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APR 25 2023

Maryland Board of  
Social Work Examiners

**IN THE MATTER OF**  
**ARIANNA HARP, LMSW**  
**Respondent**

\* **BEFORE THE**  
\* **STATE BOARD OF**  
\* **SOCIAL WORK**  
\* **EXAMINERS**

**License No. 24660**

\* **Case No. 2021-2936**

\* \* \* \* \*

**FINAL CONSENT ORDER**

Based on information received and a subsequent investigation by the State Board of Social Work Examiners (the "Board"), and subject to Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 19-101, *et seq.*, (2021 Repl. Vol.) (the "Act"), and its Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR), the Board issued Charges against the license to practice as a Licensed Master Social Worker ("LMSW") of **Arianna Harp** (the "Respondent"), charging her thereunder.

Specifically, the Board charged the Respondent with violation of the following:

§ 19-311:

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

- (4) Commits any act of gross negligence, incompetence, or misconduct in the practice of social work;
- (6) Engages in a course of conduct that is inconsistent with generally accepted professional standards in the practice of social work;
- (7) Violates any provision of this title or regulations governing the practice of social work adopted and published by the Board;

- (12) Knowingly makes or files a false report or record in the practice of social work;
- (13) Knowingly fails to file or record any report as required by law, willfully impedes or obstructs the filing or recording of the report, or induces another to fail to file the report;
- (21) Fails to maintain adequate patient records.

Specifically, the Board further charged that the Respondent violated its Code of Ethics regulations, COMAR § 10.42.03.

.03 Responsibilities to Clients.

A. The licensee shall:

- (b) Accurately reflects the services provided, including treatment plans, treatment goals, and contact notes;
- (c) Indicates the time and date the services were provided;
- (d) Protects the client's privacy by including only information directly relevant to the delivery of services;
- (e) Is sufficient and timely to facilitate the delivery and continuity of future services [;].

B. The licensee may not:

- (1) Participate or condone dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation;
- (6) Engage or participate in an action that violates or diminishes the civil or legal rights of a client [;].

.06 Standards of Practice. A. Professional Competence.

A. Professional Competence. The licensee shall:

- (7) Document and maintain appropriate and accurate records of

professional service [;].

The Respondent was given notice of the issues underlying the Board's Charges by letter dated September 2, 2022. Accordingly, a Case Resolution Conference was held on November 21, 2022 and was attended by Board members, Board Staff and Counsel to the Board. Also, in attendance were the Respondent and her attorney, and the Administrative Prosecutor.

Following the Case Resolution Conference, the parties and the Board agreed to resolve the matter by way of settlement. The parties and the Board agreed to the following:

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

#### **BACKGROUND**

1. At all times relevant to the charges herein, Respondent was licensed to practice Licensed Masters Social Work (LMSW) in the State of Maryland. The Respondent was first licensed on February 25, 2019. Her license expired on October 31, 2021.
2. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent practiced with a social work agency in Maryland which dealt with services for foster children, hereinafter, the Agency<sup>1</sup>.
3. On or about February 25, 2021, the Board received a complaint from a LCSW-C social worker staff member of the Agency, the Complainant, who was the Respondent's former Supervisor advising the Board that the Respondent had been terminated from the Agency.

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<sup>1</sup>Names of individuals and agencies are confidential.

4. Specifically, the Complainant informed the Board that, on or about January 5, 2021, the Complainant received a request from a worker at the Department of Social Services (DSS) regarding the exchange of a foster child's belongings. It was discovered that the foster child's belongings could not be accounted for by the Respondent, despite the Respondent's notation to the contrary.

5. Upon further investigation, it was determined that when the foster child was transferred out of the program, the Respondent was supposed to provide the DSS social worker with the child's belongings, which included clothing and a television set. However, the Respondent failed to communicate with the DSS social worker, which caused her to contact the Agency Program Director and the Complainant.

6. Once the Complainant contacted the Respondent about providing the child's belongings to the DSS social worker, the Respondent informed the Complainant that she did not have them, and they were not in the storage room of the Agency where she had been directed to place them. Rather, she claimed that they had been left in her rental car which had been involved in an accident and had been towed away and she had been subsequently unable to locate.<sup>2</sup>

7. Subsequently, the Agency reimbursed the foster child \$1671 for her lost belongings.

8. During the weekly supervisory session, the Respondent indicated that she would have to "catch up" with her documentation regarding this incident. Documentation is

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<sup>2</sup> Though the Respondent claimed that she did not have the child's television, she admitted to having the remote-

supposed to be done on a weekly basis, according to the Complainant. However, the Respondent then submitted documentation going back to July 2020, which notes were received by the Complainant on or about January 1, 2021. The back-dated notes triggered an audit which disclosed the following:

The specific notes where discrepancies were discovered are: 1/6/21, 12/31/20, 12/9/20 and 10/21/20;

- During the meeting, the Respondent stated that she listed one foster parent as a participant even though she did not have a conversation at that time with that foster parent;
- The Respondent admitted sending text messages to clients and would combine multiple interactions within one clinical document, leading to an inaccurate representation of services;
- The Respondent admitted that she has on multiple occasions met with clients without the presence of foster parents;
- A foster parent stated one virtual visit and three porch visits were completed when the client was in her home; however, the Respondent submitted client contact notes representing 11 weeks of visits;
- A foster parent and client reported there were no visits on 12/2/20, 12/30/20 and 1/6/21, and that the first visit for 2021 was 1/13/21. However, the Respondent submitted notes for visits occurring on the

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control device to it.

previously mentioned dates.

