IN THE MATTER OF

- BEFORE THE MARYLAND STATE
- ADAHLIA M. GLOVER, LCPC
- **BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL**

Respondent

COUNSELORS AND THERAPISTS

License Number: LC5219

**Case Number: 2020-007** 

# FINAL ORDER

On or about December 9, 2019, the Maryland State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists (the "Board") notified ADAHLIA M. GLOVER, LCPC (the "Respondent"), of the Board's intent to revoke her license to practice as a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor ("LCPC"), License Number: LC5219, under the Maryland Professional Counselors and Therapists Act (the "Act"), codified at Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 17-101 et seq. (2014 Repl. Vol. and 2019 Supp.).

Specifically, the Board based its intent to revoke on the following provisions of the Act:

§ 17-509. Denial, probation, suspension or revocation of certificate applicant or holder.

Subject to the hearing provisions of § 17-511 of this subtitle, the Board, on the affirmative vote of a majority of its members then serving, may . . . place any trainee, licensee, or certificate holder on probation, reprimand any trainee, licensee, or certificate holder, or suspend, rescind, or revoke the status of any trainee, a license of any licensee, or a certificate of any certificate holder if the applicant, trainee, licensee, or certificate holder:

(1)Fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a license or certificate for the applicant, licensee, or certificate holder or for another:

- (6) Willfully makes or files a false report or record in the practice of counseling or therapy;
- (8) Violates the code of ethics adopted by the Board;
- (9) Knowingly violates any provision of this title;
- (10) Is convicted of or pleads guilty or nolo contendere to a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude, whether or not any appeal or other proceeding is pending to have the conviction or plea set aside;
- (12) Submits a false statement to collect a fee;
- (13) Violates any rule or regulation adopted by the Board;
- (16) Commits an act of immoral or unprofessional conduct in the practice of clinical or nonclinical counseling or therapy[.]

Pursuant to Health Occ. § 17-509(8) and (13), shown above, the Board also bases its action on the following provisions of the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board, codified at Md. Code Regs. ("COMAR") 10.58.03 *et seq.*, in particular:

#### COMAR 10.58.03.04

- (A) A counselor shall:
  - (11) Be familiar with and adhere to this chapter;
- (B) A counselor may not:
  - (2) Participate in dishonest, fraudulent, or deceitful activity in the capacity of a counselor[.]

In its Notice, the Board informed the Respondent that she had the opportunity to request a hearing before the Board by submitting a request in writing to the Board's Executive Director within thirty days of service of this Notice. More than thirty days have elapsed since the service of the Notice on the Respondent, and the Respondent has not requested a hearing.

## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

The Board makes the following Findings of Fact:

### I. BACKGROUND

1. At all times relevant, the Respondent was authorized to practice clinical professional counseling in the State of Maryland. The Respondent was originally licensed to practice as an LCPC in the State of Maryland on July 27, 2013, under License Number LC5219. The Respondent's license is scheduled to expire on January 31, 2021.

#### II. COMPLAINT

- 2. On or about July 23, 2019, the Board received notice of a Press Release issued by the Office of the Attorney General indicating the Respondent pled guilty to one count of Felony Medicaid Fraud for submitting claims that caused the Maryland Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid) to reimburse the Respondent more than \$36,000 for services that she did not provide.
- 3. After receiving the Press Release, the Board initiated an investigation of the Respondent under Case Number 2020-007.

#### III. BOARD INVESTIGATION

- 4. As part of its investigation, the Board requested records from the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County, Maryland.
- 5. On or about November 9, 2018, the Respondent was charged with one count of Felony Medicaid Fraud and one count of Felony Theft, in the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County, Maryland (Case Number C-02-CR-18-2441). On July 19, 2019, the Respondent pled guilty to Felony Medicaid Fraud and a *Nolle Prosequi* was entered for the

Felony Theft count. The Respondent was sentenced and Probation Before Judgment was entered under Md. Ann. Code Crim. Proc. § 6-220. The Respondent was placed on five (5) years of probation and ordered to pay \$36,576.02 in restitution. As a requirement of her probation, the Respondent was ordered to withdraw as a Medicaid provider and agree not to work for any provider that received federal funding during probation.

