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IN THE MATTER OF

Board of Social Work Examiners

BEFORE THE STATE

LISA M. MEIJER, LMSW

*

BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK

*

RESPONDENT

*

EXAMINERS

LICENSE NUMBER: 12025

*

CASE NUMBER: 16-2269

* * * * *

FINAL CONSENT ORDER

The State Board of Social Work Examiners (the "Board") charged Lisa M. Meijer, LMSW, (the "Respondent"), License Number: 12025, (the "Respondent"), under the Maryland Social Workers Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ., ("Health Occ.") §§ 19-101 *et seq.* (2014 Repl. Vol. & 2017 Supp.). Specifically, the Board charged the Respondent with violating the following provisions of the Act:

Health Occ. § 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:

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

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The Board also charged the Respondent with violating:
COMAR 10.42.03.

.03 Responsibilities to Clients.

A. The licensee shall:

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

(a) Is legible;

(b) Accurately reflects the services provided, including treatment plans, treatment goals, and contact notes;

(c) Indicates the time and date the services were provided;

(e) Is sufficient and timely to facilitate the delivery and continuity of services to be delivered in the future[.]

B. The licensee may not:

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Board bases its charges on the following facts that it has reason to believe are true:

1. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was licensed to practice clinical social work in the State of Maryland. The Respondent was originally licensed to practice social work in Maryland on or about November 2, 2005. The Respondent's license expires on October 31, 2021.

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2. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was employed as a social worker at a facility ("Facility A").¹ Facility A provides comprehensive outpatient mental health care throughout Maryland.

3. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent worked at Facility A as a mental health specialist. The Respondent provided therapy to adolescent and adults.

4. The Respondent was employed at Facility A from September 2015 until August 2016.

5. In or around September 2016, the Board received a complaint from a Facility A employee.

6. The complaint alleged that the Respondent failed to properly document client records. The complaint also alleged that the Respondent submitted documents for payment of therapy sessions before she conducted the therapy sessions.

7. An investigation conducted by Facility A staff revealed that the Respondent submitted charge tickets prior to therapy sessions with clients.²

8. The investigation conducted by Facility A also revealed that the Respondent failed to properly document client charts. The Respondent did not obtain client signatures during the therapy sessions with the clients as required by Facility A's policy.

¹ Facility A, Therapist A, and Client A are identified in this document for privacy reasons, but this information will be provided to the Respondent upon request.

² A charge tickets is submitted by therapists to Facility A's finance department for each therapy sessions. Facility A requires therapists to complete a charge ticket after the completion of each therapy session with a client. Facility A's finance department uses the information on the charge ticket to bill insurance companies, Medicaid, and Medicare.

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9. The investigation conducted by Facility A further revealed that on several occasions the Respondent obtained client signatures on the same day and time, even though the patients were seen at different locations.

10. Following the investigation conducted by Facility A, the Respondent was terminated.

11. In or around October 2017, the Board was notified by Facility A that after her departure from Facility A, the Respondent communicated with a former client through text message and instant messenger.

12. After the Respondent left Facility A, her clients at Facility A were assigned to other therapists. Prior to her termination from Facility A the Respondent was providing therapy to a client ("Client A").

13. After the Respondent's departure from Facility A, Therapist A was assigned to Client.

14. Therapist A reported that during therapy sessions, Client A indicated that the Respondent had accepted gifts from Client A. Therapist A reported that Client A also disclosed during therapy sessions that the Respondent continued have contact with Client A through instant messaging.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Board finds that the Respondent violated Health Occ. § 19- 311 (4), (5), (6), (11), (13) and COMAR 10.42.03.03A (5) (a), (b), (c), and (e) and B (1).

