

Mary Elizabeth DeMartino, LCSW-C

Date: July 1, 2025

Susan Coppage, LCSW-C
Board Chair
State Board of Social Work Examiners
4201 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

RE: Surrender of Social Work License
License Number: 13120
Case Number: 2023-3438 and 2023-3458

Dear Ms. Coppage 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: 13120, effective immediately. I understand that upon surrender of my license, I may not represent myself to the public by title, abbreviation, sign, card, or other representation that I am a licensed social worker in the State of Maryland. Moreover, I may not engage in the practice of social work, in any capacity, as defined in the Maryland Social Workers Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occupations ("Health Occ.") §§ 19-101 *et seq.*, (2021 Repl. Vol. and 2024 Supp.) and other applicable laws. In other words, as of the effective date of this Letter of Surrender, I understand 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 Maryland State Board of Social Work Examiners (the "Board").

My decision to surrender my license to practice social work in the State of Maryland follows the Board's investigation of a complaint against my license which led to the Board issuing disciplinary charges against me under the Act under Case Numbers: 2023-3438 and 2023-3458 (the "Charging Document"). I have decided to surrender my license to practice social work in the State of Maryland rather than continue with further proceedings and prosecution of the disciplinary charges now pending before the Board.

- E. The licensee may not engage in sexual misconduct with a client, supervisee, student, trainee, or colleague over whom the licensee exercises professional authority.
- F. The licensee may not terminate professional services or a professional relationship with a client in order to enter into a nonprofessional, social, or sexual relationship with the client or an individual with whom the client has a personal relationship.

The Board based these charges on the following allegations:

1. In or around January 2020, the Complainant began therapy with Respondent through the online platform BetterHelp. The Complainant sought therapy to help deal with recent deaths of close family members and also to help overcome flashbacks and trust issues that resulted from an abusive relationship with a prior therapist. All of the therapy sessions were conducted virtually.

2. During the initial therapy sessions, the Complainant informed Respondent that she had been emotionally and sexually abused by a former therapist. The Complainant also told Respondent in later therapy sessions that she was having sexual fantasies about the Respondent and that she wanted to have a sexual relationship with Respondent, which the Respondent declined.

3. On or about September 29, 2020, the therapeutic relationship between the Respondent and Complainant ended.

4. In or around March 2021, the Complainant and Respondent began a consensual personal and sexual relationship. Their sexual relationship ended in October, 2023.

5. Following the ending of their relationship, the Complainant personally and through an attorney requested that Respondent not contact her.

6. On or about November 8, 2023, the Complainant filed and was granted a protective order (the "Order") against Respondent in the District Court of Maryland for Baltimore County based on Complainant's assertion that Respondent made numerous attempts to contact the Complainant after their personal relationship ended.

7. On or about May 1, 2024, Respondent was found guilty in the District Court of Maryland for Baltimore County of violation of the Order. Respondent was placed on probation for one (1) year and ordered not to have any contact with the Complainant.

8. On December 19, 2024, Respondent was found guilty of having contacted the Complainant in violation of the Order. The District Court of Maryland for Baltimore County modified the Order to three (3) years of unsupervised probation.

I wish to make clear that I have voluntarily, knowingly, and freely chosen to submit this Letter of Surrender in lieu of an Administrative Hearing on the Charges and prosecution of the aforementioned allegations. I do not wish to have a Hearing or contest these allegations. I acknowledge that for all purposes relevant to my licensure, the allegations set forth above will be treated as if proven.

I acknowledge that upon my execution of this Letter of Surrender, I shall surrender to the Board my Maryland Social Work license, License number 13120, including any wall certificate, renewal certificates, and wall-sized renewal cards in my possession.

I understand that the Board will advise the Association of State Boards of Social Work, the National Practitioners' Data Bank, any other required entities of this Letter of Surrender, and in any response to any inquiry, that I have surrendered my license in lieu of further disciplinary action under the Act. I also understand that in the event I would apply for license in any form in any other state or jurisdiction, that this Letter of Surrender and the underlying investigative documents 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 Govt., § 10-611 et seq., (2021 Repl. Vol. and 2024 Repl.). Finally, I understand that this Letter of Surrender is considered a disciplinary action by the Board.

I recognize and agree that by submitting this Letter of Surrender, my license will remain surrendered unless and until the Board grants reinstatement of my license. I understand that I may apply for reinstatement of my Maryland Social Work license in two (2) years following the date of my surrendering my license to the Board. I also understand that if I apply for reinstatement of my Maryland license, the Board or its successor has absolute discretion to grant or deny my application for reinstatement. If the Board does grant reinstatement, it may impose any terms and conditions the Board considers appropriate for public safety and the protection of the integrity and reputation of the profession. I further understand that if I file a petition for reinstatement, I approach the Board or its successor in

the same position as an individual whose license has been revoked. I also understand that if I apply for reinstatement, I will bear the burden of demonstrating my professional competence and fitness to practice social work to the satisfaction of the Board.

I acknowledge that I may not rescind this Letter of Surrender in part or in its entirety for any reason whatsoever. I have been advised of my right to be represented by the attorney of my choice throughout proceedings before the Board, including the right to counsel with an attorney prior to 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 voluntarily choose to surrender my Maryland license to practice social work pursuant to the terms and conditions set out herein. I make this decision knowingly and voluntarily.


Mary Elizabeth DeMartino, LCSW-C

NOTARY

STATE OF MARYLAND

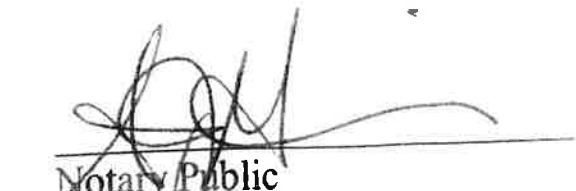
CITY/COUNTY OF Carroll/Barrett

I hereby certify that on this 1 day of July, 2025,

before me, a Notary Public of the State of Maryland and County aforesaid, personally appeared, **MARY ELIZABETH DEMARTINO, LCSW-C, License Number: 13120**, and declared and affirmed under the penalties of perjury that signing the foregoing Letter of Surrender was her voluntary act and deed

AS WITNESS my hand and Notarial seal.




Notary Public

On this day of **July 11, 2025**, I, Kevin Meenan, LCSW-C, Board Chair on behalf of the Maryland State Board of Social Work Examiners accept the SURRENDER of the license of Mary Elizabeth DeMartino, LCSW-C, License Number: 13120, to practice social work in the State of Maryland.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Meenan LCSW-C". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Kevin Meenan, LCSW-C
Board Chair
Maryland State Board of Social Work Examiners