



Counselor, Social Worker & Marriage and Family Therapist Board

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ADJUDICATION ORDER in the Matter of:

Sara Gothard, #301663
Boone County Jail
3020 Conrad Lane
Burlington, KY 41005

IN THE MATTER OF SARA GOTHARD TO PRACTICE AS A LICENSED INDEPENDENT SOCIAL WORKER IN THE STATE OF OHIO.

THE MATTER OF SARA GOTHARD CAME BEFORE THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE SOCIAL WORKER PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE OF THE OHIO COUNSELOR, SOCIAL WORKER, AND MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST BOARD ON JANUARY 17, 2019: ANNA BOMAS, ANDREW BOWERS, LISA HABERBUSCH, ERIN MICHEL AND DR. CARL BRUN.

FINDINGS, ORDER, AND JOURNAL ENTRY

This matter came for consideration after a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing was issued to Sara Gothard by the Social Worker Professional Standards Committee on November 2, 2018.

Pursuant to R.C. 119.07 licensees are entitled to a hearing before the Board if such a hearing is requested within thirty days of the mailing of the Notice of Opportunity for Hearing. In this case, Ms. Gothard did make a timely request for such a hearing, but later canceled her request for a hearing, therefore pursuant to *Goldman v. State Medical Board*, 110 Ohio App.3d 124, 673 N.E.2d 677 (1996) the case was presented to the Social Work Professional Standards Committee on January 17, 2019.

Summary of Evidence

State's Exhibits

1. Affidavit prepared by William L. Hegarty, Deputy Director, State of Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board.

2. Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Ms. Gothard dated November 12, 2018.
3. Court documents pertaining to Ms. Gothard

Conclusions of Law

Ohio Revised Code Section 4757.36(C)(1) provides that the Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board may take disciplinary action against a licensee who has committed a violation of any provision of the Board's law and rules.

Discussion and Findings

As required in the case of *Goldman v. State Medical Board*, 110 Ohio App.3d 124, 673 N.E.2d 677 (1996) all cases where a Board issues a Notice for Opportunity for Hearing and the individual chooses not to have a hearing, the Board still must review evidence presented to it and make specific findings of fact. In this case, Sara Gothard did not request a hearing after receipt of her Notice for Opportunity for Hearing.

The Social Worker Professional Standards Committee has reviewed the evidence prepared in this case. The Committee finds that Sara Gothard was convicted of Robbery in the First Degree, a felony, in Kentucky in violation of ORC 4757.36(C)(5). The Committee orders that Ms. Gothard's license to practice as an independent social worker (I.1302271) is **REVOKED**. As Ordered by the Social Worker Professional Standards Committee of the Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board. Ms. Haberbusch recused herself from the discussion and vote of this case.

It is hereby certified by this Board that the above language is incorporated into the Board's journal in this matter.

APPEAL RIGHTS

Ohio Revised Code Section 119.12 may authorize an appeal from this Order. Such an appeal must be commenced by the filing of a Notice of Appeal with the Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board and in the court of common pleas of the county in which the licensee is a resident. If the party appealing from the order is not a resident of any County, the party may appeal to the court of common pleas of Franklin County. The Notice of Appeal must set forth the order appealed from and state that the agency's order is not supported by reliable, probative, and substantial evidence and is not in accordance with the law. The Notice of Appeal may, but need not, set forth the specific grounds of the party's appeal beyond the statement that the agency's order is not supported by reliable, probative, and substantial evidence and is not in accordance with law. Both Notices of Appeal must be received at the office of the Board and filed with the applicable court within fifteen (15) days after mailing of this notice of

the agency's order, and in accordance with the provisions of Ohio Revised Code Chapter 119.12.

By Order of the State of Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board.



Brian P. Carnahan
Executive Director

January 17, 2019

Date

Certified Mail Receipt #7003 0500 0002 4316 5833