

On January 19, 2005, respondent had appeared before the Board for an inquiry into prior allegations of theft against respondent. In that matter, respondent had been accused of taking \$21,800 from M.C., a resident of a facility where respondent worked. At the inquiry, respondent testified that he accepted an offer of the Pre-Trial Intervention program to resolve the allegations, as he could not afford to hire an attorney to defend him at trial.

He also testified regarding the allegations that he stole money from A.H., the theft that resulted in the current criminal charges and plea agreement. Respondent contended that A.H. asked him to be her power of attorney after he had been fired from his position at Lincoln Specialty Care, where A.H. was a resident. He had nothing in writing to prove that a power of attorney was granted, and stated that he must be A.H.'s power of attorney as Lincoln Specialty Care gave him money from A.H.'s personal needs account, and he contended that they would not do that unless there was a power of attorney on file.

Having reviewed the entire record, including the accusation against respondent and the facts surrounding the two incidents of theft from residents in facilities where respondent had been the resident's care giver, it appears to the Board that respondent has engaged in acts relating adversely to the profession of social work in taking the money from M.C. and has plead guilty to and was convicted of crimes relating adversely to the profession by theft of the money and property from A.H. The Board also finds respondent's acts to be professional misconduct. The Board finds that the above-described conduct provides grounds to take disciplinary action against respondent's certification to practice social work in New Jersey pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21 (e) and (f). The parties desiring to resolve this matter without recourse to formal proceedings, respondent having waived his right to a

formal hearing, and the Board finding that entry of this Order adequately protects the public health, safety, and welfare, for good cause shown:

IT IS ON THIS *July* DAY OF *31*, 2007

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:

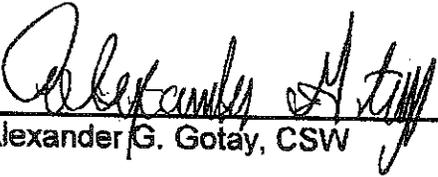
1. Effective immediately, respondent shall permanently surrender his certificate to practice Social Work, with prejudice, to be deemed a revocation of said certificate. Respondent understands and agrees that he will be precluded from seeking reinstatement of his certificate in this State at any time. Respondent shall return his certificate, including the original certificate document and the wallet portion, to the Board office within thirty days of the entry of this Order.

2. Respondent shall immediately cease and desist from engaging in the provision of mental health and social work services in any setting, including exempt settings as defined by N.J.S.A. 45:15BB-5. Respondent may no longer engage in the provision of mental health services in any setting at any time in the State of New Jersey.

NEW JERSEY BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

By: *Doreen J. Bobby*
Doreen J. Bobby, MSW, LCSW
Board President

I have read and understand the within Consent Order and agree to be bound by its terms. Consent is hereby given to the Board to enter this Order.



Alexander G. Gotay, CSW

7-27-07
Date

Consent is given as to form and entry of this Order



Arnold Robinson, Esq.
Attorney for Alexander G. Gotay, CSW

7-27-07
Date