

<b>IN THE MATTER OF</b>  <b>JOEL LIGHTFOOT, LCSW-C</b> <b>LICENSE NUMBER: 14423</b>	* * * * * * *	<b>BEFORE THE MARYLAND STATE</b>  <b>BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK</b> <b>EXAMINERS</b>  <b>Case Number(s): 2020-2887,</b> <b>2020-2896, 2020-2901, 2020-2093,</b> <b>2020-2906, 2021-3014, 2021-3054,</b> <b>2021-3055, 2021-3060, 2021-2081,</b> <b>2021-3089</b>
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**ORDER**

The Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners (the “Board”) received multiple complaints alleging unprofessional conduct, sexual misconduct and boundary violations against Joel Lightfoot, LCSW-C, License No.: 14423. During the course of its investigation, on or about March 24, 2022, the Board received a letter from Joel Lightfoot surrendering his license to practice social work in the State of Maryland. The Board hereby finds the following:

(a) That the letter surrendering Joel Lightfoot’s license to practice social work in the State of Maryland was prompted by the filing and investigation of multiple complaints alleging unprofessional conduct, sexual misconduct and boundary violations in his social work practice under the license issued by the Maryland State Board of Social Work Examiners (the “Board”);

(b) That the Board’s acceptance of the surrender of Joel Lightfoot’s license to practice social work in the State of Maryland shall not be deemed as an admission or assent to any of the

concerns against the Board, its agents or assigns that are listed in Joel Lightfoot's letter of surrender;

(c) That the Board's acceptance of Joel Lightfoot's surrender of his license to practice social work in Maryland will end any investigation of the complaints against his license and avoid the possibility of prosecution of disciplinary charges under the provisions of Title 19 of the Health Occupations Article (the "Act");

(d) That the execution of the letter of surrender implies Joel Lightfoot knowing and voluntarily waives any right to contest the allegations complained against him in a formal evidentiary hearing at which he would have had the right to counsel, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to call witnesses on his own behalf and all other substantive and procedural protections provided by law, including the right to appeal; and

It is on this 14th day of October, 2022, hereby:

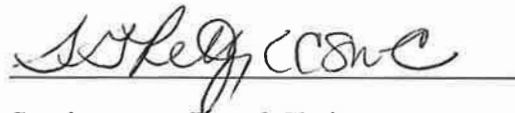
**ORDERED** that the Joel Lightfoot's surrender of License No.: 14423 to practice social work in the State of Maryland is **ACCEPTED** by the Board; and it is

**ORDERED**, that Joel Lightfoot may not practice social work, with or without compensation, or otherwise engage in the practice of social work in the State of Maryland as it is defined in the Maryland Social Workers Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occupations. ("Health Occ.") §§ 19-101 *et seq.*, (2014 Repl. Vol. & 2019 Supp.) and other applicable laws; and it is further

**ORDERED**, that as of the effective date of this Order, Joel Lightfoot is in the same position as an unlicensed individual in the State of Maryland; and it is further

**ORDERED**, that the Board shall advise the National Practitioners' Data Bank of the Letter of Surrender, and the Board may indicate in any response to any inquiry, that Joel Lightfoot surrendered his license in lieu of further investigation or disciplinary action under the Act; and it is further

**ORDERED** that this is a Public Document pursuant to Maryland Code, Ann., General Provisions §§4-301 *et seq.*

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sondra Petty", is written over a horizontal line.

Sondra Petty, Board Chair  
Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners