

IN THE MATTER OF * **BEFORE THE**
ENQIU HUANG * **MARYLAND STATE BOARD**
Registration No. R02059 * **OF MASSAGE THERAPY EXAMINERS**

**ORDER OF REINSTATEMENT OF REGISTRATION TO
PRACTICE AS A REGISTERED MASSAGE PRACTITIONER**

I. BACKGROUND

After having received information from the Frederick County Sheriff’s Office regarding the massage therapy practice of Enqiu Huang (the “Petitioner”), the Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners (the “Board”) conducted an investigation. Based upon that investigation, on April 6, 2018, the Board accepted the surrender of the Petitioner’s registration to practice as a registered massage practitioner (“RMP”), pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 6-307. The acceptance of the Petitioner’s surrender was on the conditions that (1) the Petitioner’s registration would remain surrendered for a minimum of four years; and (2) after four years, the Petitioner could apply for reinstatement, which the Board could grant subject to terms and conditions.

In February 2023, the Petitioner submitted a petition to the Board to request reinstatement of her registration to practice as an RMP in the State of Maryland. In support of her petition, the Petitioner provided the following documents for the Board’s review:

Petitioner’s Documents for Reinstatement Review

1. Letter to the Board Regarding Reinstatement, undated (4 pages).
2. 3 Certificates of Good Moral Character (3 pages).
3. Excerpt of Petitioner’s Investigative Interview with the Board Investigator, dated February 6, 2017 (3 pages).
4. Letter of Reference from TurnAround, Inc., dated October 11, 2022 (1 page).

5. Letter of Reference from the Good Shepherd Ministries, dated July 19, 2020 (1 page).
6. 14 Certificates of Completion of Massage Therapy Continuing Education (14 pages).

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

Upon review of the Petitioner's request for reinstatement and of the supporting documents and file in the above-captioned case, the Board finds that:

1. On or about November 16, 2016, the Board received information from the Frederick County Sheriff's Office that reported the results of an investigation into three massage therapy facilities. Based on this information, the Board initiated an investigation.

2. The investigation revealed that on October 13, 2016, the Petitioner was charged with several crimes. The Petitioner subsequently pled guilty to one of those charges on January 17, 2017. The Court dismissed the balance of the charges as *nolle prosequi*. As a result of her guilty plea, the Court imposed an unsupervised probation before judgment. The Petitioner was ordered as part of her probation that she could not operate a massage business in Frederick County, Maryland. The matter was subsequently expunged when the Petitioner successfully completed her probation in 2019.

3. As a result of that guilty plea and probation and in light of the Board's ongoing investigation into the underlying conduct, by letter dated March 27, 2018, the Petitioner advised the Board of her desire to surrender her registration to practice massage therapy. In that letter, the Petitioner stated that she wished to surrender as a result of the guilty plea, probation, and her understanding that her conduct may have violated several provisions of the Maryland Massage Therapy Act, specifically Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 6-308(2) ("Fraudulently or deceptively uses a license or registration"); (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”); (8) (“Does an act that is inconsistent with generally accepted professional standards in the practice of massage therapy”); (20) (“Engages in conduct that violates the professional code of ethics”); and (21) (“Knowingly does an act that has been determined by the Board to be a violation of the Board's regulations”).

4. Pursuant to the Letter of Surrender, the Petitioner agreed that her registration would remain surrendered for a minimum of four years and that any reinstatement of that registration would be discretionary on the Board. Further, in the Letter, the Petitioner stated her understanding that the Board could reinstate her registration subject to any terms and conditions “appropriate for the public safety and protection of the integrity and reputation of the profession.”

5. In February 2023, the Petitioner submitted a petition for reinstatement, which included an application for licensure along with several documents in support of her reinstatement, including a letter in which the Petitioner presented the circumstances that led to her surrender, the steps that she has taken since the surrender, and her efforts at mitigation and contrition.

