

Ms. Amy L. Montanaro (LCSW-C)

August 6, 2019

VIA E-MAIL & FEDEX

Sherryl Sliberman, LCSW-C
Board Chair
Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners
Metro Executive Building – Unit#98
4201 Patterson Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21215

Re: Surrender of License to Practice Social Work
Amy L. Montanaro, LCSW-C
License Number: 19007
Board Case Number: 2019-2664

Dear Ms. Silberman and Members of the Board:

Please be advised that pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. (“Health Occ.”) §19-310, I have decided to SURRENDER my Certified Social Worker-Clinical License, License Number 19007, to the Maryland State Board of Social Work Examiners (“the Board”).¹

I understand that upon the Board’s acceptance of this letter of surrender, I may not represent to the public by title, description of services, methods, procedures, or otherwise that I am a licensed certified social worker – clinical. Moreover, I understand that I may not practice social work, clinical or otherwise, as defined in the Maryland Social Workers Act (the “Act”), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 19-101 *et seq.* I also understand that the surrender of my license means that I am in the same position as an unlicensed individual.

I understand that this Letter of Surrender is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT**, and upon execution by both myself and the Board, it becomes a **FINAL ORDER** of the Board.

I acknowledge that the Board initiated an investigation of my social work practice and while the matter was under investigation, I presented the Board with this letter of surrender. The Board’s investigation found that I engaged in a dual relationship with a former patient. In furtherance of that relationship, the Board’s investigation found that I gave the former patient a gift, took photographs embracing and holding hands, engaged in several romantic encounters with the former patient, co-signed a lease with the former patient and I transmitted multiple intimate and personal voice and electronic communications with the former patient.

¹ It is my understanding that the Board has full authority to set the conditions of the surrender as well as those for the reinstatement of my license.

I have decided to surrender my license to avoid administrative prosecution as well as any disciplinary actions that the Board might pursue against me. I acknowledge that if the Board were to pursue disciplinary action in this matter, the State would be able to prove by a preponderance of the evidence that I violated certain provisions of the Act, including Health Occ. § 19-311(4) (“commits any act of gross negligence, incompetence, or misconduct in the practice of social work”), and (6) (“violates any provision of this title or regulations governing the practice of social work adopted and published by the Board”), with an underlying violation of COMAR10.42.03.05A (“the licensee may not enter into a dual relationship with a client or an individual with whom the client has a close personal relationship”). I acknowledge for all purposes relevant to my licensure, that the allegations of fact set forth above will be treated as proven.

I have voluntarily, knowingly, and freely chosen to submit this Letter of Surrender. I understand that, by the execution of this Letter of Surrender, I am waiving the right to contest the Board’s investigative findings in a formal evidentiary hearing at which I would have 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 law, including the right to appeal.

I acknowledge that upon the execution of this Letter of Surrender, I shall surrender to the Board my Maryland clinical social worker license, License Number 19007, including any wall certificate, renewal certificates, and wallet-sized renewal cards in my possession. I understand that the Board will advise the National Practitioner Data Bank of this Letter of Surrender, and in any response to inquiry, that I have surrendered my license in lieu of disciplinary action under the Act as resolution of the matters pending against me. I also understand that in the event I would apply for licensure in any form in any other state or jurisdiction, that this Letter of Surrender, and all underlying documents, may be released or published by the Board to the same extent as a final order that would result from disciplinary action pursuant to Md. Code Ann., General Prov. §§ 4-101 *et seq.* (2014).

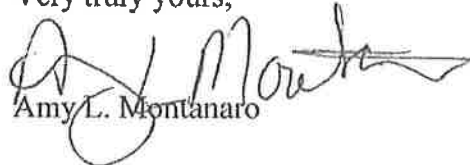
I hereby affirm that I have terminated any social work practice I had in Maryland.

I recognize and agree that by submitting this Letter of Surrender, my license will remain surrendered unless and until the Board grants reinstatement of my license. I understand that if I apply for reinstatement of my Maryland license, the Board or its successor has absolute discretion in granting or denying my application for reinstatement. I further understand that if I file a petition for reinstatement, I will approach the Board or its successor in the same position as an individual who had previously surrendered or lost his or her property rights in his or her social work license.

I acknowledge that I may not rescind this Letter of Surrender in part or in its entirety for any reason whatsoever. I have been represented by an attorney of my choice throughout this matter, and I consulted with an attorney prior to signing this Letter of Surrender. I understand both the nature of the Board’s actions and this Letter of Surrender fully. I acknowledge that I understand and

comprehend the language, meaning and terms and effect of this Letter of Surrender. I make this decision knowingly and voluntarily.

Very truly yours,



Amy L. Montanaro

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NOTARY

STATE OF Maryland
CITY/COUNTY OF Baltimore City

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 6th day of August, 2019 before me,
a Notary Public of the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared Amy Montanaro,
and gave oath in due form of law that the foregoing Letter of Surrender was her voluntary
act and deed.

AS WITNESS, my hand and Notary Seal.

[Signature]
Notary Public

8-6-19
Date



My commission expires 7-18-2020

ACCEPTANCE

On this 9th day of August, 2019, I Sherryl Silberman, LCSW-C,
on behalf of the Maryland State Board of Social Work Examiners, hereby
accept Amy L. Montanaro's **PUBLIC SURRENDER** of her license to practice
social work in the State of Maryland pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 19-310
(2014 Repl. Vol. & 2018 Suppl.).



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