

Vanessa J. Freeman LCSW-C

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BEFORE THE

Respondent

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MARYLAND STATE BOARD

Received

License Number: 04737

MAY 31 2019

OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

Board of Social
Work Examiners

Board Case Number: 2019-2624

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PRE – CHARGE CONSENT ORDER

Background

Vanessa J. Freeman, 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, 2017. As a condition of continue licensure, licensed social workers are required to obtain thirty (30) 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. Freeman 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. Freeman agreed to resolve this matter as set forth in this Consent Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. At all times relevant hereto, Ms. Freeman was licensed to practice social work in Maryland, License No. 04737. Ms. Freeman, LCSW-C was first licensed by the Board on February 16, 1985, and her license was set to expire on October 31, 2019.
2. All licensees are required to sign a statement on the renewal application attesting to having completed this requirement.
3. On January 9, 2019, Ms. Freeman was mailed a letter from the Association of Social Work Boards ("ASWB") on behalf of the Board stating that he 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.
4. On February 11, 2019, Ms. Freeman was mailed a second notice from ASWB "2017 Post Renewal Audit-Problem Notice". The Board received a letter and documentation on February 8, 2018. This information was mailed to ASWB.
5. On March 6, 2019, a third letter was sent by ASWB "2018 Post Renewal Audit-Problem Notice". It states that the documentation is not in compliance, her explanation has been received and documented, and that her audit will be forwarded to the Board.
6. Ms. Freeman held an active license during the time period outlined in this audit and is required to submit all continuing education documentation. In addition, she renewed her LCSW-C license on 10/12/2018 for the period from November 1, 2018 to October 31, 2020.

7. Ms. Freeman did not meet continuing education requirements and failed the audit.

CONCLUSION OF LAW

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

ORDER

Based on an affirmative vote of a majority of the Board, it is this 10th day of May 2019, hereby:

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

ORDERED Ms. Freeman shall pay a fine of \$1500;

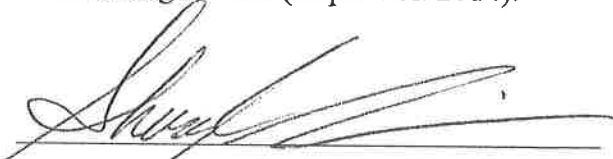
ORDERED that Ms. Freeman will automatically be audited during the next two licensing renewal cycles.

ORDERED that Ms. Freeman will complete the outstanding 15 Category I and 20 Category I or II CEU's in this audit 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).

Date

6/14/19



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.

5/29/2019

Date



Vanessa J. Freeman, LCSW-C

STATE OF MARYLAND
COUNTY/CITY OF Baltimore :

I hereby certify that on this 29th day of May,
2019, before me a Notary Public of the State of Maryland and County/City aforesaid, personally
appeared Vanessa J. Freeman, LCSW-C, and made an oath in due form that the foregoing
Consent was her voluntary act and deed.

RACHEL ELIZABETH HILL
Notary Public-Maryland
Baltimore County
My Commission Expires
July 17, 2021



Notary Public

My commission expires: 7/17/21