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ORDER

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

ORDERED that the Respondent's license to practice graduate social work in the State of Maryland is hereby **SUSPENDED** for a total period of **NINETY (90) DAYS** period **with all but thirty (30) days stayed**; it is further

ORDERED that following the conclusion of the **PERIOD OF SUSPENSION**, the Respondent shall be placed **PROBATION** for a minimum period of **TWO (2) YEARS** and until the following terms and conditions are fully and satisfactorily complied with:

- (1) Within one (1) year from the date the Board executes this Consent Order, the Respondent shall enroll in and successfully complete a Board-approved ethics tutorial. Promptly after the completion of the tutorial, the Respondent shall ensure that the instructor provide the Board with a written report detailing the Respondent's participation in and completion of the tutorial. This ethics tutorial shall be in addition to any course required to satisfy the continuing education requirements for the applicable 2-year licensure renewal period.
- (2) During the probationary period, the Respondent shall be supervised by a Board-approved supervisor ("Probation Supervisor"), subject to the following terms and conditions:
 - (a) Prior to the commencement of probation, the Respondent shall contact the Board to obtain a list of Board-approved supervisors and choose a Probation Supervisor from a list. The Respondent shall provide the Probation Supervisor with a copy of this Consent Order prior to their initial meeting. The Board may release to the Probation Supervisor any portion of the investigative file as it deems necessary by the Board and/or the Probation Supervisor;
 - (b) The Respondent shall meet with the Probation Supervisor for a minimum of three (3) hours per month;

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- (c) The Respondent shall fully comply with all Board guidelines relating to probation supervision as well as all recommendations from the Probation Supervisor;
 - (d) The Respondent shall ensure that the Probation Supervisor provide the Board with written quarterly reports on the Respondent's progress during the supervision;
 - (e) At the conclusion of one (1) year of supervision, the Respondent may petition the Board, or a designated committee of the Board, for a termination of the supervision requirement. The Board or its designated committee may terminate the Respondent's supervision requirement if it deems such action appropriate and the Probation Supervisor recommends such action; and
 - (f) A negative report from the Probation Supervisor or any failure to comply with the Probation Supervisor's recommendations shall be deemed a violation of probation or of this Consent Order.
- (3) Within **THIRTY (30) DAYS** of the execution of the Consent Order, the Respondent shall pay a fine in the amount of **FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500)** by certified check or money order to the Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners.
- (4) The Respondent shall comply with the Maryland Social Workers Act and all laws, statutes and regulations pertaining thereto; 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 after the conclusion of the **TWO (2) YEAR** probationary period, the Respondent may submit a written petition to the Board requesting termination of

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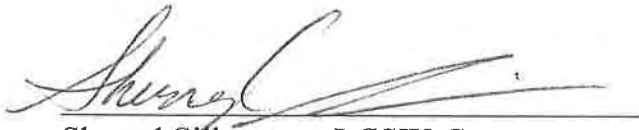
probation. After consideration of the petition, the probation may be terminated, through an order of the Board, or a designated Board committee. The Board, or designated Board committee, may grant the termination if the Respondent has fully and satisfactorily complied with all of the probationary terms and conditions and there are no pending complaints similar to the issues in this case; and it is further

ORDERED that if the Respondent violates any of the terms and conditions of this Consent Order, the Board, in its discretion, after notice and an opportunity for an evidentiary hearing if there is a genuine dispute as to the underlying facts, or an opportunity for a show cause hearing, before the Board otherwise, may impose any sanction which the Board may have imposed in this case, including probationary terms and conditions, a reprimand, suspension, revocation and/or a monetary penalty; and it is further

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

ORDERED that this Consent Order is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 *et seq.* (2014 Repl. Vol. & 2018 Supp.).

12/13/2019
Date


Sherryl Silberman, LCSW-C
Chair
State Board of Social Work Examiners


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CONSENT OF LISA M. MEIJER, LMSW

I, **LISA M. MEIJER, LMSW**, acknowledge that I am represented by Paul T. Stein , and have consulted with my attorney before entering into this Consent Order. By this Consent Order 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 waive any rights I may have to contest the Findings of Fact and the Conclusions of Law. 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 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.

12/11/19
Date


Lisa M Meijer, LMSW

NOTARY

STATE OF Maryland
CITY/COUNTY OF Montgomery

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I hereby certify that on this 11th day of December, 2019, before me, a Notary Public for the State of Maryland and the City/County aforesaid, personally appeared Lisa M. Meijer. LMSW, License Number: 12328 and made oath in due form of law that the foregoing Consent Order was his voluntary act and the statements made herein are true and correct

Angela Keating

AS WITNESS my hand and Notarial Seal.

My Commission Expires: March 7, 2021

