

Ronald Golkow, Ph.D.
10953 Shadow Lane
Columbia, Maryland 21044

October 27, 2011
Date

Steven Sobelman, Ph.D., President
Maryland Board of Examiners of Psychologists
4201 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

Re: Permanent Surrender of Psychologist's License and Payment of Fine
License No. 2232

Dear Dr. Sobelman and Members of the Board:

Please be advised that I have decided to permanently surrender my license to practice psychology in the State of Maryland, License Number 2232. This decision has been prompted by the investigation of my license by the Maryland Board of Examiners of Psychologists (the "Board"). In lieu of formal proceedings by the Board, I have agreed to permanently surrender my license to practice psychology in the State of Maryland.

By virtue of this Letter of Surrender, I understand that I may not provide psychological services to any individual or otherwise engage in the practice of psychology in Maryland, as it is defined in the Maryland Psychologists Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. Art. § 18-101 *et seq.* I also understand that should I provide mental health services in the capacity of a coach, psychotherapist, counselor, or other designation, the Board may investigate my practice to determine whether such practice constitutes the unauthorized practice of psychology.

I understand that this Letter of Surrender is a PUBLIC document and upon the Board's acceptance and execution, becomes a FINAL ORDER of the Board.

The Board's investigation into my misconduct would have resulted in charges under the Act for engaging in a sexual relationship with a vulnerable patient and subsequently asking the patient to withdraw her complaint to the Board. Specifically, the Board would have charged me with the following violations under § 18-313:

Subject to the hearing provisions of § 18-315 of this subtitle, the Board, on the affirmative vote of a majority of its members then serving, may deny a license to any applicant, reprimand any licensee, place any licensee on probation, or suspend or revoke a license if the applicant or licensee:

(7) Violates the code of ethics adopted by the Board under § 18-311 of this subtitle;

(17) Commits an act of unprofessional conduct in the practice of psychology;

(20) Does an act that is inconsistent with generally accepted professional standards in the practice of psychology;

The Board would have further charged me with the following violations of its Code of Ethics, Code of Maryland Regulations, Title 10, Subtitle 36, Chapter 5:

.07 Client Welfare.

C. Sexual Misconduct. A psychologist may not:

(1) Engage in sexual intimacies with a current client

I wish to make it clear that I have voluntarily, knowingly and freely chosen to submit this Letter of Surrender to avoid prosecution under the Act and to resolve this matter. I understand that by executing this Letter of Surrender, I am waiving any right to contest these charges in a formal evidentiary hearing at which I would have had 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, including the right to appeal. I acknowledge that if the Board were to issue charges against me, the Office of the Attorney General could prove by a preponderance of the evidence at an administrative hearing that I violated the Act as set forth above.

I understand that the Board will advise the Health Integrity and Protection Data Bank of this Letter of Surrender, and in response to any inquiry, will advise that I have surrendered my license. I understand that this Letter of Surrender will be posted on the Board's website along with all other formal disciplinary actions. I understand that, in the event that I would apply for licensure in any form in any other state or jurisdiction, that this Letter of Surrender, and all underlying investigative documents, may be released by the Board to the same extent as a Final Order that would result from disciplinary action pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Gov't Art. § 10-611 *et seq.* Finally, I understand that this Letter of Surrender is considered disciplinary action by the Board.

I agree that the effect of this Letter of Surrender is permanent, and that I will never seek licensure in the State of Maryland. I further agree that the Board is not

obligated to consider any application for reinstatement that I might file at a future date, and that I waive any hearing rights that I might possess regarding such application.

I acknowledge that I may not rescind this Letter of Surrender in part or in its entirety for any reason whatsoever. Finally, I wish to make clear that I have been advised and given an opportunity to consult with an attorney before signing this Letter of Surrender. I fully understand both the nature of the Board's actions and this Letter of Surrender. I acknowledge that I understand and comprehend the language, meaning and terms and effect of this Letter of Surrender. I make this decision knowingly and voluntarily.

I understand and agree to the following as consideration for the Board's acceptance of this Letter of Surrender:

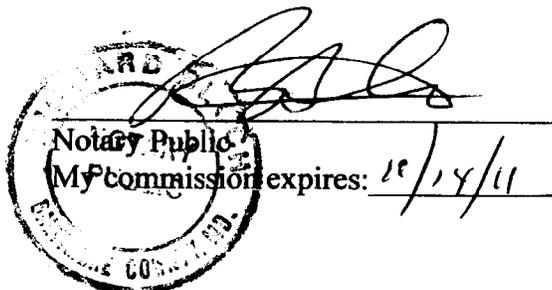
1. Return of my original Maryland psychologist's license, number 2232, and my recent wallet-sized renewal card; and
2. Payment of a civil fine in the amount of \$10,000, payable to the Maryland Board of Examiners of Psychologists within two (2) years of the date of this Letter.

I solemnly affirm under the penalties of perjury and upon personal knowledge that the contents of the foregoing Letter are true:

Ronald Golkow, Ph.D.

STATE OF MARYLAND
COUNTY/CITY OF Baltimore:

I hereby certify that on this 27th day of October, 2011, before me, a Notary Public of the State of Maryland and County/City aforesaid, personally appeared RONALD GOLKOW, and made an oath in due form that the foregoing Consent was his voluntary act and deed.



ACCEPTANCE

4th On behalf of the Maryland State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, on this day of November, 2011, I accept the PUBLIC SURRENDER of the license to practice psychology in the State of Maryland held by Ronald Golkow.



Steven Sobelman, Ph.D.
Maryland Board of Examiners of
Psychologists