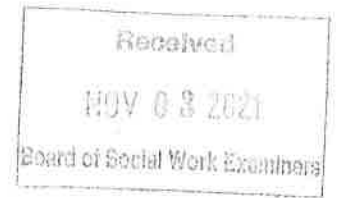


Charlotte F. Pierce, LCSW-C
a/k/a Charlotte F. Spiezio



November 1, 2021
Date



Karen Richards, LCSW-C, Chair
Board of Social Work Examiners
4201 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

Re: Surrender of Licensed Certified Social
Work-Clinical License
License Number: 10428
Case Number: 17016

Dear Ms. Richards and Members of the Board:

Please be advised that I have decided to surrender my license to practice Clinical Social Work in the State of Maryland, License Number 10428. I understand that I may not give clinical counseling advice or treatment to any individual, with or without compensation, cannot practice clinical social work or otherwise engage in the practice of clinical social work or clinical counseling as it is defined in the Social Work Practice Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occupations (Health Occ.) §§19 -101, *et seq.* (2014 Repl. Vol. and 2020 Supp.). In other words, as of November 1, 2021, the effective date of this Letter of Surrender, I 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.

My decision to surrender my license to practice clinical social work in Maryland has been prompted by an investigation of my licensure by the State Board of Social Work Examiners (the "Board").

The Board's investigation resulted in charges under the Act, specifically under § 19-311 and its Code of Ethics.

I affirm that I was served with a copy of the charging document and have otherwise

Karen Richards, LCSW-C, Chair, and Members of the Board

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been advised of the Board's actions through communications with representatives of the Office of the Attorney General. As a result of those Charges, I waived attendance at a Case Resolution Conference and decided, instead, to enter into this agreement with the Board.

The gist of the Board's Charges against me are that, while I worked as an independent contractor on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, I became an approved Supervisor of an intern while she was earning her Masters in Marriage and Family Therapy at a nearby university and that, afterward, I remained her supervisor for 20% more of the hours needed for her to become licensed in the field by the Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists while she attempted to accumulate enough hours to become licensed in that field by the Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists. However, I was not an approved Supervisor by that Board and, when I applied to become approved, that Board denied that individual's application charging her with numerous violations under its Act. As a result, the Board of Social Work Examiners subsequently charged me with assisting the practice of an unlicensed individual and signing my name to her counseling forms and billing statements, which the agency billed to Medicaid and other insurers. The individual received compensation from the agency for her therapy sessions: I received 60% of the reimbursement that the owner received from the billing she did on behalf of the clients that I treated. I did not receive any compensation for supervision duties. I believed that I was following the regulations of the Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists as I understood them at that time, and have had, up to that time, an illustrious career, with no prior disciplinary violations.

The Board makes the following Conclusions of Law: it finds that the following violations are sustained: §§ 19-311 (4), (8) and (13), and COMAR § 10.42.03.03. (1), (2), and (5) (b). The Board agrees to dismiss the following violations: §§ 19-311 (6), (7), (12) and (16), and COMAR § 10.42.03.03. B (1) and (2) and § 10.42.03.04.A (1) and (2).

I have decided to surrender my license to practice Clinical Social Work in Maryland to avoid further prosecution of the Charges. The bases for the Charges against me include the findings of the investigations described above, and, by virtue of this Letter of Surrender, I waive any right to contest those Charges and Findings. I wish to make it clear that I have voluntarily, knowingly, and freely chosen to submit this Letter of Surrender. **I understand that by executing this Letter of Surrender, I am waiving any right to contest these findings in a formal evidentiary hearing at 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 law, including the right to appeal.**

Karen Richards, LCSW-C, Chair, and Members of the Board

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

I acknowledge that on or before the effective date of this Letter of Surrender, I shall present to the Board my Maryland Social Work license, number 10428, including any renewal certificates and wallet-sized renewal cards.

I understand that the Board will advise any the National Practitioners 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., Gen'l Provisions, Code Ann §4-101, *et seq.*, (2014 Repl. Vol. and 2020 Supp.).

I further recognize and agree that by agreeing to this Letter of Surrender that my license will remain surrendered forever. In other words, I agree never to apply for reinstatement of my clinical social work license in the State of Maryland.

I acknowledge that I may not rescind this Letter of Surrender in part or in its entirety for any reason whatsoever. Finally, I wish to make clear that I have voluntarily and knowingly waived my right to consult with an attorney before 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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charlotte F. Pierce, LCSW-C". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Charlotte F. Pierce, LCSW-C
a/k/a Charlotte F. Spiezio

Karen Richards, LCSW-C, Chair, and Members of the Board
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NOTARY

STATE OF: Florida

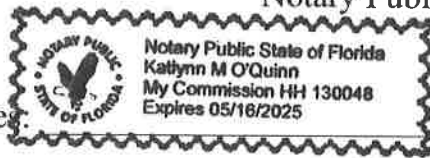
CITY/COUNTY OF Charlotte

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 1 day of NOV, 2021, before me, a Notary Public of the State and City/County aforesaid, personally appeared Charlotte F. Pierce, a/k/a Charlotte F. Spiezio, and declared and affirmed under the penalties of perjury that signing the foregoing Letter of Surrender was her voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESS my hand and notarial seal.



Notary Public



My Commission expires:

Karen Richards, LCSW-C, Chair, and Members of the Board

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ACCEPTANCE

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF Social Work Examiners, on this 12th day
of November, 2021, I accept Charlotte F. Pierce's, a/k/a Charlotte F.
Spiezio's public Letter of Surrender of her license to practice clinical social work in the
State of Maryland.



Karen Richards, LCSW-C, Chair
Board of Social Work Examiners

cc: Roberta Gill, Assistant Attorney General, Administrative Prosecutor
Rhonda Edwards, Board Counsel
Nicholas Johansson, Principal Counsel
Kara Brooks-Tyson, Director of Compliance and Investigations
Gloria Toney Brown, Administrative Officer
Rosalind Spellman, Administrative Officer
Stanley Weinstein, Ph.D., LCSW-C, Executive Director

C. Pierce