6. According to the Statement of Facts in Support of Guilty Plea, from September 2015 to November 2017, the Respondent defrauded the Medicaid program by billing for services she did not provide. As part of this fraudulent scheme, the Respondent knowingly and willfully submitted, and caused to be submitted, claims to Medicaid for services that she knew were fraudulent because she was out of the State of Maryland. The scheme in which the Respondent participated resulted in \$36,576.02 loss to the Medicaid program.

#### IV. 2019 LCPC RENEWAL APPLICATION

- 7. On or about January 2, 2019, the Respondent signed and submitted an online license renewal application ("Application") for the renewal of her LCPC license where the Respondent affirmed that the information she had provided was "true and correct to the best of [her] knowledge and belief."
- 8. The Application asked "Are there any outstanding complaints, investigations or charges pending against you in any State by any Licensing or Disciplinary Board or a comparable body in the Armed services?" and the Respondent answered "No."
- 9. The Application also asked "Do you bill directly for patient care services?" and the Respondent answered "No." The Application further asked "IF YES, Please

indicate if you participate in the following private and public insurance programs:

Maryland Medical Assistant Program (in either the traditional program or Managed Care

Organization)" and the Respondent did not answer the question.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes as a matter of law that the Respondent's conduct as described above constitutes violations of the Act and a basis on which to revoke the Respondent's license to practice as a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor. Specifically:

The Respondent's guilty plea to Felony Medicaid Fraud and fraudulent representations on her 2019 license renewal application, as set forth above, constitutes violations of: Health Occ. § 17-509(1) (Fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a license or certificate for the applicant, licensee, or certificate holder or for another). Health Occ. § 17-509(6) (Willfully makes or files a false report or record in the practice of counseling or therapy), Health Occ. § 17-509(8) (Violates the code of ethics adopted by the Board), Health Occ. § 17-509(9) (Knowingly violates any provision of this title), Health Occ. § 17-509(10) (Is convicted of or pleads guilty or nolo contendere to a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude, whether or not any appeal or other proceeding is pending to have the conviction or plea set aside), Health Occ. § 17-509(12) (Submits a false statement to collect a fee), Health Occ. § 17-509(13) (Violates any rule or regulation adopted by the Board), and/or Health Occ. § 17-509(16) (Commits an act of immoral or unprofessional conduct in the practice of clinical or nonclinical counseling or therapy) in that the Respondent violates COMAR 10.58.03.04(A)(11) and/or (B)(2).

<u>ORDER</u>

Based on the foregoing, it is this 21st day of February 2020, by the Board hereby:

ORDERED that the Respondent's license to practice as a Licensed Clinical

Professional Counselor is hereby **REVOKED**; and it is further

ORDERED that this is a Final Order and as such is a PUBLIC RECORD pursuant

to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101-4-601 (2014).

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

Pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 17-512(b), the Respondent has the right

to take a direct judicial appeal. Any appeal shall be filed within thirty (30) days from the

date of this Final Order and shall be made as provided for judicial review of a final decision

in the Maryland Administrative Procedure Act, Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-222; and

Title 7, Chapter 200 of the Maryland Rules of Procedure.

If the Respondent files an appeal, the Board is a party and should be served with the

court's process at the following address:

Kimberly Link, J.D., Executive Director

Maryland State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists

4201 Patterson Avenue

Baltimore, Maryland 21215-2299

Phone: 410-764-4732

Fax: 410-358-1610

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At that point, the Administrative Prosecutor is no longer a party to this case and need not be served or copied.

February 21, 2020

Date

Risa L. Ganel, MS, LCMFT

**Board Chair** 

Maryland State Board of Professional

Counselors and Therapists