

Angela M. Gherzi-Hinzman, LCSW-C * BEFORE THE
Respondent * MARYLAND STATE BOARD
License Number: 19618 * OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
* Board Case Number: 16-2287

* * * * *

PRE – CHARGE CONSENT ORDER

Background

Angela M. Gherzi-Hinzman, 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, 2017. 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. Gherzi-Hinzman 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. Gherzi-Hinzman agreed to resolve this matter as set forth in this Consent Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. At all times relevant hereto, Ms. Gherzi-Hinzman was licensed to practice social work in Maryland, License No. 19618. Angela M. Gherzi-Hinzman, LCSW-C was first licensed

by the Board on December 11, 2013, and her license was set to expire on October 31, 2017.

2. All licensees are required to sign a statement on the renewal application attesting to having completed this requirement.
3. On January 4, 2016 Ms. Ghersi-Hinzman 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. Documentation was not received.
4. On February 5, 2016, Ms. Ghersi-Hinzman was mailed a second notice from ASWB “2015 Post Renewal Audit-Problem Notice”. Documentation was not received.
5. A Final Notice was sent on November 17, 2016 stating all correspondence and continuing education documents shall be received by the Board within 15 days from the date of the letter. No documentation was received.
6. The audit revealed that the Board never received Continuing Education Units from Ms. Ghersi-Hinzman. Additionally, Ms. Ghersi-Hinzman did not update her contact information.

CONCLUSION OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes that Ms. Ghersi-Hinzman 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 12th day of May, 2017, hereby:

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

ORDERED Ms. Gherzi-Hinzman shall pay a fine of \$1500.00;

ORDERED that Ms. Gherzi-Hinzman will automatically be audited during the next two licensing renewal cycles.

ORDERED that Ms. Gherzi-Hinzman will complete the outstanding 40 Category I and II CEUs, which include 3.0 Category I CEUs in Ethics, within 180 days from the date of this Pre Charge Consent Order.

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).



April 14, 2017

Date

Denise Capaci, 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.

December 11, 2017

Date

Angela Ghersi

Angela M. Ghersi-Hinzman, LCSW-C

STATE OF MARYLAND

COUNTY/CITY OF Anne Arundel :

I hereby certify that on this 11th day of December, 2017, before me a Notary Public of the State of Maryland and County/City aforesaid, personally appeared Angela M. Ghersi-Hinzman, LCSW-C, and made an oath in due form that the foregoing Consent was her voluntary act and deed.



Notary Public

My commission expires: 2/14/21

