IN THE MATTER OF * BEFORE THE

*

JUSTINA BOLDEN * MARYLAND STATE BOARD

OF MASSAGE THERAPY EXAMINERS

RMP Applicant *

*

PRE-CHARGE CONSENT ORDER

On or about March 23, 2022, the Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners (the "Board") received an application from Justina Bolden (the "Applicant") requesting that the Board grant her a registration to practice as a registered massage practitioner ("RMP") in the State of Maryland. On the application, the Applicant disclosed that she had a criminal history. The Board initiated an investigation. On May 25, 2022, based on the Applicant's disclosure, the subsequent investigation, and the Board's obligation to protect the public, Board representatives met with the Applicant to assess the Applicant's fitness for RMP practice in the State of Maryland. Accordingly, the Board and the Applicant agreed to the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Board finds that:

- 1. On or about March 23, 2022, the Board received an "Application for License or Registration in Massage Therapy" (the "Application") signed by the Applicant on March 21, 2022.
- 2. On the Application, the Applicant answered "YES" to the question that asked, "Have you ever pled guilty, nolo contendre [sic], no contest, or been convicted or received a probation before judgment for any criminal act (felony or misdemeanor), including DWI or DUI, in any state of [sic] jurisdiction."

- 3. According to the documents provided by the Applicant to the Board, on May 18, 2020, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of California, Case No. 3:19-CR-00624-AJB, the Applicant pled guilty to "False Statement to a Federal Officer" in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Under federal law, a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1001 constitutes a Class D felony.
- 4. As the result of her federal conviction, on May 18, 2020, the Applicant was sentenced to time served as well as 3 years of supervised release (commonly referred to as probation) subject to certain terms and conditions, including mental health treatment and periodic urinallysis screening. The Applicant's federal supervision will expire on May 17, 2023.
- 5. Subsequently, on or about August 30, 2021, the Applicant made application to the Virginia Board of Nursing for licensure to practice massage therapy in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Based on the Applicant's conviction, by Consent Order dated January 14, 2022, the Virginia Board of Nursing granted her a license to practice massage therapy in the Commonwealth and reprimanded her. It should be noted that the Applicant failed to disclose Virginia's Order to this Board.
- 6. The Board finds that the Applicant's federal guilty plea to, and conviction for, "False Statement to a Federal Officer" constitutes a violation of Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 6-308(a)(4) ("Is convicted of or pleads guilty or nolo contendere to a felony or to a crime involving moral turpitude, whether or not any appeal or other proceeding is pending to have the conviction or plea set aside").

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes that the Applicant violated § 6-308(a) of the Act as follows:

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

ORDER

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is hereby:

ORDERED that the Applicant, Justina Bolden, be **GRANTED** a probationary registration to practice as a registered massage practitioner; and it is further

ORDERED that the registration of the Applicant to practice as a registered massage practitioner in the State of Maryland shall be placed on **PROBATION**, subject to the following terms and conditions:

- The Applicant's certification shall be listed in the Board's computer records and website as "Probationary";
- 2. In the event the Applicant moves permanently or temporarily within or outside the State of Maryland, the Applicant shall notify the Board in writing of the new address and phone number within **THREE** (3) **DAYS** of the move;
- 3. The Applicant shall obey all state and federal laws;
- 4. In the event the Board grants to the Applicant any other type of license that the Board is authorized to grant, that license shall be subject to all of the same terms and conditions imposed in this Consent Order, including all of the same probationary conditions listed in preceding paragraphs 1-3; and it is further

ORDERED that if the Applicant violates any of the terms and conditions of this Consent Order, the Board may, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing, impose any other disciplinary sanction which the Board is statutorily authorized to impose in this case under Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 6-308, including reprimand, additional probation, suspension, revocation and/or monetary fine; and it is further

ORDERED that on the termination of her federal supervised release, on or after May 17, 2023, the Applicant may submit to the Board a written petition requesting that her probationary status be terminated, provided that (1) the Applicant provides the Board with adequate evidence that her federal supervised release has been successfully terminated; and (2) the Applicant has otherwise been compliant with all probationary terms of this Consent Order; and it is further

ORDERED that this document is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** under Md. Code Ann., General Provisions § 4-333.

6/28/2022 Date

Tharon Owel

Executive Director

Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners

CONSENT

By this Consent, I acknowledge that I have read this Consent Order in its entirety and I hereby admit the truth of the Findings of Fact, and accept and submit to the foregoing Consent Order and its conditions. I acknowledge the validity of this Consent Order as if entered into after the conclusion of a formal evidentiary hearing in which I would have had the right to legal counsel authorized to practice law in Maryland, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to request subpoenas for witnesses, to call witnesses on my own behalf, to introduce testimony and evidence on my own behalf, and to all other substantive and procedural protections provided by law. I waive these rights, as well as any appeal rights under Maryland Code Annotated, State Government Article § 10-222.

I sign this Consent Order after having an opportunity to consult with an attorney, voluntarily and without reservation, and I fully understand and comprehend the language, meaning, terms, and effect of this Consent Order.

Justina Bolden

NOTARY

CITY/COUNTY OF: Baffimore	
I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this3_5+ day of	
AS WITNESS, my hand and Notary Seal.	
Notary Public My commission expires: 07/20/2014	
Jason Yang NOTARY PUBLIC Howard County MARYLAND MY COMMISSION EXPIRES JULY 20, 2024	

STATE OF Mayland