

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF
SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS**

**IN THE MATTER OF
LUCY EHRENKRANZ
LICENSE NO. 10026**

COMPLAINT NO. 2016-95

VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF LICENSE

WHEREAS, LUCY EHRENKRANZ (“Ms. Ehrenkranz”) is a credentialed social worker and is subject to the jurisdiction and rules and regulations of the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act (La. R.S. 37:2701, et seq.), and the Professional and Occupational Standards of the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners (“Board” or “LABSWE”) (LAC 46:XXV §101, et seq.);;

WHEREAS, Ms. Ehrenkranz entered into a Consent Agreement and Order with the Board based upon a determination by the Board Ms. Ehrenkranz was arrested on December 10, 2015, for violation of La. R.S. 40:966, possession of marijuana and possession of prescription drugs without a prescription, and that she failed to report the arrest to the Board within seven (7) of her arrest, which Order was approved by the Board on November 3, 2017;

WHEREAS, the November 3, 2017 Consent Agreement and Order, among other things, required that Ms. Ehrenkranz be evaluated by the Board’s Impaired Professional Program (“IPP”) within thirty (30) days, and that she follow all recommendations of the designated IPP evaluator in a timely manner;

WHEREAS, by correspondence dated November 30, 2017, Ms. Ehrenkranz requested an extension of thirty (30) days to complete the IPP evaluation, which request was granted by correspondence dated December 28, 2017, from the Board’s Administrator, Emily DeAngelo;

WHEREAS, by correspondence dated January 11, 2018, the IPP Manager, Kathie Pohlman, directed Ms. Ehrenkranz to undergo a comprehensive in-patient evaluation at Palmetto Addiction Recovery Center within ninety (90) days of the letter;

WHEREAS, Ms. Ehrenkranz, through counsel, requested that because she was living in New Jersey and had undergone treatment in that state, that such treatment be accepted by the Board. In response, by correspondence dated April 26, 2018, the Board directed that Ms. Ehrenkranz provide the evaluation, treatment records, and discharge plan from the New Jersey treatment facility for review by the Board;

WHEREAS, after several letters with the Board's Administrator, Ms. Ehrenkranz's counsel advised that she wished to voluntarily withdraw her license with the Board;

WHEREAS, by correspondence dated December 27, 2018, a Stipulation and Agreement for Voluntary Surrender of Social Work License was sent to counsel for Ms. Ehrenkranz, but was not executed by her;

WHEREAS, by correspondence dated October 1, 2019, the Board's Administrator sent a draft administrative complaint to counsel for Ms. Ehrenkranz, and thereafter, by letter dated April 6, 2020, scheduled the matter of Administrative Complaint #2016-95 for hearing on May 8, 2020;

WHEREAS, the hearing was postponed multiple times due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and ultimately was continued without date;

WHEREAS, the respondent, Ms. Ehrenkranz, has again indicated her desire to voluntarily surrender her license with the LABSWE, particularly License No. 10026;

WHEREAS, the respondent, Ms. Ehrenkranz, acknowledges that the following will result due to her voluntary surrender of her LCSW license with the LABSWE:

1. A report of this Voluntary Surrender of License and the conditions under which the license was surrendered shall be submitted to the National Practitioners Data Bank (“NPDB”).
2. Public notification of this Voluntary Surrender of License by publishing and reporting in, including but not limited to, the LABSWE website, the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB), and the National Practitioner Data Bank-Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank (NPDB-HIPDB).
3. A two (2) year waiting period before Ms. Ehrenkranz will be eligible to apply for licensure with the LABSWE.
4. In the event that Ms. Ehrenkranz seeks licensure by the Board after the two (2) year period addressed above at Paragraph 3, a hearing may be held by the LABSWE to afford Ms. Ehrenkranz an opportunity to present evidence that she is fit to practice social work in Louisiana. After such hearing, the LABSWE may deny or grant licensure, and in the event of licensure, the Board may place any conditions or restrictions on Ehrenkranz’s social work practice it deems appropriate.
5. Ms. Ehrenkranz shall reimburse legal costs associated with Complaint No. 2016-95 in the amount of \$1,875.00 within nine (9) months from the date all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order. Payment shall be made by credit card, certified check, or money order.

