

<b>IN THE MATTER OF</b>	*	<b>BEFORE THE MARYLAND STATE</b>
<b>VERLIE HARVEY, CSC-AD</b>	*	<b>BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL</b>
<b>Respondent</b>	*	<b>COUNSELORS AND THERAPISTS</b>
<b>License Number: SC2831</b>	*	<b>Case Number: 2021-002</b>
<b>Trainee Status Number: ADT1318</b>	*	
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**ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

The Maryland State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists (the “Board”) hereby **SUMMARILY SUSPENDS** the certificate and Trainee Status of **VERLIE HARVEY, CSC-AD, ADT** (the “Respondent”), License Number SC2831, to practice as a Certified Supervised Counselor – Alcohol and Drug (“CSC-AD”), and Trainee Status Number ADT1318, to practice as an Alcohol and Drug Trainee (“ADT”) in the State of Maryland. The Board takes such action pursuant to its authority under Md. Code Ann., State Gov’t § 10-226(c) (2014 Repl. Vol. & 2019 Supp.), concluding that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action. In addition, the Board takes such action pursuant to its authority under Md. Code Regs. (“COMAR”) 10.58.04.10, concluding that there is substantial likelihood that the Respondent poses a risk of harm to the public health, safety, or welfare.

## INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS

The Board bases its action on the following findings: <sup>1</sup>

### **I. BACKGROUND**

1. The Respondent was issued a certificate to practice as a Certified Supervised Counselor – Alcohol and Drug under license number SC2831 in the State of Maryland under on June 10, 2020. The Respondent was granted an authorization to practice as an ADT under trainee number ADT1318 on July 22, 2016 and expired on July 31, 2020.<sup>2</sup>

### **II. COMPLAINT**

2. On July 1, 2020, the Board submitted a complaint against the Respondent. The complaint alleged that on July 1, 2020 the Board Licensing Coordinator discovered that a CSC-AD certification was issued to the Respondent on June 10, 2020 as a result of a clerical error. The complaint further alleged that the Respondent's exam results revealed that she failed the National Certified Addiction Counselor ("NCAC") Level I exam on February 28, 2020 and on June 1, 2020.

3. After receiving the complaint, the Board initiated an investigation of the Respondent under Case Number 2021-002.

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<sup>1</sup> The statements regarding the Board's investigative findings are intended to provide the Respondent with notice of the basis of the summary suspension. They are not intended as, and do not necessarily represent, a complete description of the evidence, either documentary or testimonial, to be offered against the Respondent in connection with this matter.

<sup>2</sup> Pursuant to Governor Lawrence J. Hogan's Executive Order issued March 12, 2020, expiration of professional licenses has been suspended until further notice.

### III. BOARD INVESTIGATION

4. As part of its investigation, the Board reviewed the Respondent's licensing file including the Respondent's application for certification to practice as a CSC-AD, correspondence sent and received between the Board and the Respondent, and notification from the national Certification Commission regarding the Respondent's examination results.

5. On December 9, 2019, the Board received an application from the Respondent for certification to practice as a CSC-AD.

6. On December 13, 2019, the Board's Licensing Coordinator sent a letter to the Respondent advising that she is authorized to take the NCAC exam and that a passing grade on the exam is required for certification.

7. On March 11, 2020, the Board received notification from the National Certification Commission indicating that the Respondent failed the NCAC Level 1 exam that was taken on February 28, 2020, with an overall score of 67%<sup>3</sup>. On March 11, 2020, the Board's Licensing Coordinator sent an email attaching a letter to the Respondent, informing her that she did not pass the NCAC Level 1 exam. On March 11, 2020, the Board's Licensing Coordinator sent a copy of the letter to the Respondent's address of record.

8. On June 1, 2020, the Board's Licensing Coordinator received a forwarded email from the Respondent. The forwarded email was from [nccap@naadac.org](mailto:nccap@naadac.org) to the

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<sup>3</sup> An overall score of 70% or greater is considered passing

Respondent, indicating that the Respondent failed the NCAC Level 1 Exam that was taken on June 1, 2020, with an overall score of 61.50%.

9. On June 3, 2020, the Board's Licensing Coordinator sent an email to the Respondent advising that the Board has received official notification that she passed the computer based NCAC Level 1 exam on February 28, 2020.

