FILED BY THE BOARD OF
SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
J. Michael Walker
April 8, 2015

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF **DONNA PAVLIK, LCSW** License No. 44SC05215400 TO PRACTICE CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY	Administrative Action FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Social Work Examiners (the "Board") upon receipt of information that respondent Donna Pavlik, LCSW ("respondent"), had plead guilty to one count of third degree theft by deception in connection with her billing of clients for her social work practice. The Board sought further information and records from respondent in connection with her treatment of patients in connection with her criminal plea. Based on its review of all materials, the Board makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Donna Pavlik, License No. 44SC05215400, was first licensed as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in New Jersey on August 26, 2003. Respondent last renewed her license on September 29, 2014, and her license is effective until August 31, 2016.

2. After receiving information from the Division of Criminal Justice relating to its investigation of respondent's practice, the Board opened its own investigation into the matter. In furtherance of that pending investigation, by letter dated April 21, 2014, the Board demanded respondent submit complete records for 23 clients, information relating to employees and

independent contractors working in respondent's practice, as well as continuing education credits for two biennial cycles. On April 23, 2014, the letter was hand delivered to respondent, who signed the letter to acknowledge receipt

3. To date, none of the requested documents have been received from respondent, nor has she contacted the Board to request additional time to respond.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

As the holder of a license to practice clinical social work in the State of New Jersey, respondent has a duty to cooperate with Board investigations. Respondent was sent a letter requiring her to provide the Board with specific information as part of the Board's investigation into her conduct, and she signed the letter indicating receipt of the Board's request. Nevertheless, respondent has neither responded nor contacted the Board regarding that response, constituting a failure to cooperate in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.3(a)1, and providing a basis for discipline of respondent's license pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e).

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline suspending respondent's license to practice clinical social work in the State of New Jersey was entered on December 10, 2014. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th day following entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

The record reflects that the Provisional Order was personally served upon respondent on Tuesday, December 16, 2014, at 4:15pm, as indicated by her signature on a receipt presented at the time of service. Although she personally received the documents, no response has been received to date. Accordingly the Board considered the matter, determined that further proceedings were not necessary and Provisional Order should be made final.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 8th day of April, 2015,

ORDERED THAT:

1. Respondent's license to practice clinical social work in New Jersey shall be and hereby is suspended until respondent fully cooperates with the Board's investigation and provides the totality of documents requested by the Board in the letter of April 21, 2014. The suspension shall begin immediately upon entry of this Final Order in this matter and continue until further Order of this Board.

2. Respondent is hereby assessed civil penalties, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-22, in the amount of $750 for the failure to cooperate with the Board's investigation. Payment of the civil penalties shall be submitted by bank check, or money order made payable to the State of New Jersey, or arrangements shall be made for wire transfer or payment by credit card. Any other form of payment will be rejected by the Board and returned to respondent. Payment shall be sent to J. Michael Walker, Executive Director, Board of Social Work Examiners, 124 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor, P.O. Box 45033, Newark, New Jersey 07101, within fifteen (15) days of receipt of this Final Order. The civil penalty shall be due and payable whether or not respondent provides the documents requested by the Board. Subsequent violations will subject respondent to enhanced penalties pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-25. Failure to pay the penalty within thirty (30)

days of receipt of this Final Order of Discipline may result in the filing of a certificate of debt.

3. The Board reserves the right to take disciplinary action and place restrictions and/or limitations upon respondent's license to practice clinical social work in the State of New Jersey based upon the conviction and any other violations of law that may be found as a result of the pending complaints and the materials requested by the Board.

NEW JERSEY BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

By: Dawn Apgar

Dawn Apgar, Ph.D., LSW, ACSW
Board President