WHEREAS, Ms. Ehrenkranz acknowledges that she has had the opportunity to thoroughly review the content of this Voluntary Surrender of License and that she is informed of and understands her rights to due process in connection with administrative charges, and that prior to final disciplinary action against her license, she would be entitled to have notice of a hearing on the allegations and charges asserted against her through the filing of an Administrative Complaint, and to have an administrative adjudication of such charges, at which time Ms. Ehrenkranz would be entitled to be represented by legal counsel, to call witnesses and to present evidence on her own behalf in defense or in mitigation of the charges made, and to a decision thereon by the Board based upon written findings of fact and conclusions of law pursuant to La. R.S. 49:950, *et seq.*;

WHEREAS, Notwithstanding her right to an administrative hearing and a decision thereon as provided by La. R.S. 49:955-965, in recognition of the stipulations set forth above and for the

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final disposition of this administrative action, Ms. Ehrenkranz, nonetheless, waives her right to formal adjudication and voluntarily surrenders to the Board her license to practice as a social worker in the state of Louisiana as evidenced by License No. 10026. Ms. Ehrenkranz also hereby authorizes a member of the Disciplinary Committee or the Board attorney to present this Voluntary Surrender of License to the Board for its consideration, and to fully disclose to and discuss with the Board the circumstances of this surrender, and she waives any objection to such disclosures under La. R.S. 49:950, *et seq.*;

WHEREAS, Ms. Ehrenkranz acknowledges, stipulates and agrees that the voluntary surrender of her license shall be deemed by the Board to have the same effect as if the Board had entered an order of revocation upon the conclusion of formal administrative proceedings.

WHEREAS, by the voluntary surrender of her LCSW license, Ms. Ehrenkranz, moreover, acknowledges, stipulates, and agrees that she hereby waives any right to which he may be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, or which otherwise may be afforded to her by law, to contest her agreement to, or the force and effect of this document in any Court related to the matters referred to herein;

WHEREAS, Ms. Ehrenkranz acknowledges that she has had the opportunity to seek the advice and guidance of legal counsel with respect to this Stipulation;

Effect of Non Acceptance of Agreement. Ms. Ehrenkranz acknowledges that this Consent Agreement and Order is subject to the approval of the Board. She further acknowledges and agrees that if the Board rejects this Voluntary Surrender of License, it will be void, and an Administrative Complaint may be filed relative to the allegations contained herein. If this Voluntary Surrender of License is rejected by the Board, it will not constitute a waiver of Ms.

Ehrenkranz’s right to a hearing on the matters alleged in an Administrative Complaint and the admissions contained herein will have no effect. She further agrees that if the Board rejects this Voluntary Surrender of License, the members of the Board may decide the matter after a hearing, and their consideration of this Voluntary Surrender of License shall not alone be grounds for recusal of any member of the Board, including any claims that the Board is biased against her, that it cannot fairly decide the case, or that it has received ex parte communication.

WHEREAS, based upon the above, LUCY EHRENKRANZ surrenders her LCSW license held with the LABSWE, particularly No. 10026;



LUCY EHRENKRANZ

02/06/2023

Date


BOARD ORDER
and
ACCEPTANCE OF THE VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF LICENSE BY THE
LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS:

By a majority vote of the Board members voting in favor of the foregoing Voluntary Surrender of License at the Board meeting on February 24, 2023, the Board hereby adopts said Voluntary Surrender of License, and makes it an Order of this Board.

Accordingly, the Board orders as follows:

1. A report of this Voluntary Surrender of License and the conditions under which the license was surrendered shall be submitted to the National Practitioners Data Bank ("NPDB").
2. Public notification of this Voluntary Surrender of License by publishing and reporting in, including but not limited to, the LABSWE website, the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB), and the National Practitioner Data Bank-Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank (NPDB-HIPDB).
3. A two (2) year waiting period before Ms. Ehrenkranz will be eligible to apply for licensure with the LABSWE.
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5. Ms. Ehrenkranz shall reimburse legal costs associated with Complaint No. 2016-95 in the amount of \$1,875.00 within nine (9) months from the date all parties sign this Consent Agreement and Order. Payment shall be made by credit card, certified check, or money order.

FOR THE BOARD:



Dr. Hyacinth McKee, LCSW-BACS, Chair