

IN THE MATTER OF * BEFORE THE MARYLAND
RODNEY L. HORTON, JR., LMSW * STATE BOARD OF
License Number: 30492 * SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
Respondent * Case Number: 2024-3647

* * * * *

CONSENT ORDER

On January 29, 2026, the Maryland State Board of Social Work Examiners (the “Board”) charged **RODNEY L. HORTON, JR., LMSW** (the “Respondent”), License Number **30492**, with violating the Maryland Social Workers Act (the “Act”), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. (“Health Occ.”) §§ 19-101 *et seq.* (2021 Repl. Vol. & 2025 Supp.).

Specifically, the Board charged the Respondent with violating the following provisions of the Act:

§ 19-311. Denials, reprimands, suspensions, and revocations — Grounds.

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:

...

(2) Fraudulently or deceptively uses a license;

...

(4) Commits any act of gross negligence, incompetence, or misconduct in the practice of social work;

(5) Engages in a course of conduct that is inconsistent with generally accepted professional standards in the practice of social work;

- (6) Violates any provision of this title or regulations governing the practice of social work adopted and published by the Board;

...

- (11) Makes or files a false report or record in the practice of social work; [or]

...

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

Pursuant to Health Occ. § 19-311(6), the Board charged the Respondent with violating the following provisions of the Code of Maryland Regulations (“COMAR”):

COMAR 10.42.03 Code of Ethics

.03 Responsibilities to Clients.

A. The licensee shall:

...

- (5) Maintain documentation in the client's record which:

...

- (b) Accurately reflects the services provided, including treatment plans, treatment goals, and contact notes; [and]
- (c) Indicates the time and date the services were provided[.]

...

B. The licensee may not:

- (1) Participate or condone dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation[.]

.06 Standards of Practice.

A. Professional Competence. The licensee shall:

...

- (7) Document and maintain appropriate and accurate records of professional service, supervision, and research work[.]

On March 5, 2026, a Case Resolution Conference ("CRC") was held before a committee of the Board. As a resolution of this matter, the Respondent agreed to enter this public Consent Order consisting of Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Board makes the following Findings of Fact:

I. BACKGROUND

1. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was licensed to practice social work in the State of Maryland. The Respondent was originally licensed to practice social work as a Licensed Master Social Worker ("LMSW") in Maryland on or about August 9, 2023, under license number 30492. The Respondent's LMSW license expires on October 31, 2027, subject to renewal.

2. On or about November 27, 2024, the Board received a complaint (the "Complaint") from an individual (the "Complainant"),¹ who is licensed as a Licensed Certified Social Worker-Clinical ("LCSW-C") in the State of Maryland. The Complainant

¹ For confidentiality and privacy purposes, the names of individuals and entities involved in this matter are not disclosed in this document. Upon written request, the Administrative Prosecutor will provide the information to the Respondent.

provided supervision to the Respondent and received information that the Respondent may have engaged in fraudulent billing practices.

3. After receiving the Complaint, the Board initiated an investigation of the Respondent.

II. BOARD INVESTIGATION

5. On or about May 28, 2025, the Board conducted an under-oath interview with the Complainant. The Complainant stated that she was subcontracted by a counseling practice (“Employer A”) “to provide clinical supervision to their social workers.”² According to the Complainant, Employer A “provides their own onboarding training, a very extensive training actually.” The Complainant began providing supervision to the Respondent in conjunction with his employment with Employer A on September 3, 2024, and met with the Respondent weekly. During supervision, the Complainant discussed concerns with the Respondent regarding his billing practices. The Complainant communicated expectations about using “the correct start and end time” and “the correct CPT code[.]”³ The Complainant later received information from one of the Respondent’s co-workers, who the Complainant also supervised, that the Respondent may have engaged in fraudulent billing.

6. On or about July 10, 2025, the Board conducted an under-oath interview with the Respondent. The Respondent confirmed that the Complainant was his supervisor while

² All findings of fact in this paragraph are based on the Complainant’s testimony. All quotations in this paragraph are quotations of the Complainant.

³ CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) Codes are used for medical billing. With respect to practice of social work, they generally denote the session length.

he was employed by Employer A. The Respondent stated that he worked as a clinician for both Employer A and a previous counseling practice (“Employer B”). The Respondent replied in the affirmative to the question of whether “[a]t any time did you willfully commit fraud related to billing.” Regarding instances of fraud related to billing, the Respondent stated that there were “some appointments at [Employer A]” and “there have been a few” with Employer B. The Respondent did not know the total number of instances or their dates. The Respondent stated that there were instances with Employer A where he documented hourlong sessions that lasted, for one session, “somewhere between 10 and 20 minutes” and for two other sessions, “somewhere between 30 and 40 minutes[.]” The Respondent stated that there were instances with Employer B where he documented 45-minute sessions that lasted for “15 or 20 minutes[.]”

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Respondent’s conduct, as set forth in the Allegations of Fact, constitutes, in whole or in part, violations of Health Occ. § 19-311(2), (4), (5), (6), (11), and (13); COMAR 10.42.03.03A(5)(b) and (c); COMAR 10.42.03.03B(1); and COMAR 10.42.03.06A(7).

ORDER

It is, on the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board, hereby:

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

ORDERED that the Respondent shall be placed on **PROBATION** for a minimum period of **ONE (1) YEAR** subject to the following terms conditions:

1. Within six (6) months of the date of this Consent Order, the Respondent shall successfully complete one Board-approved course on professional ethics and one Board-approved course on record keeping. The Respondent shall be responsible for submitting written documentation to the Board of his successful completion of these courses. The Respondent understands and agrees that he may not use this coursework to fulfill any requirements mandated for licensure renewal. The Respondent shall be solely responsible for furnishing the Board with adequate written verification that he has completed the courses according to the terms set forth herein;
2. The Respondent shall comply with the Maryland Social Workers Act and all laws, statutes and regulations pertaining thereof; and
3. The Respondent shall submit to the Board quarterly reports from his Board-approved supervisor that the Respondent is in compliance with the Maryland Social Workers Act and all laws, statutes and regulations pertaining thereof.

AND IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that after the conclusion of the entire **ONE (1) YEAR** period of probation, the Respondent may submit a written petition to the Board requesting termination of probation. After consideration of the petition, the probation may be terminated through an order of the Board. The Respondent may be required to appear before the Board or a committee of the Board to discuss his petition for termination. The Board will grant the petition to terminate the probation if the Respondent has complied with all of the probationary terms and conditions and there are no pending complaints involving similar violations found in this case before the Board; and it is further

ORDERED that if the Board determines, after notice and an opportunity for an evidentiary hearing if there is a genuine dispute as to a material fact or a show cause hearing before the Board if there is no genuine dispute as to a material fact, that the Respondent has failed to comply with any terms or condition of probation or this Consent Order, the Board may reprimand the Respondent, place the Respondent on probation with appropriate

terms and conditions, impose a civil monetary fine upon the Respondent, or suspend or revoke the Respondent's license to practice social work in Maryland; 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 is 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. & 2025 Supp.).

04/08/2026
Date



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

CONSENT

I, Rodney L. Horton, Jr., 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 for a formal evidentiary hearing. 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.

3/30/26
Date

Rodney L. Horton, Jr.
Rodney L. Horton, Jr., LMSW
Respondent

NOTARY

STATE OF MARYLAND

CITY/COUNTY OF Baltimore

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 30th day of March, 2026, before me, a Notary Public of the foregoing State and City/County personally appear Rodney L. Horton, Jr., 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.



[Signature]
Notary Public

My commission expires: 4/25/2027