

Rhegina Sinozich, LCSW-C * BEFORE THE
Respondent * MARYLAND STATE BOARD
License Number: 08736 * OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
* Board Case Number: 18-2548

* * * * *

PRE – CHARGE CONSENT ORDER

Background

Rhegina Sinozich, 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, 2018. 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 Ms. Sosa 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 Ms. Sinozich agreed to resolve this matter as set forth in this Consent Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. At all times relevant hereto, Ms. Sinozich was licensed to practice social work in Maryland, License No. 08736. Ms. Sinozich was first licensed by the Board on October 17, 1995, and her license is set to expire on October 31, 2018.
2. All licensees are required to sign a statement on the renewal application attesting to having completed this requirement.
3. On January 4, 2017 Ms. Sinozich was mailed a letter from the Association of Social Work Boards (“ASWB”) on behalf of the Board stating that she 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. A letter was sent with documentation on January 23, 2017. Documentation was not in compliance.
4. On February 1, 2017, Ms. Sinozich was mailed a second notice from ASWB “2016 Post Renewal Audit-Problem Notice”. Outlining recommendations to become compliant.
5. Two letters were sent to ASWB. The information was sent to the Board. Upon further Board staff review the NASW Certification of attendance dated September 25, 2015, documented 2 CEU’s in ethics. Therefore, the 3 category I continuing education ethics requirement was not met.
6. Ms. Sinozich held an active license during the time period outlined in this audit and is required to submit all continuing education documentation. In addition, she renewed her LCSW-C license on 10/25/2016 for the period from November 1, 2018 to October 31, 2018.

7. A review of Rhegia Sinozich's CEU certificates by the Board's Continuing Education Office revealed that she has earned 10 category I and 12 category II continuing education units. Therefore, Ms. Sinozich did not meet the continuing education requirements including the 3.0 category I ethics requirements and failed the audit.

CONCLUSION OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes that Ms. Sinozich 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 14th day of September 2018, hereby:

ORDERED that Respondent's license shall be **REPRIMANDED**;

ORDERED Ms. Sinozich shall pay a fine of \$1000.00;

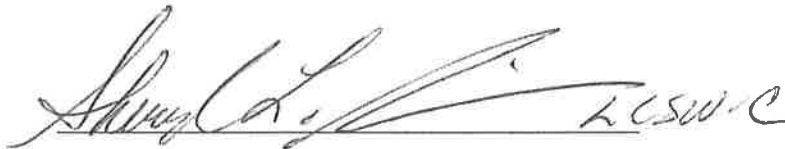
ORDERED that Ms. Sinozich will automatically be audited during the next licensing renewal cycles.

ORDERED that Ms. Sinozich will complete the outstanding 10 Category I and II CEU's which include 1.0 Category I CEUs in Ethics and 8 Category I or II within 180 days from the date of this letter.

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, General Provisions Article, Section 4-101 through 4-601 (Repl. Vol. 2014).

11/9/18

Date


Sherryl Silberman, LCSW-C

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

CONSENT

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.

10/30/18

Date



Rhegia Sinozich, LCSW-C

STATE OF MARYLAND
COUNTY/CITY OF Prince Georges _____:

I hereby certify that on this 30th day of October,
2018, before me a Notary Public of the State of Maryland and County/City aforesaid, personally
appeared Rhegina Sinozich, LCSW-C and made an oath in due form that the foregoing Consent
was her voluntary act and deed.



Notary Public

My commission expires: ~~10~~¹⁰ 01/06/2021

WILLIAM DUNCAN
NOTARY PUBLIC
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES
01-06-2021