

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF
SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS**

**IN THE MATTER OF
REBECCA DAWSON, LMSW NO. 13842**

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER

The above captioned matter came before the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners ("Board") on January 14, 2022. The hearing was conducted in Executive Session pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17(A)(1).

Present at the Board's Office were:

Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW-BACS, Chair; Hyacinth McKee, LCSW-BACS, Vice-Chair; Jamie Barney, LCSW-BACS; Evan J. Bergeron, Consumer Member; and Carla Moore, LMSW;

Sheri M. Morris, counsel to the Board; and
Rebecca Dawson, LMSW ("Licensee").

Participating via videoconference were:

Ada Nelson, RSW and Emily DeAngelo, Board Administrator with the consent of Licensee.

On January 14, 2022, after the Licensee testified, the hearing was recessed until February 18, 2022 to allow the Impaired Professional Program ("IPP") Manager to explain the basis of her recommendation. The hearing was reconvened on February 18, 2022 in Executive Session pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17(A)(1).

Present at the Board's Office were:

Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW-BACS, Chair; Hyacinth McKee, LCSW-BACS, Vice-Chair; Evan J. Bergeron, Consumer Member; Carla Moore, LMSW; and Bora Sunseri, LCSW-BACS;

Sheri M. Morris, counsel to the Board; and
Emily DeAngelo, Board Administrator with the consent of Licensee.

Participating via videoconference was:

Kathie L. Pohlman, LSCW-BACS, MBA, IPP Manager; and

Participating via teleconference was:

Rebecca Dawson, LMSW ("Licensee").

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. LMSW No. 13842 was issued by the Board to Rebecca Dawson.
2. On April 23, 2021, the Board approved a Consent Agreement and Order in Docket No. 2021-98 ("Consent Agreement") whereby Licensee agreed to be evaluated through the Board's IPP and to follow all recommendations of the evaluator in a timely manner.
3. Licensee acknowledged that failure to comply with the terms of the Consent Agreement could result in a denial, revocation or suspension of any license, certificate, or registration issued by the Board.
4. The Board's IPP Manager recommended revocation of LMSW No. 134842 for Licensee's failure to comply with all recommendations of the IPP evaluator in a timely manner.
5. Licensee testified under oath:
 - A. She is currently employed by a call center not in the capacity of a social worker;
 - B. Complying with the treatment recommendations of the evaluator will present a hardship on her five year old son and also on family members who would need to care for her son;
 - C. Complying with the treatment recommendations of the evaluator will pose a financial hardship due to her inability to maintain her employment;
 - D. She understands that failure to comply with the treatment recommendations of the evaluator violates the Consent Agreement; and
 - E. She is hopeful that she will be able to return to social work when her son is older.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. La. R.S. 37:2717(5) authorizes the Board to deny, revoke, or suspend any license, certificate, or registration issued by the Board for violation of any Board Order.
2. Failure to comply with the Consent Agreement and Order in Docket No. 2021-98 constitutes cause for suspension of LMSW No. 13842.

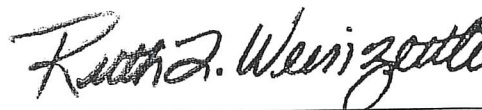
ORDER

Considering the evidence and testimony presented during the hearing;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that LMSW No. 13842 issued to Rebecca Dawson is suspended for a minimum of three years. Any application for reinstatement must be accompanied by a determination by a Board approved evaluator that Licensee is fit to practice social work.

Signed this 10th day of March, 2022.

For the Board:



Ruth Weinzettle, LCSW-BACS, Chairperson