

IN THE MATTER OF  
SUSAN MEHLMAN  
RESPONDENT  
LICENSE NUMBER: 01750

\* BEFORE THE  
\* STATE BOARD OF  
\* EXAMINERS  
\* OF PSYCHOLOGISTS  
\* CASE NUMBER: 2007-025

\* \* \* \* \*

**FINAL CONSENT ORDER**

The State Board of Examiners of Psychologists ("the Board") notified Susan Mehlman ("the Respondent"), D.O.B. 04/25/52, License Number: 01750, of the Board's intent to **REVOKE** her license to practice psychology, under the Maryland Psychologists Act ("the Act"), Md. Health Occ. Code Ann. ("H.O.") §§ 18-101 *et seq.* (Repl. Vol. 2005).

The pertinent provisions state:

**§ 18-313. Denials, reprimands, suspensions, and revocations – Grounds.**

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 of any licensee if the applicant or licensee:

- (3) Is convicted of or pleads guilty or nolo contendere to a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude, whether or not any appeal or other proceeding is pending to have the conviction or plea set aside.

A case resolution conference was held on May 8, 2008. As a result of the case resolution conference, the parties agreed to enter into this Consent Order.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

The Board finds that:

1. On or about November 18, 1983, the Respondent was licensed to practice psychology in Maryland, having been issued license number 01750.
2. On or about March 15, 2007, the Respondent was charged by way of a criminal information in the Circuit Court for Baltimore City, with one count of felony Medicaid fraud, in violation of Md. Crim. L. §8-509 (a copy of the Criminal Information in *State of Maryland v Susan Carol Mehlman*, Case Number: 207074001, is attached to and incorporated herein as **Exhibit A**).
3. On or about March 21, 2007, the Respondent pled guilty in the Circuit Court for Baltimore City to one count of felony Medicaid fraud, in violation of Md. Crim. L. § 8-509 (a copy of the Plea Agreement and the Docket Entries in *State of Maryland v Susan Carol Mehlman*, Case Number: 207074001, are attached hereto and incorporated herein as **Exhibit B**).
4. On or about March 21, 2007, the Respondent was sentenced by Circuit Court Judge Martin Welch to five (5) years imprisonment with all but six months suspended.<sup>1</sup> The Respondent was also ordered to serve a probationary period of two (2) years and to pay court costs (a copy of the Probation/ Suspension Order and the Order for Home Detention in *State of Maryland v Susan Carol Mehlman*, Case Number: 207074001, are attached hereto and incorporated herein as **Exhibit C**).<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The Respondent served six (6) months on home detention.

<sup>2</sup> As part of her plea agreement, the Respondent was required to pay and did pay restitution and penalties totaling \$96,750, prior to being sentenced. On June 10, 2008, Judge Welch granted Respondent's Motion For Modification of Sentence and changed her conviction to Probation Before Judgment.

5. Felony Medicaid fraud is a felony and a crime involving moral turpitude.

6. By pleading guilty to a felony and a crime involving moral turpitude, the Respondent violated the Act.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes as a matter of law that the Respondent violated Md. Health Occ. Code Ann § 18-313 (3).

### **ORDER**

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is this 16 day of July 2008, on the affirmative vote of a majority of its members then serving, the Board hereby:

**ORDERED** that the Respondent's license to practice psychology in Maryland is hereby **SUSPENDED** for a period of one (1) year; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent's active suspension shall commence within sixty (60) days after the date that this Consent Order is signed by the Board; and it is further

**ORDERED** that before the commencement of her active suspension period, the Respondent shall deliver to the Board the display license and wallet-sized license to practice psychology in the State of Maryland that was previously issued by the Board; and it is further

**ORDERED** that during the period of her active suspension:

1. The Respondent shall enroll in and successfully complete a Board-approved ethics tutorial with a Board-approved supervisor;
2. Upon completion of the tutorial, the ethics supervisor shall submit a report to the Board;

3. The Respondent shall consent to the release of the Board's investigative files to the ethics supervisor for use in developing an appropriate tutorial;
4. The Respondent shall comply with all licensure renewal requirements; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent may file a written petition for termination of the suspension of her license once she has completed the required ethics tutorial, and the Board shall grant such petition, effective on completion of the one-year suspension, unless the Respondent has not in fact completed the ethics tutorial or is not current on all licensure renewal requirements; and it is further

**ORDERED** that upon termination of her suspension, the Respondent shall be placed on **Probation** for a period of two (2) years subject to the following conditions:

1. During the first year of her probationary period, the Respondent shall practice under the supervision of a Board approved mentor who will review the Respondent's practice and shall focus on billing, recordkeeping, and ethics;
2. The Respondent shall consent to release of the Board's investigative files to the Board approved practice mentor;
3. The Respondent shall provide at least eighty (80) hours of profession-related services to the community at no charge; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall comply with and practice within all statutes and regulations governing the practice of psychology in the State of Maryland; and it is further

**ORDERED** that any violation of the terms and conditions herein shall constitute a violation of probation and of this order; and it is further

**ORDERED** that at the end of the Respondent's probationary period, the Respondent shall file a written petition to the Board for termination of the probationary

status and the removal of any conditions or restrictions that resulted from this disciplinary action, provided that she has fulfilled all the terms and conditions set forth herein, is not in violation of this order, and there are no outstanding complaints against the Respondent; and it is further

**ORDERED** that if the Respondent fails to make any such petition, then the probationary period status shall continue indefinitely, subject to the conditions set forth in this order; and it is further

**ORDERED** that if the Respondent violates any of the terms of this order, the Board, after notice and a hearing, and a determination of violation, may impose any other disciplinary sanctions it deems appropriate, provided said violation has been proved by a preponderance of evidence; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall be responsible for all costs incurred under this order; and it is further

**ORDERED** that for purposes of public disclosure and as permitted by Md. State Govt. Code Ann. § 10-617(h) (Repl. Vol. 2004 and Supp. 2007), this document consists of the contents of the foregoing findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order, and is reportable to any entity to whom the Board is obligated to report; and be it further

**ORDERED** that this order is a public document pursuant to Md. State Govt. Code Ann. §§ 10-601 *et seq.* (Repl. Vol.2004 & Supp. 2007).

7/16/08

Date

Robert Brown

Robert Brown, Ph.D., ABPP, Chair  
Board of Examiners of Psychologists

### **CONSENT OF SUSAN MEHLMAN**

I, Susan Mehlman, by affixing my signature hereto, acknowledge that:

1. I have reviewed this Consent Order.

2. I am aware that I am entitled to a formal evidentiary hearing before the Board, pursuant to Md. Health Occ. Code Ann. §§ 18-101 *et seq.* and Md. St. Gov't Code Ann. §§ 10-201 *et seq.*

3. I acknowledge the validity and enforceability of this Consent Order as if entered after a formal 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 procedural and substantive protections to which I am entitled by law. I am waiving those procedural and substantive protections.

4. I voluntarily enter into the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order and agree to abide by the terms and conditions set-forth herein as a resolution of the Charges against me. I waive any right to contest the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and I waive my right to a full evidentiary hearing, as set forth above, and any right to appeal this Consent Order or any adverse ruling of the Board that might have followed any such ruling.

5. I acknowledge that by failing to abide by the conditions set forth in this Consent Order, I may be subject to disciplinary actions, which may include permanent revocation of my license to practice psychology.

6. I sign this Consent Order voluntarily, without reservation, and I fully understand and comprehend the language, meaning and terms of this Consent Order.

July 7, 2008  
Date

Susan Mehlman  
Susan Mehlman, PhD

STATE OF MARYLAND

~~AND~~ COUNTY OF BALTIMORE :

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 7<sup>TH</sup> day of JULY, 2008, before me, MAYER C. KALICHMAN, a Notary Public of the foregoing State and (~~City~~ County),

(Print Name)

personally appeared Susan Mehlman, and made oath in due form of law that signing the foregoing Final Consent Order was her voluntary act and deed, and the statements made herein are true and correct.

AS WITNESSETH my hand and notarial seal.

Mayer C. Kalichman  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: MAY 1, 2009

