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IN THE MATTER OF

MARYLAND BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS BEFORE THE MARYLAND

ANTHONY HA, LMSW

* STATE BOARD OF

RESPONDENT

* SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

License Number: 28348 (Expired)

* Case Number: 2023-3389

* * * * *

CONSENT ORDER

On October 7, 2025, the Maryland State Board of Social Work Examiners (the "Board") charged ANTHONY HA, LMSW, (the "Respondent"), License Number 28348 (Expired), with violating the Maryland Social Workers Practice Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occupations ("Health Occ.") §§ 19-101 *et seq.* (2021 Repl. Vol. & 2024 Supp.).

The pertinent provision of the Act provides the following:

Subject to the hearing provisions of § 19-312 of this subtitle, the Board may deny a license to any applicant, fine a licensee, reprimand any licensee, place any licensee on probation, or suspend or revoke a license if the applicant or licensee:

- (13) Submits a false statement to collect a fee.

On December 4, 2025, a Case Resolution Conference was held before a committee of the Board. As a resolution of this matter, the Respondent agreed to enter into this public Consent Order consisting of the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Board makes the following Findings of Fact:

I. BACKGROUND

1. The Respondent was originally licensed to practice master social work as a Licensed Master Social Worker (“LMSW”) in Maryland on or about March 21, 2022, under license number 28348. The Respondent did not renew his LMSW license, which expired on October 31, 2024.

2. The Respondent was employed as a therapist at a health care facility (the “Facility”)¹ in Maryland from approximately November 2022 until his employment termination in May 2023.

3. On or about May 5, 2023, the Board received a complaint (the “Complaint”) from the owner (the “Complainant”) of the Facility, who is licensed to provide professional counseling in Maryland, alleging that the results of an internal audit revealed that the Respondent had inappropriately billed for telehealth therapy sessions while working at the Facility.

4. After receiving the Complainant, the Board initiated an investigation of the Respondent.

II. BOARD INVESTIGATION

5. The Board’s investigation revealed that the Complainant hired the Respondent in or around November 2022 to provide therapy to clients at the Facility. The Respondent was the only employee at the Facility at that time.

¹ For confidentiality and privacy purposes, the names of individuals and entities involved in this matter are not disclosed in this document.

6. Upon being hired, the Respondent was trained by the Complainant on how to code and bill therapy sessions based on the duration of the sessions. The Complainant also provided the Respondent with a printout containing the various billing codes to be used. The Facility paid the Respondent based on the number and duration of therapy sessions he provided.

7. Initially, the Respondent worked a hybrid schedule where he saw some clients in person while seeing others using approved videoconferencing platforms. For all therapy sessions provided, the Respondent was required to manually document the start-time and the end-time. For telehealth using videoconferencing, the Facility's electronic health record system additionally recorded the actual start-time and end-time of all therapy sessions electronically.

8. Approximately two months after the Respondent started at the Facility, he requested permission to provide all therapy sessions using videoconferencing to which the Complainant agreed.

9. In or around May 2023, the Complainant conducted an internal audit of the therapy sessions the Respondent provided. The Complainant initially reviewed the therapy sessions the Respondent provided on May 22, 2023, and May 23, 2023. The Complainant's review revealed discrepancies between the start/end time the Respondent manually documented and the start/end time that the Facility's electronic health records system recorded.

10. The Complainant then audited all of the therapy sessions the Respondent provided using the Facility's videoconferencing platform from December 13, 2022, to May

18, 2023. The Complainant's audit revealed that of the 294 therapy sessions the Respondent provided during that time period, the Respondent billed 130 sessions at a higher service code than the length of time he actually spent for the sessions. A comparison of the start/end time the Respondent manually documented with the start/end time the Facility's electronic health records system recorded also showed wide discrepancies.

11. Based on the results of the internal audit, the Complainant terminated the Respondent's employment at the Facility.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes as a matter of law that the Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes submitting a false statement to collect a fee, in violation of Health Occ. § 19-311(13).

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is this 20th day of February, 2026, by a majority of the Board considering this case:

ORDERED that the Respondent be and hereby is **REPRIMANDED**; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent shall notify the Pennsylvania State licensing board of the existence of the Consent Order, as well as any employer; and it is further

ORDERED that if the Board has reason to believe that the Respondent has failed to comply with any term or condition of probation or this Consent Order, the Respondent shall be given notice and an opportunity for a hearing. If there is a genuine dispute as to a

material fact, the hearing shall be an evidentiary hearing before the Board. If there is no genuine dispute as to a material fact, the Respondent shall be given a show cause hearing before the Board; and it is further

ORDERED that after the appropriate hearing, if the Board determines that the Respondent has failed to comply with any term or condition of probation or this Consent Order, the Board may reprimand the Respondent, place the Respondent on probation with appropriate terms and conditions, or suspend or revoke the Respondent’s license to practice social work in Maryland. The Board may, in addition to one or more of the sanctions set forth above, impose a civil monetary fine upon the Respondent; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent shall not serve or continue to serve as: a Board authorized sponsor, presenter and/or trainer of social work continuing education learning activities, an ethics tutor, an evaluator for the Board, or a Board-approved supervisor for a period of five (5) years from the effective date of this Consent Order; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent shall be responsible for all costs incurred in fulfilling the terms and conditions of this Consent Order; and it is further

ORDERED that this Consent Order is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Provisions §§ 4-101 *et seq.* (2021 Repl. Vol.).



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

CONSENT

I, Anthony Ha, LMSW, acknowledge that I am represented by counsel and have consulted with counsel before entering into this Consent Order. By this Consent and for the purpose of resolving the issues raised by the Board, I agree and accept to be bound by the foregoing Consent Order and its conditions.

I acknowledge the validity of this Consent Order as if entered into after the conclusion of a formal evidentiary hearing in which I would have had the right to counsel, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to call witnesses on my own behalf, and to all other substantive and procedural protections provided by the law. I agree to forego my opportunity to challenge these allegations. I acknowledge the legal authority and jurisdiction of the Board to initiate these proceedings and to issue and enforce this Consent Order. I affirm that I am waiving my right to appeal any adverse ruling of the Board that might have followed after any such hearing.

I sign this Consent Order after having an opportunity to consult with counsel, voluntarily and without reservation, and I fully understand and comprehend the language, meaning and terms of this Consent Order.

2-18-26
Date



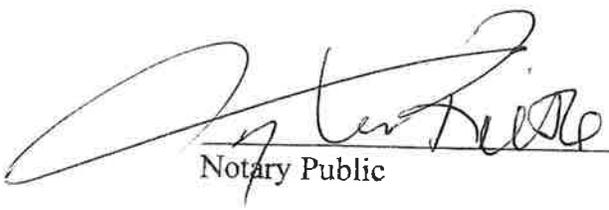
Anthony Ha, LMSW

NOTARY

Pennsylvania
STATE OF ~~MARYLAND~~
CITY/COUNTY OF Allegheny

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 13th day of February
_____, 2026, before me, a Notary Public of the foregoing State and City/County
personally appear Anthony Ha, LMSW, and made oath in due form of law that signing the
foregoing Consent Order was his voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESSETH my hand and notary seal.



Notary Public

My commission expires: 07/22/2028

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal
Tyler Rietze, Notary Public
Allegheny County
My commission expires July 22, 2028
Commission number 1373092
Member, Pennsylvania Association of Notaries