## STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

## BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

IN THE MATTER OF:

REBECCA DERWIN, LPC Case Number 1574 Respondent. ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION

This matter coming on for hearing before the North Carolina Board of Licensed Professional Counselors at its meeting on April 14, 2016, on the Board's *ex parte* Motion for an Order of Summary Suspension with the information in the official file in support; and pursuant to the North Carolina Board of Licensed Professional Counselors authority under N.C. Gen. Stat. § 150B-3, to summarily suspend a license to practice counseling action when emergency action is required, the Board finds the following:

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1. On or about December 7, 2015, the North Carolina Board of Licensed Professional Counselors (hereinafter "the Board") received information that Respondent pled guilty to one count of felony obtaining property by false pretenses for fraudulent billing of the Medicaid program. The conduct covered the period of January 2012, through December 2013.

2. On July 30, 2015, Respondent pled guilty to one count of felony obtaining property by false pretenses in Granville County Superior Court, in North Carolina. Respondent was sentenced to 6 to 17 months in prison, suspended for five years on supervised probation. The Court also ordered Respondent to pay restitution in the amount of \$21,284.08 to the Medicaid program. The Court further ordered that Respondent be excluded as a medical assistance provider for the North Carolina Medicaid Program and any managed care organization working within the North Carolina Medicaid Program.

3. Respondent has failed to respond to the letter send to her by the Board Administrator on December 23, 2015. The letter was sent to the address that Respondent provided to the Board and to a new address obtained by the Board in Virginia, where the Board has obtained information that Respondent is residing.

4. Respondent has also failed to claim the charge letter sent to her on February 18, 2016, to both the address she provided to the Board and to the address in Virginia where the Board has obtained information that she is residing.

5. Respondent's conduct, if proven, violates the North Carolina Licensed Professional Counselors Act, and could result in revocation of her license to practice counseling.

6. Based upon the information received by the Board, the Board finds that the public safety and welfare require that the Board take emergency action in the form of a summary suspension of Respondent's license to practice counseling.

Based upon the foregoing findings, THE BOARD HEREBY ORDERS:

I. Respondent's license to practice counseling is hereby SUMMARILY SUSPENDED. The suspension is effective upon mailing of this Order to Respondent at both of the addresses that the Board has obtained for Respondent. The suspension shall remain in effect until the Board issues a Final Decision in this matter or until the parties enter into a Consent Order that is a final determination in this matter.

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II. It is further ordered, effective upon mailing of this Order, that Respondent cease all activities which constitute the practice of counseling, and turn in her license to the Board office within 15 days of mailing of this Order.

III. In addition to any final action the Board may take regarding the information received in this matter, Respondent's license to practice counseling may be suspended or revoked if the Board determines by a preponderance of the evidence after an opportunity for a hearing, that the Respondent has violated any of the terms of this Order of Summary Suspension.

IV. A hearing will be held in this matter, upon the request of Respondent.

V. The Board will maintain this Order of Summary Suspension as a public record pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-340(f).

This the  $14^{\cancel{2}}$  day of April, 2016.

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Katherine H. Glenn, Ph.D., LPCS Presiding Officer, Chairperson North Carolina Board of Licensed Professional Counselors

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Katrina Brent, Administrator of the North Carolina Board of Licensed Professional Counselors, do hereby certify that I have this day served a copy of the foregoing SUMMARY SUSPENSION upon the following by depositing a copy of same in the United States mail, certified mail, return receipt requested:

Rebecca Derwin 893 School Road Farmville, Virginia 23901

Rebecca Derwin Heartland Family Counseling 1303 College Street Oxford, North Carolina 27565

Rebecca Derwin Heartland Family Counseling 104 College Street Oxford, North Carolina 27565

Rebecca Derwin Post Office Box 1847 Oxford, North Carolina 27565

I do further certify that I have this day served a copy of the foregoing upon the following by depositing a copy of same in the United States mail, first class, postage prepaid:

Sondra Panico DOJ State Agency Services Section Post Office Box 629 Raleigh, North Carolina 27602-0629

This the  $\underline{\mathscr{B}}^{\dagger}$  day of April, 2016.

Katrina Brent, Administrator North Carolina Board of Licensed Professional Counselors Post Office Box 77819 Greensboro, North Carolina 27417 (336) 217-6007