* BEFORE THE MARYLAND

* BOARD OF MASSAGE

APPLICANT * THERAPY EXAMINERS

* CASE NO: 20-05M

CONSENT ORDER

The Maryland Board of Massage Therapy Examiners (the "Board") notified Georgiana N. Campos (the "Applicant"), of the board's intent to deny her Application for License or Registration in Massage Therapy under the Maryland Massage Therapy Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occupations ("Health. Occ.") §§6-101 et seq. (2014 Repl. Vol. & 2020 Supp.). The pertinent provisions of the Act and COMAR state:

Health Occ. § 6-301 License and registration required; exceptions.

- (a) Except as otherwise provided in this title, an individual shall be:
 - (1) Licensed by the Board before the individual may practice massage therapy in the State; or
 - (2) Registered by the Board before the individual may practice massage therapy in a setting that is not a health care setting in the State.

Health Occ. §6-308. Denials, reprimands, suspensions, and revocations

(a) Subject to the hearing provisions of § 6–309 of this subtitle, the Board may deny a license or registration to an applicant, reprimand a licensee or registration holder, place any licensee or registration holder on probation, or suspend or revoke the license of a licensee or the registration of a registration holder if the applicant, licensee, or registration holder:

- (6) Knowingly does any act that has been determined by the Board, in its regulations, to exceed the scope of practice authorized to the individual under this subtitle:
- (8) Does an act that is inconsistent with generally accepted professional standards in the practice of massage therapy;
- (20) Engages in conduct that violates the professional code of ethics;
- (21) Knowingly does an act that has been determined by the Board to be a violation of the Board's regulations.

COMAR 10.65.01.05 Licensure or Registration Required; Exceptions.

An individual shall be licensed by the Board in order to practice massage therapy, and shall be registered by the Board in order to practice massage therapy in a setting that is not a health care setting...[.]

COMAR 10.65.03.07 Education and Training.

- A. A license holder or registration holder shall:
 - (3) Maintain a current license or registration to practice massage therapy.

COMAR 10.65.04.03 Advertising

- A. A license holder or registration holder may advertise massage services subject to the provisions of this chapter.
- D. An advertisement may not include statements that:
 - (1) Contain misrepresentations of facts;
 - (2) Are likely to mislead or deceive due to making only a partial disclosure of relevant facts when the statements are placed in context;
 - (3) Intend to or are likely to create false or unjustified expectations of favorable results;

- (6) Make representations or implications that in reasonable probability may cause an ordinarily prudent individual to misunderstand or be deceived by the representations or implications;
- (7) Misrepresent any professional qualifications, education, experience, or affiliation [.]
- F. An individual may not advertise that the individual practices massage therapy in Maryland if:

. . . .

- (2) The individual's application for a license or registration is pending before the Board, and the individual has not taken the examination required by the Board; or
- (3) The individual has taken an examination required by the Board, but the results of the examination are not yet known[.]

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. At all times relevant hereto, the Applicant was not licensed to practice massage therapy in the State of Maryland.
- 2. The Applicant was originally issued a license to practice massage therapy under license number: M05061 in Maryland on or about May 22, 2013. The Respondent's license expired on or about October 13, 2014 and has not been renewed.
- 3. On or about. January 17, 2020, the Applicant submitted an <u>Application for License or Registration for Massage Therapy</u> (the "Application") to the Board.¹

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¹ Because the Respondent's license had been non-renewed for more than five years, she was required to submit an application as a new Applicant.

- 4. On or about February 25, 2020, the Applicant took and passed the Maryland Massage Therapy Jurisprudence Examination.
- 5. On or about February 28, 2020, the Board received an anonymous complaint from a complainant (the "Complainant") alleging that the Applicant was practicing massage therapy while working at an establishment (the "Establishment") located in Bethesda, Maryland. The Complainant also alleged that Applicant's profile on the Establishment's website indicated that she was a licensed massage therapist.²
- 6. After speaking with the Complainant, Board staff reviewed the Applicant's profile on the Establishment's website and confirmed that the Applicant was listed as a licensed massage therapist.
- 7. On or about February 29, 2020, Board staff went to the Establishment to meet with the Applicant. While at the Establishment, Board staff observed clients had arrived and were preparing for a couple's massage therapy session with the Applicant.
- 8. On or about March 4, 2020, the Board subpoenaed the Establishment for the Applicant's client records. A reviewed of the records by Board staff revealed that between December 1, 2019 and February 29, 2020, the Applicant provided numerous massages to clients while working at the Establishment.
- 9. The Applicant's conduct as set forth above is in violation of Health Occ. §6-301(a) (1) and (2); Health Occ. §6-308(a) (6), (8), (20), and (21); COMAR 10.65.01.05;