- Another client reported that whenever she talked to the Respondent it was for five minutes at a time by telephone and noted the following visits: 10/8/20, 11/6/20, 11/24/20, 12/9/20 and 12/31/20. The Respondent documented 10/8/20, 10/14/20, 10/21/20, 10/30/20, 11/5/20, 11/19/20, 12/4/20, 12/9/20, 12/16/20, 12/24/20 and 1/6/21.
- A foster parent submitted her weekly documentation showing no visit for 12/5/20, whereas the Respondent showed a visit for that date.

9. As a result of the above, the Respondent was terminated from employment with the Agency on 1/21/21.

10. The Respondent disputes the fact that she was allowed to place the client's belongings at the agency because it was closed during COVID and claims that her notes were up to date.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes as a matter of law that the Respondent violated §§ 19-311(4), (6), (7), (12), (13) and (21) of the Act and COMAR 10.42.03.03 A. (b), (c) and (d) and, B. (1) and (6) and, .06 A. (7).

## ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and agreement of the parties, it is this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May 2023, by a majority of a quorum of the Board, it is hereby:

**ORDERED** that the Respondent's license to practice as a Licensed Master Social Worker be placed on PROBATION for two years, should she re-apply/reinstate her license, subject to the following conditions:

During the Probation:

- A. The Respondent shall take, pass and document to the Board a Board-pre-approved in-person or live Webinar course in ethics, which shall not be counted towards her CEUs;
- B. The Respondent shall take, pass and document to the Board a Board-pre-approved in-person or live Webinar course in documentation, which shall not be counted towards her CEUs;
- C. The Respondent shall be supervised by a Board-pre-approved Supervisor who shall send in quarterly reports of that Supervision to the Board. The Respondent shall supply to the Supervisor, prior to the supervision, a copy of this Consent Order; the Supervisor shall acknowledge receipt of same to the Board within two weeks. The Respondent shall provide a copy to the Board of all releases necessary for the release of reports to the Board.

for the release of reports to the Board.

**ORDERED** that the Consent Order is effective as of the date of its signing by the Board; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall obey all laws and regulations governing the practice of Social Work in Maryland; and it is further

**ORDERED** that, should the Board receive information that the Respondent has violated the Act or if the Respondent violates any conditions of this Order or of Probation, after providing the Respondent with notice and an opportunity for a hearing, the Board may take further disciplinary action against the Respondent, including suspension or revocation. The burden of proof for any action brought against the Respondent as a result of a breach of the conditions of the Order or of Probation shall be on the Respondent to demonstrate compliance with the Order or conditions; and it is further

**ORDERED**, that for purposes of public disclosure, as permitted by Md. General Provisions, Code Ann. §§ 4-101, *et seq.* (Repl. Vol. 2019 and 2021 Supp.), this document consists of the contents of the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order, and that the Board may also disclose same to any national reporting data bank that it is mandated to report to.

5/1/2023



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Sondra Petty, LCSW-C, Board Chair  
State Board of Social Work Examiners




CONSENT OF ARIANNA HARP, LMSW

I, **Arianna Harp, LMSW**, am represented by counsel, D.H. Andreas Lundstedt, Esquire, 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, voluntarily and without reservation, after having an opportunity to consult with counsel, and I fully understand and comprehend the language, meaning and terms of this Consent Order.

04/19/2023  
Date

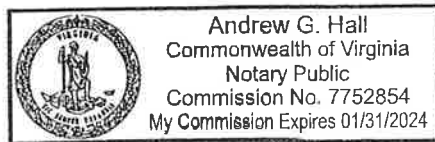
  
Arianna Harp, LMSW

STATE OF Virginia \_\_\_\_\_:

CITY/COUNTY OF Fredericksburg \_\_\_\_\_:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 19<sup>th</sup> day of April \_\_\_\_\_ 2023, before me, a Notary Public of the foregoing State and (City/County), personally appeared **Arianna Harp, LMSW, License No. 24660**, and made oath in due form of law that signing the foregoing Consent Order was her voluntary act and deed, and the statements made herein are true and correct.

AS WITNESSETH my hand and notarial seal.



Andrew G. Hall  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024