

JERRY HARGROVE
LETTER OF SURRENDER



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
4201 Patterson Avenue • Baltimore, Maryland 21215-2299

Parris N. Glendening, Governor - Georges C. Benjamin, M.D., Secretary

Letter of Surrender

Jerry E. Hargrove, LCPC
P.O. Box 6138
Hot Springs, Arkansas 71902

December 2000

Sharon E. Cheston, Ed.D, Chair
Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists
4201 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

Re: Surrender of Professional Counselors License
License Number: LC0783

Dear Dr. Cheston and Members of the Board:

Please be advised that I have decided to surrender my license to practice Clinical Professional Counseling in the State of Maryland, License Number LCO783, D.O.B. (12/11/49). I understand that I may not represent myself to the public by title, by description of services, methods, or procedures, or otherwise that I am a Professional Counselor. Moreover, I may not practice with supervision and/or compensation, as it is defined in the Maryland Professional Counselor and Therapy Practice Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. ("H.O.") §17-101. In other words, as of December 2000, the effective date of this Letter of Surrender, I understand that the surrender of my license means that I am in the same position as an unlicensed individual.

I understand that this Letter of Surrender is a **PUBLIC** document.

My decision to surrender my license to practice Clinical Professional Counseling in Maryland has been prompted by an investigation of my licensure by the Maryland Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists (the "Board"), resulting in investigatory findings that I engaged in inappropriate sexual behavior, sexual exploitation and sexual misconduct with a client.

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The Board's investigation could result in charges under Section 17-3A-13 of the Act which states:

The Board, on an affirmative vote of a majority of its members ... may ... suspend or revoke a license of a licensee, reprimand a licensee, or place a licensee on probation, if the ... licensee has committed any of the acts proscribed in § 17-313 of this title ...

Specifically, the Board may determine to charge me with commission of prohibited acts under Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §17-3A-13(4), (5) and (9) which provide that the Board may suspend, revoke, reprimand or place a licensee on probation if the licensee:

- (4) Violates the code of ethics adopted by the Board;
- (5) Knowingly violates any provision of [Title 17]; [or]
- (9) Violates any rule or regulation adopted by the Board.

I have decided to surrender my license to practice in Maryland to avoid potential prosecution of the aforementioned prohibited acts. While I have not been charged, I waive my right to contest in the future the investigatory findings resulting from the Board's investigation as they may be considered in any reapplication for licensure. I wish to include that I have voluntarily, knowingly and freely chosen to submit this Letter of Surrender.

I hereby affirm that I have permanently terminated any professional counseling practice that I had in Maryland.

I acknowledge that on or before the effective date of this Letter of Surrender, I shall present to the Board my Maryland professional counseling license, number LCO783, including any renewal certificates and wallet-sized renewal cards.

I understand that the Board will advise the Federation of State Counseling Boards and the National Practitioners Data Bank of this Letter of Surrender, and in any response to inquiry, that I have surrendered my license in lieu of disciplinary action under the Act as resolution of the matters pending against me. I also understand that in the event I would apply for licensure in any form in any other state or jurisdiction, that this Letter of Surrender, and all underlying documents, may be released or published by the Board to the same extent as a final order that would result from disciplinary action pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Gov't §10-611 et seq.

I understand that if I petition the Board for reinstatement of my license, the Board will review my case and determine my fitness to have my license reinstated. I understand that the Board can deny such application based solely on the investigatory findings in this case. In the event that I apply, and the Board grants my application, for reinstatement of my Maryland license or for the issuance of a new Maryland professional counseling license, I understand that the Board may set terms and conditions that shall apply to my receiving a reinstated professional counseling license or a new Maryland professional counseling license. I also understand that if I apply for reinstatement or for a new Maryland professional counseling license that I bear the burden of demonstrating to the Board that I am competent to practice professional counseling and possess good moral character, as specified in Md. Code Ann. , Health Occ. §17-302(b). I understand that if I determine that if I would like once again to practice professional counseling in Maryland, I will approach the Board in the same posture as one whose license has been revoked based on the investigatory findings.

I acknowledge that I may not rescind this Letter of Surrender in part or in its entirety for any reason whatsoever. Finally, I wish to make clear that I had the opportunity to consult with an attorney before signing this Letter of Surrender. I understand both the nature of the Board's actions and this Letter of Surrender fully. I acknowledge that I understand and comprehend the language, meaning and terms and effect of this Letter of Surrender. I make this decision knowingly and voluntarily.

Sincerely,



Read and approved:

, Esquire
Attorney for

NOTARY

STATE OF MARYLAND
CITY/COUNTY OF _____

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 16th day of March, 2000, before me, a Notary Public of the City/Country aforesaid personally appeared Jerry E. Hargrove, and declared and affirmed under the penalties of perjury that signing the foregoing letter of surrender was his voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESS my hand and notarial seal.

David C. [Signature]
Notary Public

My Commission expires: 3-6-2002

ACCEPTANCE

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF Professional Counselors and Therapists, on this 20th day of July, 2001, I accept Jerry Hargrove's public letter of surrender of his license certification to practice Prof. Counseling in the State of Maryland.

Sharon E. Cheston

Sharon E. Cheston, Ed.D, Chair
Board of Professional Counselors & Therapists

cc: Ellen Kuhn, Board Counsel