² The name of the Establishment is not identified in this document for privacy reasons, but this information will be provided to the Applicant upon request.

COMAR 10.65.03.07A (3); and COMAR 10.65.04.03A, D (1), (2), (3), (6), and (7) and F (2) and (3).

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Board concludes that the Applicant violated Health Occ. §6-301(a) (1) and (2); Health Occ. §6-308(a) (6), (8), (20), and (21); COMAR 10.65.01.05; COMAR 10.65.03.07A (3); and COMAR 10.65.04.03A, D (1), (2), (3), (6), and (7) and F (2) and (3).

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is this day of October, 2021, a majority of a quorum of the Board hereby:

ORDERED that the Applicant's Application for a license to practice massage therapy in the State of Maryland is **GRANTED**; and it is further

ORDERED that the license of the Applicant to practice as a licensed massage therapist in the State of Maryland shall be placed on PROBATION for a minimum of TWO (2) YEARS, subject to the following terms and conditions:

- (1) Within six (6) months of the execution of this Consent Order, the Applicant shall enroll in and successfully complete a Board-approved ethics course. The ethics course shall be at least three (3) credit hours. The ethics course required in this Consent Order shall be in addition to any course required to satisfy the continuing education requirements for any applicable licensure renewal period.
- (2) Within **ninety** (90) days of the execution of this Consent Order, the Respondent shall pay a fine in the amount of **TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS** (\$2500) by certified check or money order to the Maryland Board of Massage Therapy Examiners.

ORDERED that the Applicant shall comply with the Maryland Therapy Act and all laws, statutes and regulations pertaining thereto; and it is further

ORDERED that the Applicant shall be responsible for paying all costs required to comply with the terms and conditions of this Order; and it is further

ORDERED that if the Applicant violates any of the terms and conditions of the probation and/or this Order, the Board, in its discretion, after notice and an opportunity for an evidentiary hearing if there is a genuine dispute as to the material fact(s), or an opportunity for a show cause hearing before the Board, may impose any other disciplinary sanction which the Board may have imposed in this case under § 6-308 including a reprimand, additional probation, suspension, revocation, and/or monetary fine, said violation being proven by a preponderance of the 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 no earlier than TWO (2) YEARS from the effective date of this Order, the Applicant may submit to the Board a written petition requesting that the Applicant's probationary status be terminated, provided that the Applicant has been compliant with all of the terms and conditions of the probation and this Order; and it is further

ORDERED that this Order is reportable to the National Practitioner Data Bank; and it is further

ORDERED that this document constitutes formal disciplinary action by the

Board; and it is further

ORDERED that and this is a public document for purposes of public disclosure, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., General Provisions §§ 4-101 *et seq.* & § 4-333 (2014 Repl. Vol and 2020 Supp.).

10/4/2021 Date

Sharew Oliver Sharon J. Oliver, MBA

Executive Director for Caitlin Thompson, LMT, Board Chair Maryland Board of Massage Therapy Examiners

CONSENT OF GEORGIANA N. CAMPOS

I, GEORGIANA N. CAMPOS acknowledge that I have been represented by an 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 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.

10/1/2/ Date

Georgiana N. Campos

NOTARY

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this __O_I day of __OC_Lob UR __,2021 before me, a Notary Public of the State and City/County aforesaid, personally appeared, GEORGIANA N. CAMPOS and declared and affirmed under the penalties of perjury that signing the foregoing Final Consent Order was her voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESS my hand and Notarial seal.

Notary Public

My Commission expires: 10/23/2024

Diana Vizgirdaite
Notary Public
State of Maryland
Howard County
My Commission Expires 10/23/2024