

**IN THE MATTER OF** \* **BEFORE THE MARYLAND STATE**  
**GERSHON SONNENSCHN, LCPC** \* **BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL**  
**COUNSELORS**  
**RESPONDENT** \* **AND THERAPISTS**  
**License Number: LC4768** \* **Case Number: 2019 – 102**

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**ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

This case arose from allegations brought to the attention of the Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists (“the Board”) against Gershon Sonnenschein (the “Respondent”), License Number LC4768, who is licensed to practice as a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (“LCPC”) in the State of Maryland.

On August 20, 2021, the Board issued a prior “Order for Summary Suspension” based on investigative findings showing that the Respondent acted in a manner that the public health, safety and welfare imperatively required emergency action by the Board.

On September 17, 2021, the Board held a post-deprivation show cause hearing to determine whether to continue the summary suspension of the Respondent’s license.

**BOARD FINDINGS**

Based on the arguments presented at the post-deprivation show cause hearing, the Board determined that:

1. extraordinary circumstances involving public health, safety and welfare warranted the immediate summary suspension of the Respondent’s license;

2. the Respondent did not demonstrate that the public health, safety or welfare is not at risk;
3. the administrative prosecutor demonstrated by a preponderance of the evidence that the health, safety, or welfare of the public imperatively requires the Board to continue the summary suspension of the Respondent's license; and
4. the Respondent should not return to the practice of professional clinical counseling as it would pose a risk to the health, safety and welfare of the public.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Based on the foregoing findings, the Board concludes that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires that the emergency action taken in this case on August 20, 2021, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-226 (c) (2) (2014), continue indefinitely, or until further order of the Board.

### **ORDER**

It is, by a quorum of the Maryland State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists, pursuant to the authority vested in the Board by Md. Code Ann., Hlth Occ. § 17-509 (2014), Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-226 (c) (2) (2014), and COMAR 10.58.04.10 hereby:

**ORDERED** that the Summary Suspension Order in this matter issued on August 20, 2021 is hereby continued; and it is further

**ORDERED** that if dissatisfied with the outcome, the Respondent may request an evidentiary hearing within ten (10) days after the Board issues the order of summary suspension; and it is further ordered

**ORDERED** that an evidentiary hearing shall be provided within forty-five (45) days after the Respondent's request, unless otherwise agreed by the parties; and it is further

**ORDERED** that an evidentiary hearing may be consolidated with a hearing on charges issued by the Board that include facts that form the basis for the summary suspension; and it is further

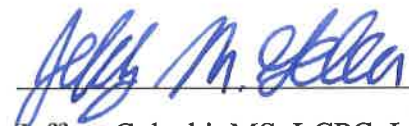
**ORDERED** that an evidentiary hearing shall be conducted under the contested case provisions of State Government Article, Title 10, Subtitle 2, Annotated Code of Maryland; and it is further

**ORDERED** that this is a final order and a public document, *See* Health Occ. §§ 1-607, Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. § 4-333 (b) (6), and COMAR 10.58.04.10.

October 15, 2021

Date



  
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Jeffrey Galecki, MS, LCPC, LCADC,  
Board Chair  
Maryland Board of Professional Counselors  
& Therapists