

IN THE MATTER OF

*

BEFORE THE MARYLAND STATE

ARTI ABRAMOVITZ

*

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL

PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR

*

COUNSELORS AND THERAPISTS

LC4284

*

CASE NO.: 2020-028

* * * * *

ORDER LIFTING SUSPENSION OF
LICENSED CLINICAL PROFESSIONAL

On October 22, 2019 the Maryland State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists (the "Board") issued an Order of Suspension for Delinquent Child Support ("Order of Suspension") against Arti Abramovitz. (the "Respondent"), LC4284. The Board suspended the Respondent's Professional license due to delinquent child support payments upon request from the Department of Human Resources of Child Support Enforcement (the "Administration"), pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Fam. Law § 10-119.3(e)(2)(i)(2012 Repl. Vol.).

On or about December 19, 2019 the Board received a Notice to Reinstate Professional License from the Administration. Pursuant to the Maryland Practice Act, Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 17-101 *et seq.*, the Respondent otherwise qualifies for certification.

Therefore, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Fam. Law §10-119.3(k), on this 19th day of December, by the Board, it is hereby:

ORDERED that the suspension of the Respondent's Professional License in Maryland under LC4284 is hereby **LIFTED**; and it is further

ORDERED that this is a Final Order of the Board and, as such, is a public document pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Gov't, § 10-617(h).


Kimberly B. Link, J.D.
Executive Director

Board of Professional Counselor and Therapists

IN THE MATTER OF * BEFORE THE MARYLAND STATE
 ARTI ABRAMOVITZ * BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL
 PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR * COUNSELORS & THERAPISTS
 LC4284 * CASE NO.: 2020-028

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**ORDER OF SUSPENSION
 FOR DELINQUENT CHILD SUPPORT**

BACKGROUND

On or about September 19, 2019 the Maryland Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists (the “Board”) received a written request from the Department of Child Support Enforcement (the “Administration”) to suspend the license held by Arti Abramoitz (the “Respondent”), LC4284, for delinquent child support. This action was to be taken by authority of Md. Code Ann., Fam. Law § 10-119.3 (2012 Repl. Vol.), which provides, in pertinent part:

(e)(2) Except as provided in paragraph (3) of this subsection, upon notification by the Administration under this section, a licensing authority¹ shall:

(i) suspend an individual’s license; or

(ii) deny the license of an individual who is an applicant for a license from the licensing authority.

* * *

(h) *Right to contest identity.* – (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, prior to the suspension or denial of a license under subsection (e) of this section, a licensing authority shall send written notice of the proposed action to the individual whose license is subject to suspension or denial, including notice of an individual’s right to contest the identity of the individual whose license or application is to be suspended or denied.

¹ The Maryland Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists is a unit within the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Md. Code Ann., Health-Gen. §§ 2-101 & 2-106(a)(18), and is therefore a “licensing authority” within the meaning of Md. Code Ann., Fam. Law § 10-119.3(a)(3)(i) and (ii)(2).

* * *

(i) *Appeal; hearing.* –(1)(i) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, an individual may appeal a decision of a licensing authority to suspend or deny the individual’s license in accordance with Title 10, Subtitle 2 of the State Government Article.

(ii) At a hearing under this paragraph, the issue shall be limited to whether the Administration has mistaken the identity of the individual whose license has been suspended or denied.

* * *

(k) *Reinstatement of license—Duty of licensing authority.* – A licensing authority shall immediately reinstate any license suspended, or process an application for any license denied, under this section if:

- (1) notified by the Administration that the license should be reinstated;
- and
- (2) the individual otherwise qualifies for the license.

On September 19, 2019 the Board sent an unexecuted copy of this Order of Suspension to the Respondent. Accompanying the unexecuted Order of Suspension was a cover letter notifying the Respondent of her right to contest her identity in writing within thirty days of the date of the letter and notifying the Respondent that if she did not submit a signed, written appeal to the Board on or before October 21, 2019 the Board would execute this Order of Suspension as written.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Board issued an authorization letter to the Respondent and her license is currently active and is scheduled to expire on January 31, 2021.

2. On or about September 17, 2019 the Board received a written request from the Administration, entitled “Request to Suspend or Deny License for Delinquent Child Support” (the “Request”), which requested that the Board suspend license held by the Respondent for delinquent child support under the authority of Md. Code Ann., Fam. Law §10-119.3. The Request stated that, as of September 1, 2019 the arrearage amount of child support that the Respondent owed was \$5,666.00, in the Administration’s case numbered 200162689.

3. As noted above, Md. Code Ann., Fam. Law §10-119.3(e)(2) & (h)(1) requires that the Board suspend the license of the Respondent upon notification by the Administration and after sending written notice to the Respondent of the proposed suspension and of her right “to contest the identity of the individual whose [certificate] is to be suspended.”

4. On September 19, 2019 the Board sent an unexecuted copy of this Order of Suspension to the Respondent’s last known address registered with the Board. Included with the unexecuted Order of Suspension was a letter notifying Respondent of her right to contest her identity, in writing to the Board, within thirty days of the date of the letter; that is, to contest that she was not the Arti Abramovitz, LC4284 named by the Administration as the individual whose should be suspended for delinquent child support. In addition, the letter also gave Respondent written notice that if she did not submit to the Board a signed, written appeal on or before October 21, 2019 the Board would execute this Order of Suspension as written.

5. The Respondent did not submit a written contest of identity to the Board by October 21, 2019; nor was the Board notified that the Respondent arranged to pay the arrears in full.

6. Having given the Respondent the statutorily required written notice of the Board’s intent to suspend and of her right to contest identity pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Fam. Law §10-119.3(h)(1), and having not received a written response or appeal from the Respondent, the Board is statutorily required to suspend the Respondent’s license, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Fam. Law § 10-119.3(e)(2).

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes that, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Fam. Law §10-119.3(e)(2)(i), it is statutorily required to suspend the Respondent's license until the Board receives notification from the Administration that the Respondent's license should be reinstated pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Fam. Law §10-119.3(k)(1)-(2), provided that the Respondent is otherwise qualified for an license.

ORDER

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, on this 22 day of October, 2019, by a quorum of the Maryland State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists, it is hereby:

ORDERED that the license held by the Respondent, Arti Abramovitz, is **SUSPENDED**; and it is further,

ORDERED that the Respondent's license shall remain suspended until the Board receives notification from the Child Support Enforcement Administration of the Department of Human Resources that the Respondent's license should be reinstated pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Fam. Law §10-119.3(k)(1)-(2), provided that the Respondent is otherwise qualified for license; and it is further,

ORDERED that this is a Final Order of the Maryland State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists and, as such, is a **PUBLIC** document pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov., §4-333.



Kimberly B. Link, J.D.
Executive Director
Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists

NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS

The Respondent has a right to appeal this Final Order of the Board pursuant to Fam. Law § 10-119.3(i), which provides as follows:

(i) *Appeal; hearing.*—(1)(i) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, an individual may appeal a decision of a licensing authority to suspend or deny the individual's license in accordance with Title 10, Subtitle 2 of the State Government Article.

(ii) At a hearing under this paragraph, the issue shall be limited to whether the Administration has mistaken the identity of the individual whose license has been suspended or denied.