

IN THE MATTER OF	*	BEFORE THE STATE
SCOTT G. WAKEFIELD, LCSW-C	*	BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK
RESPONDENT	*	EXAMINERS
LICENSE NUMBER: 18855	*	CASE NUMBER: 2016-2306

\* \* \* \* \*

**FINAL CONSENT ORDER**

The State Board of Social Work Examiners (the "Board") charged Scott G. Wakefield, LCSW-C, (the "Respondent"), License Number: 18855, (the "Respondent"), under the Maryland Social Workers Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. ("H.O.") §§ 19-101 *et seq.* (2014 Repl. Vol. & 2017 Supp.). Specifically, the Board charged the Respondent with violating the following provisions of the Act:

**H. O. § 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; [and]
- (6) Violates any provision of this title or regulations governing the practice of social work adopted and published by the Board[.]
- (12) Fails to file or record any report as required by law, willfully impedes or obstructs the filing or recording of the report, or induces another to fail to file the report;

## FINDINGS OF FACT

The Board finds that:

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 clinical social work in Maryland on or about January 5, 2017. The Respondent's license expires on October 31, 2019.

2. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was employed as a social worker at a facility ("Facility A"). Facility A is a therapeutic day school for clients in grades 6 through 12 that provides educational services to clients with emotional disabilities and other health impairments.

3. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent worked at Facility A as a staff social worker. He was employed at Facility A from August 12, 2013 until December 2016.

4. In or around December 2016, the Board received a complaint from a Facility A employee.

5. The complaint alleged that the Respondent failed to notify his supervisors and the parents of a female client ("Client A") that she had been physically threaten by a male client ("Client B") and was fearful of her safety.

6. Client A and Client B were minors and students of Facility A at the time that the Facility A employee submitted the complaint to the Board.

7. Facility A requires all employees to notify their superiors and document in writing any complaint of physical or verbal abuse.

8. An investigation by Board staff revealed that on or about November 28, 2016, Client A informed the Respondent that she had been threatened with physical violence by Client B.

9. The investigation also revealed that the Respondent did not report the threat that Client A received from Client B to his supervisors and to Client A's parents.

10. During an interview conducted on September 20, 2017, the Respondent admitted under oath that he failed to report the threat that Client A received from Client B to his supervisor and to Client A's parents. The Respondent also admitted that he did not document the complaint he received from Client A.

11. The Respondent's conduct as set forth above is a violation of H.O. § 19- 311 (4), (5), (6), and (12).

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes that the Board finds that the Respondent violated H.O. § 19- 311 (4), (5), (6), and (12).

#### ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is this 10<sup>th</sup> day of August 2018, a majority of the appointed members of the Board hereby:

**ORDERED** that the Respondent's license shall be **REPRIMANDED**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that following the period of his suspension, the Respondent shall be placed on **PROBATION for one (1) year**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall take a 12-hour Board approved supervision training course. Any credits earned by the Respondent shall not be used to satisfy continuing education requirements; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall practice social work in accordance with the Maryland Social Work Act and all applicable laws and regulations; and it is further

**ORDERED** that if the Board determines that the terms or conditions of this Order have not been successfully completed, the Board may modify the terms and conditions of Respondent's probation, upon notice to the Respondent; and it is further

**ORDERED** that if the Respondent violates any of the terms of this Order, the Board, after notice and a show cause hearing, and a determination of violation, may impose any other disciplinary sanctions it deems appropriate, said violation being proved by a preponderance of evidence; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the effective date of this Order is the date that it is signed by the Board; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the content of this document shall be reported to the National Practitioners Data Bank; and it is further

**ORDERED** that this document constitutes a formal disciplinary action of the Board of Social Work Examiners is therefore a public document for purposes of public disclosure, pursuant to Md. General Provisions §§ 4-101 *et seq.* (2014).

8/10/2018  
Date



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

**CONSENT OF SCOTT G WAKEFIELD, LCSW-C**

I, Scott G. Wakefield, LCSW-C by affixing my signature hereto, acknowledge that:

1. I have chosen not to be represented by an attorney.

2. I am aware that I am entitled to a formal evidentiary hearing before the Board, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §19-312 (2014 Repl. Vol. & 2017 Supp.) and Md. Code Ann., State Govt. §§ 10-201 *et seq.* (2014 Repl. Vol. & 2017 Supp.).

3. I acknowledge the validity and enforceability of this Consent Order as if entered after 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 law. I am waiving those procedural and substantive protections.

4. I voluntarily enter into and consent to the foregoing findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order and agree to abide by the terms and conditions set forth in this Consent Order, as a resolution of the Board's case, based on the findings set forth herein.

5. I waive my right to contest the findings of fact and conclusions of law, and I waive my right to a full evidentiary hearing, and any right to appeal this Consent Order as set forth in Md. Code Ann, Health Occ. § 19-3136 (2014Rep. Vol. & 2017 Supp.) and Md. Code Ann., State Govt. §§ 10-201 *et seq.* (2014 Rep. Vol. & 2017 Supp.).

6. I acknowledge that by failing to abide by the terms and conditions set forth in this Consent Order, and, following proper procedures, I may be subject to disciplinary action.

7. I sign this consent order, without reservation, as my voluntary act and deed. I acknowledge that I fully understand and comprehend the language, meaning, and terms of this Consent Order.

8-8-18  
Date

Scott G. Wakefield, LCSW-C  
Scott G. Wakefield, LCSW-C

NOTARY

STATE OF Maryland  
CITY/COUNTY OF Howard

Received  
AUG 27 2018  
Board of Social  
Work Examiners

I hereby certify that on this 8<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2018, before me, a Notary Public for the State of Maryland and the City/County aforesaid, personally appeared Scott G. Wakefield, LCSW-C and made oath in due form of law that the foregoing Consent Order was his voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESS my hand and Notarial Seal.

Rosemary Wilhelm  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 2/9/19

