

IN THE MATTER OF * BEFORE THE
Emmanuel M. Mbadiugha * MARYLAND STATE BOARD
Respondent * OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
License Number: 17277 * Board Case Number: 2020-2865

* * * * *

PRE – CHARGE CONSENT ORDER

Background

Emmanuel Mbadiugha, 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 forty (40) 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 Mr. Mbadiugha 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 Mr. Mbadiugha agreed to resolve this matter as set forth in this Consent Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. At all times relevant hereto, Mr. Mbadiugha was licensed to practice social work in Maryland, License No. 17277. Mr. Mbadiugha was first licensed by the Board on July 28, 2011, and his license is set to expire on October 31, 2021.
2. All licensees are required to sign a statement on the renewal application attesting to having completed this requirement.
3. On January 4, 2018, Mr. Mbadiugha 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 16, 2018, Mr. Mbadiugha was mailed a second notice from ASWB "2017 Post Renewal Audit-Problem Notice".
5. A third letter, 2017 Post Renewal Audit-Problem Notice was sent on March 8, 2018 stating his file will be forwarded to the Board. Follow up email sent by the Board on July 13, 2020. No response.
6. Mr. Mbadiugha held an active LMSW license during the time period outline in this audit and is required to submit all continuing education documentation. In addition, he renewed his LCSW-C license on October 29, 2019 for the period from November 1, 2019 to October 31, 2021.

A review of Emmanuel M. Mbadiugha's CEU certificates by the Board's Continuing Education Office revealed that he earned 17.0 category I, 0 category I ethics, and) category II. continuing education units. There were several trainings which were not accepted. Therefore, Mr. Mbadiugha did not meet the continuing education requirements and failed the audit.

CONCLUSION OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes that Mr. Mbadiugha 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 12 day of March 2021, hereby:

ORDERED that Mr. Mbadiugha's license shall be **REPRIMANDED**; and be it further,

ORDERED that Mr. Mbadiugha will be required to complete the **3.0 outstanding Category I CEU's in Ethics and 20.0 category I or II CEU's**;

ORDERED that Mr. Mbadiugha will pay a fine of \$750;

ORDERED that Mr. Mbadiugha will automatically be audited during the next licensing renewal cycles **(2021 and 2023)**

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, State Government Article, Section 10-617(h).

3/12/2021



Date

Gerard Farrell
Board Chair
Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners

CONSENT

Received

FEB 23 2021

Board of Social Work Examiners

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.

1/23/21

Date



Emmanuel Mbadiugha, LCSW-C

01/23/2021
GEORGE E. OKAI
NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF MARYLAND
My Commission Expires March 25, 2024

Received

FEB 23 2021

STATE OF MARYLAND
COUNTY/CITY OF Prince George's :

Board of Social Work Examiners

I hereby certify that on this 23rd day of January, ~~2020~~ ²⁰²¹, before me a Notary Public of the State of Maryland and County/City aforesaid, personally appeared Emmanuel Mbadiugha, LCSW-C and made an oath in due form that the foregoing Consent was her voluntary act and deed.



Notary Public

My commission expires: 03/25/2024

GEORGE E. OKAI
NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF MARYLAND
My Commission Expires March 25, 2024