

IN THE MATTER OF	BEFORE THE STATE
WILLIE LEEVON COMER, JR., LGSW	BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK
Respondent	EXAMINERS
License Number: G13027	Case No. 2015-2081

**ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

Pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Govt. §10-228 (c) (2014 Repl. Vol.), the Maryland Social Workers Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occupations ("Health Occ.") §§ 19-101 *et seq.* (2014 Repl. Vol.), and Code Md. Regs. tit. 10, § 42.04.07, the State Board of Social Work Examiners (the "Board") hereby summarily suspends the social work license of WILLIE LEEVON COMER, JR., LGSW (the "Respondent"), License Number G13027. This Order is based on the following investigative findings, which the Board has reason to believe are true:<sup>1</sup>

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. The Respondent was originally licensed to practice as a licensed graduate social worker ("LGSW") in the State of Maryland on August 28, 2007. The Respondent's license is currently active and will expire on October 31, 2015.

2. At all times relevant, the Respondent was employed as Director of Rehabilitation Services for the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program at Practice A, a community-based behavioral health organization. He was hired in May 2010.

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

3. On or about April 7, 2015, the Board received a complaint from the Clinical Director of Practice A (the "complainant") regarding the Respondent. Specifically, the complainant alleged that the Respondent engaged in a sexual relationship with a client ("Client A") and that the Respondent fathered a child with Client A.

4. Thereafter, the Board initiated an investigation.

5. On or about April 7, 2015, Board staff conducted a telephone interview with the complainant. According to the complainant, on February 3, 2015 he received information that a client ("Client B") reported that the Respondent had a sexual relationship with her daughter, Client A.<sup>2</sup> Client B reported feeling uncomfortable coming to Practice A because the Respondent fathered a child with Client A.

6. The Respondent provided therapeutic counseling services for Client A from June 19, 2012 through April 20, 2013.

7. Also on February 3, 2015, the Respondent met with the complainant, the Medical Director and the CEO of Practice A regarding the allegations. The Respondent did not deny or dispute the allegations.

8. The Respondent was terminated from his employment at Practice A, effective February 4, 2015.

9. On or about April 7, 2015, Board staff conducted an interview with Client B. Client B stated that both she and her daughter, Client A, were receiving counseling at Practice A. She further stated that Client A was pregnant in 2013 and gave birth to a child in January 2014. During her labor, Client A revealed to Client B that the Respondent was the child's father.

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<sup>2</sup> Client B was receiving counseling services from another provider.

10. Board staff requested an interview with Client A regarding the allegations against the Respondent, but Client A was unwilling to be interviewed.

11. During the course of the Board's investigation, Board staff issued a subpoena for the Respondent's personnel file at Practice A. A review of the Respondent's personnel file revealed a handwritten note, signed by the Respondent, admitting to engaging in a sexual relationship with Client A "which resulted in the birth of our child."

12. According to the Respondent's handwritten note, after Client A "dropped out of treatment and was subsequently discharged," Client A contacted him via social media after "a period of time passed." The Respondent stated that he and Client A "began communicating and the contacts were more social/explicit ultimately escalating to hanging out socially on April 25, 2013."

13. The Respondent admitted to having sexual intercourse with Client A on April 25, 2013, which was five days after the Respondent's last counseling session with Client A.

14. The Respondent further admitted that Client A subsequently contacted him to report that she was pregnant.

15. On April 15, 2015, Board staff interviewed the Respondent, during which the Respondent confirmed the allegations made by the complainant.

16. When asked about his personal relationship with Client A, he stated that he accepted a Facebook friend request from Client A in or around January 2013. He further stated that there was "a lot of inappropriate texting back and forth" between him and Client A.

17. However, the Respondent denied any inappropriate contact with Client A during their sessions. He stated that he was aware that Client A was attracted to him because she made comments during her sessions that he would redirect.

18. The Respondent is currently employed at an outpatient mental health facility in Baltimore, Maryland, where he provides counseling services to male and female clients.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Accordingly, the Board concludes that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action in this case, pursuant to Md. State Gov't Code Ann. § 10-226(c)(2)(i) (2014 Repl. Vol.).

### **ORDER**

Based on the foregoing, it is this 27th day of May 2015, by a majority vote of a quorum of the Board, hereby:

**ORDERED** that pursuant to the authority vested by Md. State Gov't Code Ann., § 10-226(c)(2), the Respondent's license to practice social work in Maryland, is hereby **SUMMARILY SUSPENDED**; and be it further

**ORDERED** that a post-deprivation hearing on the Summary Suspension has been scheduled for **Friday, June 12, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.** at the Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners, 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215; and be it further

**ORDERED** that at the conclusion of the **SUMMARY SUSPENSION** hearing held before the Board, the Respondent, if dissatisfied with the result of the hearing, may request within ten (10) days an evidentiary hearing, such hearing to be held within forty-five (45) days of the request, before an Administrative Law Judge at the

Office of Administrative Hearings, Administrative Law Building, 11101 Gilroy Road,  
Hunt Valley, Maryland 21031-1301; and be it further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall immediately turn over to the Board all  
copies of his license to practice social work issued by the Board; and be it further

**ORDERED** that this document constitutes an Order of the Board and is therefore  
a public document for purposes of public disclosure, as required by Md. State Gov't  
Code Ann. § 10-617(h) (2014 Repl. Vol.).



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Mark Lannon, LCSW-C  
Board Chair  
State Board of Social Work Examiners