

IN THE MATTER OF * **BEFORE THE MARYLAND**
MEREDITH BRANSON, Ph.D. * **BOARD OF EXAMINERS**
LICENSE NO. 3179 * **OF PSYCHOLOGISTS**

* * * * *

PRE-CHARGE CONSENT ORDER

Background

On March 31, 2007, the license to practice psychology held by the Respondent, Meredith Branson, Ph.D. (the "Respondent") expired. On June 2, 2008, the Respondent filed an application for reinstatement with the Maryland Board of Examiners of Psychologists (the "Board") in which she acknowledged that she had provided psychological services on an expired license.

In lieu of issuing formal Charges against the Respondent for violation of the Maryland Psychologists Act, Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 18-101 *et seq.*, the Board held a Pre-Charge Case Resolution Conference with the Respondent on October 24, 2008. As a result, the Board and the Respondent have agreed to resolve this matter as set forth in this Consent Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Respondent was originally licensed in Maryland on December 1, 1995.
2. On March 31, 2007, the Respondent's license to practice psychology in Maryland expired.
3. Due to personal circumstances, the Respondent inadvertently failed to renew her license.
4. Some time in April-May 2008, the Respondent realized that her license expired and contacted the Board for direction.
5. On June 2, 2008, the Respondent filed a reinstatement application with the Board in

which she indicated that she provided psychological services during the time her license was expired.

6. The Respondent paid the reinstatement fee and provided the 20 continuing education units required for reinstatement.
7. On July 14, 2008, the Board issued the Respondent a reinstated license.
8. The Respondent had completed 52 continuing education units during the 2005-2007 renewal period, but was missing the ethics course required for renewal.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes that the Respondent is in violation of the Maryland Psychologists Act, Health Occ. §§18-313(12) and 18-401.

ORDER

Based on an affirmative vote of the Board, it is this 14th day of November, 2008, hereby:

ORDERED that the Respondent pay a fine of \$1,400; and be it further,

ORDERED that this is a formal order of the Maryland Board of Examiners of Psychologists and as such is a public document pursuant to the Maryland Annotated Code, State Government Article, Section 10-617(h).

11/14/08
Date

Robert A. Brown
Robert Brown, Ph.D.
Chair

CONSENT

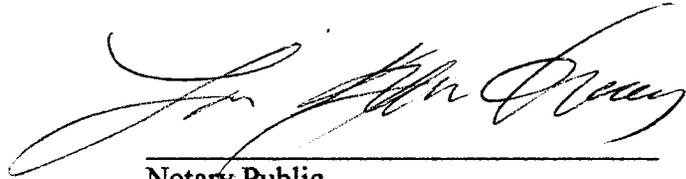
1. By signing this Consent, I submit to the foregoing Consent Order as a resolution of this matter in lieu of formal charges, which process would have afforded me the right to a full evidentiary hearing. I consent and submit to the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order as if made after a full evidentiary hearing in which I would have the right to counsel, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to call witnesses on my own behalf and to all other substantive and procedural protections provided by law.
2. By signing this Consent, I waive any rights I may have had to contest the findings and determinations contained in this Consent Order.
3. I acknowledge the legal authority and the jurisdiction of the Board to enter and enforce this Consent Order.
4. I sign this Consent Order freely and voluntarily, after having had the opportunity to consult with counsel. I fully understand the language, meaning, and effect of this Consent Order.

10/30/08
Date


Meredith Branson, Ph.D.

STATE OF MARYLAND
COUNTY/CITY OF Montgomery:

I hereby certify that on this 30th day of Oct., 2008, before me, a Notary Public of the State of Maryland and County/City aforesaid, personally appeared MEREDITH BRANSON and made an oath in due form that the foregoing Consent was her voluntary act and deed.



Notary Public

My commission expires:

JAE KYUNG CHUNG
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF MARYLAND
My Comm. Expires 5/2/2010