

**IN THE MATTER OF
AUSTIN KENNETH WHITE
RESPONDENT**

License Number: 07755

*** BEFORE THE MARYLAND STATE
* BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR
* AUDIOLOGISTS, HEARING AID
* DISPENSERS AND SPEECH-
* LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS
* Case Number: AHS-09-2019**

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**ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION
OF LICENSE TO PRACTICE SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY**

The Maryland State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, and Speech-Language Pathologists (the “Board”) hereby orders the **SUMMARY SUSPENSION** of the license of **AUSTIN KENNETH WHITE**. (the “Respondent”), License Number **07755**, to practice speech-language pathology in the State of Maryland. The Board takes such action pursuant to its authority under: Md. Code Regs. (“COMAR”) § 10.41.04.07D, determining that the public health, safety, or welfare requires the immediate suspension of the Respondent’s license; and Md. Code Ann., State Gov’t § 10-226(c)(2) (2014 Repl. Vol. & 2018 Supp.) which provides:

- (2) A unit may order summarily the suspension of a license if the unit:
 - (i) finds that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action; and
 - (ii) promptly gives the licensee:
 - 1. written notice of the suspension, the finding, and the reasons that support the finding; and
 - 2. an opportunity to be heard.

6. According to the Application for Statement of Charges:

[FBI Special Agent] then obtained a search warrant for the home of Austin White, which was executed on 11/7/2017.

Following the search of the residence, White, who was present at the time of execution of the search warrant agreed to be transported... for an interview...

During the interview, White admitted to going online to receive and view videos of young boys ages 8 to 11 who were engaged in sexual activities ... In addition, White indicated he would seek out images of young boys in various sexual poses online... White admitted he would use websites ..., along with the file sharing networks ... White also admitted to using private messengers to include: Wikr, Kik, and Zoom, to view child pornography. He recalls the first-time viewing child pornography in approximately 2007 and the last time was as recent as a month ago... [emphasis added]

...

As a result of the search hits and analysis of photos found on the evidence items [hard disk drives and external storage devices removed from the Respondent's house during the execution of the search warrant], there were multiple photos of suspected child pornography depicting pre-pubescent and teenage males in various poses and positions... There were also multiple Skype conversations, Yahoo and Zoom chats identified which were sexually explicit in nature[.]

7. On February 12, 2019, in the Circuit Court for Allegany County, Maryland, the Respondent pleaded guilty to one count of Possession of Child Pornography, in violation of CR §11-208, a crime involving moral turpitude. Sentencing will occur following the conclusion of a Pre-Sentence Investigation.

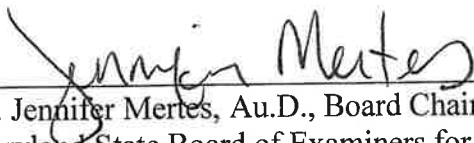
Interview with Board Investigator

8. On February 5, 2019, the Respondent was interviewed under oath by the Board's investigator.
9. The Respondent reviewed his recent employment history:
- a) From approximately June 2016 until November 2017, the Respondent worked as the Lead Speech-Language Pathologist and Clinical Director for an Outpatient Rehabilitation Center, in Maryland.

ORDERED that a **SHOW CAUSE HEARING SHALL BE HELD AT THE BOARD'S OFFICE LOCATED AT 4201 PATTERSON AVE., BALTIMORE, MD 21215 ON THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2019 AT 3:00 P.M.**, at which time the Respondent will be given an opportunity to show cause as to why the Summary Suspension of his license should not continue; and it is further

ORDERED that if the Respondent fails to attend the post-deprivation show cause hearing in writing in a timely manner, the Respondent's license will remain **SUSPENDED**; and it is further

ORDERED that this "**Order for Summary Suspension of License to Practice Speech-Language Pathology**" is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 *et seq.* (2014 Repl. Vol. and 2018 Supp.).



Dr. Jennifer Mertes, Au.D., Board Chair
Maryland State Board of Examiners for
Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, and
Speech-Language Pathologists

NOTICE OF HEARING

A SHOW CAUSE HEARING SHALL BE HELD AT THE BOARD'S OFFICE LOCATED AT 4201 PATTERSON AVE., BALTIMORE, MD 21215 ON THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2019 AT 3:00 P.M.

At the conclusion of the Show Cause Hearing held before the Board, the Respondent, if dissatisfied with the result of the hearing, may, within ten (10) days, file a written request for an evidentiary hearing.