

FILED BY
Leslie Aronson
Executive Director

LSA
1/28/99

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

In the Matter of :
: Administrative Action
BRIDGETTE M. RICHARDSON LCSW :
:
Licensed to practice Social Work: CONSENT ORDER
in the State of New Jersey :

:

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Social Work Examiners ("the Board") upon receipt of information that Bridgette Richardson, LCSW ("respondent") had falsely answered question #1 on her biennial renewal application for licensure as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker for the period of September 1, 1998 through August 31, 2000. Specifically, respondent answered "no" to the following question: "Has any foreign or domestic government agency or professional association instituted charges or action against you, or revoked, suspended or accepted surrender of your professional license since your last renewal?" In fact, the Board of Behavioral Science Examiners, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California, filed an Accusation against respondent on January 7, 1997 which alleged unprofessional behavior, and requested, among other things, that respondent's clinical social work license be revoked or suspended. On October 1, 1997,

respondent signed a Stipulated Surrender of License whereby she agreed, among other things, to surrender her license to practice as a licensed clinical social worker in California. On March 17, 1998, the Board of Behavioral Science Examiners signed the Order accepting the Stipulated Surrender which became effective on April 15, 1998. Respondent signed her New Jersey biennial renewal application on July 9, 1998; and therefore, the correct and truthful answer to question #1 was "yes" rather than "no" as answered by respondent. The respondent appeared with her attorney, Scott Silver, Esq., at an investigative inquiry before a committee of the Board on April 6, 1999.

Having reviewed the entire record, including the testimony of respondent, it appears to the Board that respondent was untruthful in her response to question #1 on her biennial renewal application for licensure as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker for the period of September 1, 1998 through August 31, 2000. Respondent's conduct constitutes violations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21 a., b., and e.

It appearing that respondent desires to resolve this matter without recourse to formal proceedings and for good cause shown:

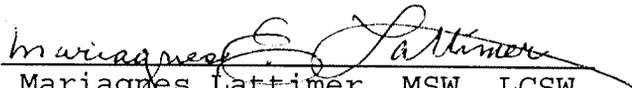
IT IS ON THIS 28th DAY OF July 1999,
HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:

1. Respondent is hereby reprimanded for falsely answering a question on her biennial renewal application for licensure as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker for the period of September 1, 1998 through August 31, 2000.

2. Respondent is hereby assessed a civil penalty in the

amount of \$1,500.00 for her violations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21 a., b., and e. The payment shall be by certified check or money order, payable to the State of New Jersey, and sent to Leslie Aronson, Executive Director, State Board of Social Work Examiners, 124 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor, Newark, New Jersey 07101.

3. Respondent shall pay costs of the investigation in the amount of \$231.00. The payment shall be by certified check or money order, payable to the State of New Jersey, and sent to Leslie Aronson, Executive Director, State Board of Social Work Examiners, 124 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor, Newark, New Jersey 07101.


Mariagnes Lattimer, MSW, LCSW

I have read the within Consent Order and understand its terms. I hereby consent to its entry and to be bound by the Consent Order's terms.


Bridgette Richardson, LCSW