Received

JAN 18 2018

Alana B. Alkire, LCSW-C		*	BEFORE THE Board of Social Work Examiners
Respondent	S	*	MARYLAND STATE BOARD
License Number: 11274		*	OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
		*	Board Case Number: 16-2239

PRE - CHARGE CONSENT ORDER

Background

Alana B. Alkire, 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. Alkire 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. Alkire agreed to resolve this matter as set forth in this Consent Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- At all times relevant hereto, Ms. Alkire was licensed to practice social work in Maryland,
 License No. 11274. Alana B. Alkire, LCSW-C, was first licensed by the Board on April
 22, 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. Alkire 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. Ms. Alkire responded stating that she did not complete the CEU requirements.
- 4. On February 4, 2016, Ms. Alkire was mailed a second notice from ASWB "2015 Post Renewal Audit-Problem Notice".
- 5. The audit revealed that the Board never received Continuing Education Units from Ms. Alkire.

CONCLUSION OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes that Ms. Alkire 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 14th day of April, 2017, hereby:

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

ORDERED Ms. Alkire shall pay a fine of \$1500;

ORDERED that Ms. Alkire will automatically be audited during the next two licensing renewal cycles.

ORDERED that Ms. Alkire 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).

8/11/2017

Date

Denise Capaci, LCSW-C

Mapaei

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.

-1111

Alana B. Alkire, LCSW-C

Date

STATE OF MARYLAND COUNTY/CITY OF HOWAR	D		
30/8 I hereby certify that on this 2017, before me a Notary Public of appeared Alana B. Alkire, LCSW-was her voluntary act and deed.	the State of Maryl	day of VANUAL land and County/City aforesaith in due form that the foregoing	id, personally

Notary Public

My commission expires: My Commission Expires April 16, 2010