Maryland Administrative Procedure Act, Md. Code Ann., State Gov't §10-222; and Title 7, Chapter 200 of the Maryland Rules of Procedure.

If the Applicant files an appeal, the Board is a party and should be served with the court's process at the following address:

Dr. Tomiloba Olaniyi-Quadri, Executive Director  
Maryland Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists  
4201 Patterson Avenue  
Baltimore, Maryland 21215