

**IN THE MATTER OF**

\*

**BEFORE THE**

\*

**MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF**

**ANITA PARR, LCSW-C**

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**SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS**

**Respondent**

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**Case Number: 362**

**License Number: 5279**

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**ORDER OF REINSTATEMENT**

**I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY AND FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

This case arose out of charges brought by the Maryland State Board of Social Work Examiners (the "Board") against Anita Parr, formerly Anita Parr Felps, ("Respondent"), License No. 5279, under the Maryland Social Workers Act (the "Act"), Md. Health Occ. Code Ann. ("HO") §§ 19-101 *et seq.* (1994), pursuant to its authority under HO § 19-311. The charges were brought under the following provisions of HO § 19-311:

- (4) Commits any act of gross negligence, incompetence or misconduct in the practice of social work;
- (6) Engages in a course of conduct that is inconsistent with generally accepted professional standards in the practice of social work;
- (7) Violates the code of ethics adopted and published by the Board;
- (12) Willfully makes or files a false report or record in the practice of social work; and
- (14) Submits a false statement to collect a fee[;].

The Code of Maryland Regulations ("COMAR"), 10.42.03.02, adopted by the Board as its Code of Ethics at the time of the charges, stated in relevant part:

- A. The licensee, in his capacity or identity as a licensed social worker, may not participate in, condone, or knowingly associate with dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation.
- D. The licensee may not exploit relationships with clients or patients for personal advantage or satisfaction.
- I. The licensee who anticipates the termination or interruption of service to clients or patients shall notify clients or patients promptly and seek the transfer, referral, or continuation of service in relation to the clients' or patients' needs and preferences.
- N. The licensee shall make the fee for service clear, maintain adequate financial records, and inform the client or patient of the financial management plan.

A hearing on the merits was held on January 12, 2001, before a quorum of the Board. Respondent failed to appear at the hearing.

On July 2, 2001, the Board issued a Final Opinion and Order wherein the Board concluded by a preponderance of the evidence that Respondent had violated HO § 19-311 (4), (6), and (7), as well as COMAR 10.42.03.02 A, D, I and N. (See Exhibit A).

Pursuant to the Final Opinion and Order (the "Order"), Respondent's license to practice social work in Maryland was revoked, effective as of the date of the Order, and has remained revoked until this time. Conditions of the Order included that Respondent shall not be entitled to petition the Board for reinstatement prior to July 2, 2004. Additionally, the Order further required that should the Respondent apply for reinstatement of her social work license, she will be required to demonstrate that she has engaged in and completed individual therapy, that she has taken and completed a

Board-approved ethics tutorial, has engaged the services of a Board-approved supervisor to provide supervision and has undergone and submitted to the Board the results of a psychiatric evaluation by a Board-approved psychiatrist.

On January 23, 2006, Respondent filed with the Board a Petition for Reinstatement of her Maryland social work license. Attached to Respondent's petition was a summary of actions that Respondent has taken and results achieved since her license was revoked. Respondent's actions include completing a 3-credit, continuing education course at the University of Delaware entitled "Leadership, Integrity and Change," in which Respondent earned an "A" grade. Respondent also successfully completed a 12-week ethics tutorial with Paul H. Ephross, Ph.D. Respondent engaged in weekly therapy with Charles Marvil, LCSW and underwent a psychiatric evaluation with Emile A. Bendit, M.D. These professionals now indicate to the Board that Respondent is "exceptionally motivated," "a responsive student," and that "she be given a second chance."

On February 10, 2006, the Board considered Respondent's Petition for Reinstatement. The Board voted to grant Respondent's petition as contained in this Order of Reinstatement, pending Respondent submitting the name of a Board-approved, registered supervisor.

Subsequently, Respondent submitted two letters of reference from persons in Respondent's personal life and professional employment, dated April 5, 2005 and April 7, 2006. She also requested Board approval of Janet Cook, LCSW-C as Respondent's supervisor.

On April 14, 2006, the Board reviewed this matter and approved Ms. Cook as a registered supervisor. At its meeting on May 12, 2006, the Board ratified and adopted this Order of Reinstatement.

## **II. FINDINGS OF FACT**

The Board adopts and incorporates by reference the Findings of Fact and Discussion as set out in the Final Opinion and Order dated July 2, 2001 and as set out above in the "Procedural History and Factual Background" section of this Order of Reinstatement. The Final Opinion and Order dated July 2, 2001 is attached and incorporated herein as Exhibit A.

## **III. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The Board adopts and incorporates by reference the Conclusions of Law as set out in the Final Opinion and Order dated July 2, 2001 and as set out above in the "Procedural History and Factual Background" section of this Order of Reinstatement.