10. On June 10, 2020, the Board's Licensing Coordinator sent a letter to the Respondent advising that her CSC-AD application has been approved.

11. On July 8, 2020, the Board's investigator interviewed the Respondent by telephone, at which time, the Respondent:

- a. Stated she took the NCAC exam twice, February 2020 and May 2020.
- b. Stated she received something stating that she did not pass the February exam, however sometime later received an email from the licensing coordinator stating that she had passed the February exam.
- c. Was informed that the Board received the official test scores from the National Certification Commission for Addiction Professionals ("NCC AP") showing that she failed the NCAC Level 1 exam on two occasions, February 28, 2020 and June 1, 2020. She was further informed that due to a clerical error by Board staff, the CSC-AD certificate was inadvertently issued to her on June 10, 2020.
- d. After being informed that she may consider the option of voluntarily surrendering the certificate, responded that she is "not willing to sign anything at this point." She questioned why the Board is double-

checking whether her certificate should have been issued and whether the review of her file is part of the normal process. After again being informed that the issue was that the certificate was inadvertently issued, she responded that the only acknowledgement she is willing to make is that there could have been a computer error and that she might have actually passed the exam.

12. The Board's records show that the Respondent was informed that she failed the exam on the two occasions that she attempted it. On March 11, 2020, the Board's Licensing Coordinator sent a letter to the Respondent indicating that she failed the February 28, 2020 exam. On June 1, 2020 the Respondent received an email from NCC AP indicating that she failed the June 1, 2020 exam, and the Respondent forwarded that email to the Board.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Based on the foregoing facts, the Board concludes that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively require emergency action in this case, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-226 (c)(2) (2014 Repl. Vol. & 2019 Supp.).

In addition, the Board concludes as a matter of law that there is a substantial likelihood that the Respondent poses a risk of harm to the public health, safety, or welfare, pursuant to COMAR 10.58.04.10.

**ORDER**

Based on the foregoing, it is by a majority of the Board considering this case:

**ORDERED** that pursuant to the authority vested by Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-226(c)(2), the Respondent's certification to practice as an Certified Supervised Counselor – Alcohol and Drug in the State of Maryland, License Number SC2831, is hereby **SUMMARILY SUSPENDED**; and be it further

**ORDERED** that pursuant to the authority vested by Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-226(c)(2), the Respondent's Trainee Status to practice as an Alcohol and Drug Trainee in the State of Maryland, Trainee Status Number ADT1318, is hereby **SUMMARILY SUSPENDED**; and be it further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent has the opportunity to appear before the Board for a post-deprivation show cause hearing. A request for a post-deprivation show cause hearing must be in writing and be made **WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS** of service of this Order.

The written request should be made to:

Danielle Vallone, Acting Executive Director  
Maryland State Board of Professional Counselors & Therapists  
4201 Patterson Avenue  
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

With copies to:

Anuj Patel, Assistant Attorney General  
Maryland Office of the Attorney General  
Health Occupations Prosecution & Litigation Division  
300 West Preston Street, Suite 201  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

and

Rhonda Edwards, Assistant Attorney General  
Maryland Office of the Attorney General  
300 West Preston Street, Suite 302  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201; and it is further

**ORDERED** that if the Respondent fails to request a post-deprivation show cause hearing in writing in a timely manner, or if the Respondent requests a post-deprivation show cause hearing but fails to appear when scheduled, the Respondent's CSC-AD certification will remain **SUSPENDED**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that on presentation of this Order, the Respondent **SHALL SURRENDER** to the Board, the following items:

- (1) the Respondent's original Maryland Certified Supervised Counselor – Alcohol and Drug certificate under license number SC2831;
- (2) the Respondent's Certified Supervised Counselor – Alcohol and Drug certificate under license number SC2831 wallet card and wall status;
- (3) the Respondent's original Maryland ADT Trainee Status Number ADT1318;  
and
- (4) the Respondent's ADT Trainee Status Number ADT1318 wallet card and wall status; and it is further

**ORDERED** that this is an Order of the Board and, as such, is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 *et seq.* (2014).

August 21, 2020

Date



Jeffrey M. Galecki, MS, LCADC, LCPC, Chair  
Maryland State Board of Professional  
Counselors and Therapists