6. The Petitioner also submitted evidence that she has worked as a volunteer with TurnAround, Inc., an organization that “provides comprehensive services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence, and human trafficking in Baltimore City and Baltimore County, Maryland.” See <https://www.peoples-law.org/org/turnaround-inc>. Moreover, the Petitioner also volunteered with the Good Shepherd Ministries in Hagerstown, Maryland.

7. As is required with any application for a license or registration to practice massage therapy, the Petitioner also included three certificates of moral character submitted by

individuals who know the Petitioner. Each of the individuals attested to the Petitioner's good moral character and present ability to practice massage therapy in a safe and diligent manner.

8. The Petitioner also included evidence that she has taken 14 continuing education courses, notably in professional ethics, roles, and boundaries.

9. On or about March 14, 2023, the Petitioner and her counsel met with Board representatives to discuss the Petitioner's petition for reinstatement. At that meeting, the Petitioner discussed what she had learned from the incidents surrounding the surrender of her registration and was seemingly committed to practicing in a safe and ethical manner moving forward.

10. Based on the documents that the Petitioner has submitted as well as the interview with Board representatives, the Board believes that the Petitioner demonstrates an understanding of the gravity of the issues that led her to surrender her registration to practice as a massage therapist. Further, the Board believes that the Petitioner has accepted responsibility for her prior actions. Accordingly, the Board finds that the Petitioner is suitable for a probationary reinstatement of her registration to practice as a registered massage practitioner in the State of Maryland.

III. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes that the Petitioner is suitable for probationary reinstatement of her registration to practice as a registered massage practitioner at this time, subject to monitoring under terms and conditions of probation.

IV. ORDER

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

ORDERED that the Petitioner shall take and pass the Board's jurisprudence

examination; and it is further;

ORDERED that, on the successful completion of the Board's jurisprudence examination, the registration of the Petitioner to practice as a registered massage practitioner in the State of Maryland shall be **REINSTATED**; and it is further

ORDERED that the Petitioner's registration is placed on **PROBATION** for a minimum of **EIGHTEEN (18) MONTHS**, commencing on the date that the Petitioner's registration has been reinstated, subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. The Petitioner's status as a registered massage practitioner will be listed in the Board's computer records and website as being on "**Probation**";
2. The Petitioner may seek employment as a registered massage practitioner, however the Petitioner shall, on a continuing basis throughout the pendency of her probation, notify the Board within **TEN (10) DAYS** of accepting any massage therapy employment. The notification required by this paragraph shall include the employer's name, business address, and business phone number. Failure to notify the Board in writing within **TEN (10) DAYS** is a violation of probation and this Order;
3. The Petitioner shall obey all state and federal laws and regulations. If the Petitioner is convicted of, or pleads guilty to, any crimes, whether or not any appeal or other proceeding is pending to have the conviction or plea set aside, the Petitioner shall notify the Board, in writing, of any conviction(s) or guilty plea(s) within **TEN (10) DAYS** of the conviction or guilty plea. Failure to report a conviction or guilty plea to the Board in writing within **TEN (10) DAYS** is a violation of probation and this Order;

ORDERED that the Petitioner shall be responsible for paying any costs required to comply with the terms and conditions of this Order; and it is further

ORDERED that if the Petitioner violates any of the terms and conditions of this probation and/or this Order, the Board, in its discretion, after notice and an opportunity for an evidentiary hearing before the Board, may impose, by further public order, any other disciplinary sanction or sanctions that the Board may have imposed in this case under Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 6-308 including a reprimand, additional probation, active or stayed suspension, revocation, and/or monetary fine; and it is further

ORDERED that no earlier than **EIGHTEEN (18) MONTHS** after the date that the Petitioner's registration has been reinstated, the Board will consider a petition for termination of the Petitioner's probationary status, provided that the Petitioner has demonstrated full compliance with the terms and conditions of this Order and that there are no pending investigations or complaints before the Board; and it is further

ORDERED that this Order is a Final Order and as such is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. § 4-333(b)(6) and Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 1-607.

03/22/2023
Date

Sharon Oliver
Sharon J. Oliver, MBA
Executive Director
Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners