

Michael Bernard Boyle, MSW  
[REDACTED]

July 11  
June \_\_, 2018

Sherryl Silberman, LCSW-C, Chair  
Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners  
4201 Patterson Avenue  
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

Re: Surrender of License to Practice Social Work  
License Number: 21870  
Case Number: 2017-2312

Dear Ms. Silberman and Members of the Board:

Please be advised that I have decided to **SURRENDER** my license to practice social work in the State of Maryland, License Number 21870.

I understand that I may not give social work advice or treatment to any individual, with or without supervision and/or compensation, cannot counsel, diagnose or provide therapy to people or otherwise engage in the practice of clinical social work, as it is defined in the Social Work Practice Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. ("Health Occ.") § 19-101 *et seq.* (2014 Repl. Vol. & 2017 Supp.).

In addition, I will refrain from identifying myself as a practitioner of social work; I will remove all signs or similar advertisements that indicate authority to practice social work; and I will not use letterhead or business cards indicating authority to practice social work.

As of the effective date of this Letter of Surrender, I understand that the surrender of my license means that I am 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 on the Board's acceptance becomes a **FINAL ORDER** of the Board.

My decision to surrender my license to practice social work in the State of Maryland has been prompted by an investigation of my licensure by the Maryland State Board of Social Work Examiners (the "Board") and the Office of the Attorney General.

The Board's investigation was based on a complaint from a social worker received on January 3, 2016, informing the Board that I had two criminal complaints pending. The investigation revealed that on September 13, 2017, the two criminal charges were *nolle prossed* (dismissed) but that I was found guilty on a third charge and sentenced to two years supervised probation. As a result of the Board's investigation,

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the Board voted to issue disciplinary charges under Under the Maryland Social Work Practice Act. The Board also voted to accept a surrender of my license, prior to the issuance of disciplinary charges. I have elected to accept a Letter of Surrender.

If the Board had issued formal disciplinary charges against me, I understand that I would have been charged under the following provision of the Act, Health Occ. II § 19-311:

Subject to the hearing provisions of § 19-312 of this subtitle, the Board may deny a license to any applicant, fine a licensee, reprimand any licensee, place any licensee on probation, or suspend or revoke a license if the applicant or licensee:

- (7) Is convicted of or plead guilty or nolo contendere to a felony or to a crime of moral turpitude, whether or not any appeal or other proceeding is pending to have the conviction or pleas set aside[.]

I have decided to surrender my license to practice social work in the State of Maryland to resolve this matter and to avoid prosecution of the charges against me by the Board. Furthermore, I have not practiced social work since March 2, 2017. I wish to make it clear that I have voluntarily, knowingly and freely chosen to submit this Letter of Surrender. I acknowledge that the Office of the Attorney General has legally sufficient evidence to prove by a preponderance of the evidence at an administrative hearing that I violated the Act as detailed above.

I understand that by executing this Letter of Surrender I am waiving any right to contest Board's 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.

I acknowledge that on or before the effective date of this Letter of Surrender, I shall present to the Board my Maryland social work license, including any renewal certificates and wallet-sized renewal cards.

I understand that the Board will advise the Association of State Boards of Social Work, the National Practitioner's Data Bank, and the Health Care Integrity Data Bank, and any other required entities of this Letter of Surrender, and in response to any inquiry, will advise that I have surrendered my license in lieu of disciplinary action under the Act as a resolution of the matters pending against me. I also understand that, if 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., State Gov't


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II. § 10-611 *et seq.* (2014 Repl. Vol.); and that all underlying documents may be released to the other state or jurisdiction. Finally, I understand that this Letter of Surrender is considered a disciplinary action by the Board.

I further recognize and agree that by submitting this Letter of Surrender my license will remain surrendered for a minimum of five (5) years. I understand that if I apply for reinstatement or a new Maryland license, I must provide the Board with a current "fitness for duty" evaluation by a Board-approved mental health clinician and that I bear the burden of demonstrating to the Board that I meet the requirements to practice social work under the Act and that I possess good moral character, as required under Health Occ. § 19-302(a)(3). I understand that when applying for reinstatement or new licensure, I approach the Board in the same posture as one whose license has been revoked based on the facts contained herein and that my application may be accepted or denied by the Board in its sole discretion.

I acknowledge that I may not rescind this Letter of Surrender in part or in its entirety for any reason. Finally, I wish to make clear that I have chosen not 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 and terms and effect of this Letter of Surrender. I make this decision knowingly and voluntarily.

Sincerely,

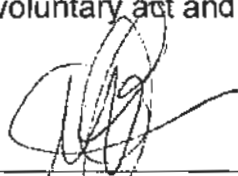
  
Michael Bernard Boyle, MSW

**NOTARY SEAL**

STATE OF MARYLAND  
CITY/COUNTY:

MARIBEL S PRICE  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
BALTIMORE CITY, MD  
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES  
OCTOBER 30, 2018

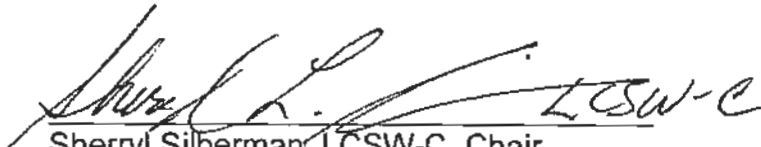
I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 11<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2018, before me, a Notary Public of the State and City/County aforesaid personally appeared Michael Bernard Boyle, MSW and declared and affirmed under the penalties of perjury that signing the foregoing Letter of Surrender was his voluntary act and deed.

  
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Notary Public

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**ACCEPTANCE**

On behalf of the Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners, on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2018, I accept Michael Bernard Boyle's **PUBLIC SURRENDER** of his license to practice social work in the State of Maryland, license number 21870.

  
Sherryl Silberman, LCSW-C, Chair  
Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners