

**IN THE MATTER OF  
SCOTT BRAUNFELD**

**\* BEFORE THE MARYLAND  
\* BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK  
\***

**License No. 13997**

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**\* \* \* \* \***

**ORDER OF SUSPENSION OF REGISTERED  
SOCIAL WORK LICENSE FOR DELINQUENT CHILD SUPPORT**

On or about October 12, 2016, the Maryland Board of Social Work (the “Board”) received a written request from the Department of Human Resources, Child Support Administration, 311 West Saratoga Street, Baltimore MD 21201 (the “Administration”) to suspend your license to practice social work in the State of Maryland, Scott Braunfeld (the “Respondent”), License Number 13997, for delinquent child support by authority of the Annotated Code of Maryland § 10-119.3, Family Law Article (2006 Repl. Vol. & 2007 Supp.), which provides in pertinent part:

(2) Except as provided in paragraph 3 of this subsection, upon notification by the Administration under this section, a licensing authority<sup>1</sup> shall:

(i) suspend an individual’s license; or

(ii) deny the license of an individual who is an applicant for a license from the licensing authority.

....

(h) *Right to contest identity.* – (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, prior to the suspension or denial of a license under subsection (e) of this section, a licensing authority shall send written notice of the proposed action to the individual whose license is subject to suspension or denial, including notice of an individual’s right to contest the identity of the individual whose license or application is to be suspended or denied.

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<sup>1</sup> The Board of Social Work Examiners is a unit within the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Md. Health-General Article § 2-101 & 2-106(a)(14) and a “licensing authority” within the meaning of Md. Code Ann., Family Law Article § 10-119.3(a)(3)(i)-(ii)(2)(“Licensing authority means a department, unit of a department, commission, board, office, or court of this State. Licensing authority includes: . . . the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.”).

....

(i) *Appeal; hearing.* –(1)(i) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, an individual may appeal a decision of a licensing authority to suspend or deny the individual’s license in accordance with Title 10, Subtitle 2 of the State Government Article.

(ii) At a hearing under this paragraph, the issue shall be limited to whether the Administration has mistaken the identity of the individual whose license has been suspended or denied.

....

(k) *Reinstatement of license—Duty of licensing authority.* – A licensing authority shall immediately reinstate any license suspended, or process an application for any license denied, under this section if:

- (1) notified by the Administration that the license should be reinstated; and
- (2) the individual otherwise qualifies for the license.

On October 28, 2016, the Board sent an unexecuted copy of this Order of Suspension of the Social Work License for Delinquent Child Support to the Respondent’s last known address registered with the Board and also to the address on the request form that the Board received from the Administration. Accompanying the unexecuted Order was a cover letter giving Respondent written notice of his right to contest in writing within thirty days of the date of the letter, his identity, that is, to contest that he was not the Scott Braunfield, License No. 13997, named by the Administration’s as the individual whose license should be suspended for delinquent child support. In addition, the letter also gave Respondent written notice that if he did not submit to the Board a written contest of mistaken identity on or before November 29, 2016, the Board would execute this Order as written. The Respondent did not submit a written contest regarding mistaken identity to the Board by November 28, 2016.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Board issued a social work license to the Respondent on May 13, 2008. His license is currently active and is scheduled to expire on October 28, 2016.

2. On or about October 12, 2016, the Board received a written request from the Department of Human Resources, Child Support Enforcement Administration (the "Administration"), entitled "Request to Suspend or Deny License for Delinquent Child Support"(hereinafter "Request"), which requested that the Board suspend the social work license of the Respondent for delinquent child support under the authority of Md. Code Ann., Family Law Article § 119.3. That Request stated that, as of October 1, 2016, the arrearage amount of child support that the Respondent owed was \$6,300.00 for case number 850110415 and \$4,652.83 for case number 170096207.

3. Md. Code Ann., Family Article § 10-119.3(e)(2) & (h)(1) requires that the Board suspend the license of the Respondent upon notification by the Administration and after sending written notice to the Respondent of the proposed suspension of the Respondent's license and notice of the Respondent's right "to contest the identity of the individual whose license is proposed to be suspended."

4. On October 28, 2016, the Board sent an unexecuted copy of this Order of Suspension of the Social Work License for Delinquent Child Support to the Respondent's last known address registered with the Board and also to the address on the Administration's Request form. Included with the unexecuted Order was a letter giving Respondent written notice of his right to contest, in writing to the Board within thirty days of the date of the letter, his identity, that is, to contest that he was not the Scott Braunfeld, License No. 13997, named by the Administration as the individual whose license should be suspended for delinquent child support. In addition, the

letter also gave Respondent written notice that if he did not submit to the Board a written contest of mistaken identity on or before November 28, 2016, the Board would execute this Order as written.

5. The Respondent did not submit to the Board a written contest regarding mistaken identity by November 28, 2016.

6. Having given the Respondent the statutorily required written notice of the Board's intent to suspend his license and his right to contest identity pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Family Law Article §§ 10-119.3(h)(1) and receiving no written response or contest from the Respondent regarding mistaken identity, the Board is statutorily required by Md. Code Ann., Family Law Article §§ 10-119.3(e)(2) to suspend the Respondent's license.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Based on the foregoing findings of fact, the Board concludes that it is statutorily required, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Family Law Article § 10-119.3(e)(2)(i), to suspend the Respondent's social work license until the Board receives notification from the Administration that the Respondent's license should be reinstated and the Respondent is otherwise qualified to be licensed, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Family Law Article § 10-119.3(k)(1)-(2).

#### **ORDER**

It is this hereby:

**ORDERED** that pursuant to the Md. Code Ann., Family Law Article, the license of the Respondent, Scott Braunfeld, License # 13997, to practice social work in the State of Maryland is hereby **SUSPENDED**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent's license shall remain suspended until the Board receives notification from the Child Support Enforcement Administration of the Department of Human

Resources that the Respondent's license should be reinstated pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Family Law Article § 10-119.3(k)(1)-(2).

**ORDERED** that this is a Final Decision and Order of the Board and, as such, is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** pursuant to Md. State Gov't Code Ann. § 10-611 *et seq.*

05/15/2017

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



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Denise Capaci, LCSW-C, LICSW  
Board Chair  
Maryland Board of Social Work

**NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS**

The Respondent has a right to appeal this final decision of the Board pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Family Law Article § 10-119.3(i), which provides as follows:

(i) *Appeal; hearing.*—(1)(i) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, an individual may appeal a decision of a licensing authority to suspend or deny the individual's license in accordance with Title 10, Subtitle 2 of the State Government Article.

(ii) At a hearing under this paragraph, the issue shall be limited to whether the Administration has mistaken the identity of the individual whose license has been suspended or denied.