When a social worker applies for reinstatement of a revoked license, it is his or her burden to demonstrate to the Board that the criteria for reinstatement have been met. Furthermore, reinstatement is a discretionary act on the part of the Board. The decision of the Board is final, and no appeal arises from said decision.

In considering a petition for reinstatement, health occupation boards in Maryland have been guided by the factors used by the Court of Appeals in attorney license reinstatement cases, which are:

1. The nature and circumstances of petitioner's original misconduct;

2. Petitioner's subsequent conduct and reformation;
3. His present character; and
4. His present qualifications and competence to practice [social work].

See Matter of Kahn, 328 Md. 698, 699 (1992), *citing* In re Braverman, 271 Md 196,199-200 (1974).

Upon consideration of the above factors, the Board has found that the reinstatement of Respondent's social work license with conditions is appropriate at this time.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated above, the Board has concluded to reinstate Respondent's license to practice social work with the specific conditions as set out in this Order of Reinstatement.

#### V. ORDER

Based upon the foregoing, it is this 12 day of May, 2006, by a majority of the full authorized membership of the Board, hereby

**ORDERED** that the Maryland social work license of Anita Parr is **REINSTATED**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that Respondent shall be placed on **PROBATION** for a period of **ONE (1) YEAR**, effective the date of this Order of Reinstatement, subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Respondent shall be supervised by a Board registered and pre-approved licensed social worker supervisor, who will monitor all aspects of Respondent's social work practice.

2. The supervisor shall be provided with the entire investigative file in this case, including investigative interviews, investigative reports (excluding medical records), the charging document, the Final Opinion and Order dated July 2, 2001, attached as Exhibit A, and this Order of Reinstatement.

3. Respondent shall meet with the supervisor on a monthly basis for the probationary period.

4. Respondent shall ensure that the supervisor submits reports to the Board on a quarterly basis that address Respondent's participation in evaluative supervision.

5. The first of the quarterly reports shall be due to the Board within ninety (90) days from the date that Respondent returns to the practice of social work in Maryland.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that if Respondent fails to comply with the terms and conditions of this Order of Reinstatement, it shall be deemed a violation of probation, and Respondent may be subject to additional charges by the Board; and it is further

**ORDERED** that while Respondent's license is on probation, she may not mentor or supervise other social workers or participate in field instruction; and it is further

**ORDERED** that there will be no early termination of probation; and it is further

**ORDERED** that there shall be no automatic termination of probation after one (1) year, and Respondent must petition the Board in writing for termination of probation and full reinstatement of her license without restrictions or conditions. If Respondent has satisfactorily complied with all conditions of probation, there are no outstanding complaints or other disciplinary actions pending against Respondent, and the Board-approved supervisor's reports have been, in the opinion of the Board, favorable for

Respondent, the Board shall terminate probation. If Respondent fails to make any such petition, then the probationary status shall continue indefinitely, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Order of Reinstatement; and it is further

**ORDERED** that Respondent shall abide by the laws and regulations regarding the practice of social work. Failure to do so shall constitute a violation of probation and of this Order of Reinstatement and may subject Respondent to further disciplinary action by the Board. The Board, after notification to the Respondent, and an opportunity for a hearing, may take immediate action and may impose any lawful disciplinary sanctions it deems appropriate, including but not limited to suspension or revocation of Respondent's social work license. The burden of proof for any action brought against Respondent as a result of a breach of the conditions of this Order of Reinstatement shall be on Respondent to demonstrate compliance with this Order of Reinstatement; and it is further

**ORDERED** that Respondent's failure to fully comply with the terms and conditions of this Order of Reinstatement shall be deemed a violation of probation and of this Order of Reinstatement, and that upon such violation the Board may impose any discipline that it might have imposed for Respondent's actions in this case; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the burden of proof shall be on Respondent to demonstrate compliance with this Order of Reinstatement and the terms and conditions of probation, except for any new charges issued by the Board that are unrelated to this case, and it is further

**ORDERED** that any violation of this Order of Reinstatement by Respondent shall constitute unprofessional conduct; and it is further

**ORDERED** that Respondent is responsible for all costs associated with carrying out the provisions of this Order of Reinstatement and the terms and conditions of probation; and it is further

**ORDERED**, that this Order of Reinstatement is a final order of the Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners and, as such, is a PUBLIC DOCUMENT and is reportable to any entity to which the Board is obligated by law to report, and is disclosable under the Maryland Public Information Act, Md. State Gov't Code Ann. §§ 10-611 *et seq.*; and it is further

**ORDERED** that this Order of Reinstatement shall be effective as of the date that it is signed by the Board.

May 12, 2006  
Date

*for* Stephanie Sharpe  
Yvonne M. Perret, LCSW-C  
Chairman  
Maryland State Board of Social Work  
Examiners