

JAN 31 2019

Board of Social  
Work Examiners

Elizabeth D. Chatham, LCSW-C	*	BEFORE THE
Respondent	*	MARYLAND STATE BOARD
License Number: 14299	*	OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
	*	Board Case Number: 2018-2594

\* \* \* \* \*

**PRE - CHARGE CONSENT ORDER**

**Background**

Elizabeth D. Chatham, LCSW-C was included in a Post Renewal Continuing Education Audit conducted by the Maryland Board of Social Examiners (“the Board”) on licenses requiring renewal by October 31, 2016. As a condition of continue licensure, licensed social workers are required to obtain forty (40) credit hours of Continuing Education Units (“CEU”) every two years in programs and categories approved by the Board, in accordance with Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 19-309(d)(3)(ii) and COMAR 10.42.06.03. The CEU’s may all be in Category I but may not consist of more than twenty CEU’s in Category II. A minimum of three CEU’s, of the required forty CEU’S shall focus on ethics and professional conduct, including boundary issues.

In lieu of instituting formal proceedings against Ms. Chatham for violations of the Maryland Social Workers Act, Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 19-101 et seq., the Board voted to resolve this matter by way of a Pre-Charge Consent Order. As a result, the Board and Ms. Chatham has agreed to resolve this matter as set forth in this Consent Order.

### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. At all times relevant hereto, Ms. Chatham was licensed to practice social work in Maryland, License No. 14299. Ms. Chatham was first licensed by the Board on June 26, 2014 and her license was set to expire on October 31, 2016.
2. All licensees are required to sign a statement on the renewal application attesting to having completed this requirement.
3. On January 4, 2017 Ms. Chatham was mailed a letter from the Association of Social Work Boards ("ASWB") on behalf of the Board stating that she was randomly chosen as part of a Post Renewal Continuing Education Audit. This letter requested that Respondent supply continuing education documentation within thirty days of the letter. Documentation was not in compliance and ASWB received a letter of explanation dated February 6, 2017. In addition, several continuing education learning activities were listed as Category I but were in fact Category II learning activities.
4. A second letter, "2016 Post Renewal Audit-Problem Notice", was sent on February 15, 2017 outlining recommendations to become compliant. No additional documentation was received.
5. A review of Elizabeth D. Chatham's CEU certificates by the Board's Continuing Education Office revealed that she has earned 0 Category I and 10.50 Category II Continuing Education Units. Therefore, Ms. Chatham did not meet the continuing education requirements and failed the audit.

CONCLUSION OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes that Ms. Chatham is subject to disciplinary action in accordance with Md. Code Ann. Health Occ. § Health Occ. § 19-311(5) , (6) and COMAR 10.42.06.03.

ORDER

Based on an affirmative vote of a majority of the Board, it is this 11th day of January 2019, hereby:

**ORDERED** that Respondent's license shall be **REPRIMANDED**;

**ORDERED** Ms. Chatham shall pay a fine of \$1000;

**ORDERED** that Ms. Chatham will automatically be audited during the next two licensing renewal cycles.

**ORDERED** that Ms. Chatham will complete the outstanding 20 Category I including 3.0 ethics and 9.50 Category I or II CEUs within 180 days from the date of this Pre Charge Consent Order.

**ORDERED** that this is a formal order of the Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners and as such is a public document pursuant to the Maryland Annotated Code, General Provisions Article, Section 4-101 through 4-601 (Repl. Vol. 2014).

2/8/19

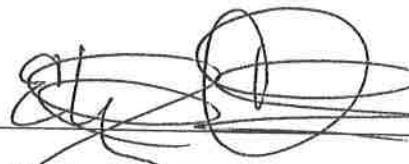
Date

 Sherryl Silberman, LCSW-C

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

CONSENT

1. By signing this Consent, I submit to the foregoing Consent Order as a resolution of this matter In lieu of formal charges, which process would have afforded me the right to a full evidentiary hearing. I consent and submit to the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order as if made after a full evidentiary hearing in which I would have the right to counsel, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to call witnesses on my behalf, and to all other substantive and procedural protections provided by law.
2. By signing this Consent, I waive any rights I may have had to contest the findings and determinations contained in this Consent Order.
3. I acknowledge that this is a formal order of the Board and as such is a public document.
4. I acknowledge the legal authority and the jurisdiction of the Board to enter into and enforce this Consent Order.
5. I sign this Consent Order freely and voluntarily and after having had the opportunity to consult with counsel. I fully understand the language, meaning, and effect of this Consent Order.

1/28/2019  LCSW-C

Date

Elizabeth D. Chatham, LCSW-C

STATE OF MARYLAND

COUNTY/CITY OF Talbot/Easton :

I hereby certify that on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2019, before me a Notary Public of the State of Maryland and County/City aforesaid, personally appeared Ms. Elizabeth D. Chatham, LCSW-C and made an oath in due form that the foregoing Consent was her voluntary act and deed.

**LYNDA KOPPELMAN  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
TALBOT COUNTY  
STATE OF MARYLAND**

  
Notary Public

My commission expires: June 16, 2019