



STATE OF ARIZONA  
BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EXAMINERS  
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KATIE HOBBS  
Governor

TOBI ZAVALA  
Executive Director

April 17, 2024

Myrio K. Jones  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Jones:

On April 12, 2024, the Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners ("Board") reviewed your application for licensure as a licensed master social worker and determined that you are not eligible for licensure pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3275(A)(6). Specifically, the Board found that you engaged in conduct that had you been licensed would have constituted grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3275(A)(5). The Board determined that the disciplinary action invoked the following violations that were based upon the conduct referenced thereafter:

1. A.R.S. § 32-3251(16)(l), engaging in any conduct, practice or condition that impairs the ability of the licensee to safely and competently practice the licensee's profession.

These violations were based on the following findings:

1. In 03/17, Applicant applied for an LMSW license, and during this process he disclosed having alcohol issues since the age of 17 and numerous arrests from 2004 – 2018.
2. At that time, he was offered a consent agreement, but failed to pass the required examination.
3. In 12/19, Applicant submitted a new LMSW application, indicating he had been sober for 5 years.
4. Despite his representation, clinical records outlined he still drank on occasion, and a 07/20 hair follicle drug test yielded positive results for cocaine.
5. Applicant was subsequently denied for unprofessional conduct.
6. In 11/22, Applicant once again applied for licensure.
7. In his application, Applicant failed to disclose prior action against him in his application.
8. Due to previous concerns regarding substance use, Applicant was asked to submit to a hair follicle drug test.
9. Applicant's 04/23 hair follicle test once again yielded positive results for cocaine, and Applicant was subsequently denied for licensure due to unprofessional conduct.
10. On 08/07/23, Applicant submitted his latest LMSW application.
11. Applicant represented that he is not engaging in any habits of substance use and believes his sobriety date is 09/22.
12. Despite Applicant's representation that his sobriety date is some time in 09/22, Applicant's 04/23 hair follicle drug test yielded a positive result for cocaine.
13. During his investigative interview, Applicant represented the following:
  - a. His sobriety date from cocaine is 09/22, but his sobriety date from alcohol is 09/23.
  - b. Applicant does not keep track of his sobriety date, and he believes he consumed alcohol during the holidays.
  - c. His sobriety date from alcohol is likely New Years day, but he does not consider his use significant.
14. Applicant misrepresented to Board staff in his written statement and during his investigative interview regarding his sobriety date from alcohol.

15. Despite the discrepancies in Applicant's sobriety dates, Applicant's urine and hair follicle tests between 02/01/24 and 03/20/24 yielded negative results.
16. Between 01/20 – 05/20 and since 01/24, Applicant has been receiving therapy services and disclosed his alcohol use history.
17. Applicant has a current diagnosis of Alcohol Use Disorder.
18. Despite his diagnosis, Applicant represented the following during his investigative interview:
  - a. Applicant does not agree with the diagnosis because he is aware of his alcohol consumption.
  - b. Applicant believes he had a problem with alcohol two years ago, and he does not plan to continue consuming alcohol.
19. Although Applicant is participating in therapy services, he has failed to consistently attend scheduled therapy sessions.
20. Applicant represented during his investigative interview that he is trying to do better moving forward regarding his participation and time management.
21. Furthermore, Applicant answered "no" to the application's background questionnaire regarding ever having been denied a license, when he has been previously denied a license on two occasions.
22. Despite answering "yes" to the application's background questionnaire question relating to criminal history, Applicant failed to outline his prior arrests.
23. After Board staff's request for a complete criminal history, Applicant only listed four charges previously disclosed in past applications and a 09/21 DUI, which was not previously reported.
24. Applicant did not previously disclose his 09/21 DUI in his 11/22 application, therefore misrepresenting his criminal history.
25. Applicant's listed employer in 08/23 verified that Applicant stopped working at the agency in 08/22, a year prior to submitting his application.
26. Applicant misrepresented his employment status, and he failed to respond to Board staff's written requests to clarify his employment status until it was addressed in his investigative interview.
27. Applicant acknowledges not being very engaged in the investigative process, and has demonstrated a pattern of misrepresentation as it relates to his substance use.

Notice of Appealable Agency Action:

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41.1092.03 (B), you may request a formal hearing by notifying the Board, in writing, within 35 days from the date of this letter. The hearing will be held within 60 days after the Board receives your request. (A.R.S. § 41-1092.05)(A)) At the hearing, you will have the burden of proof to demonstrate that you are qualified for licensure regarding the matters set forth above. The Office of the Attorney General will represent the State of Arizona at the hearing. In addition, if you request a hearing, you have the right to request a settlement conference. (A.R.S. § 41-1092.06) Please note that if you do not request a hearing by the close of business on **May 22, 2024**, your file will be closed without recourse to appeal. If you desire licensure in the future you will be required to submit a new application and fee. Please be further advised that pursuant to the Board's licensure statutes only persons holding licenses to practice behavioral health may do so unless they are exempt from licensure pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3271.

Notice to Licensure Applicant:

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1093.01, an agency shall limit all occupational regulations to regulations that are demonstrated to be necessary to specifically fulfill a public health, safety or welfare concern. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1093.02 and A.R.S. § 41-1093.03, you have the right to petition this agency to repeal or modify the occupational regulation or bring an action in a court of general jurisdiction to challenge the occupational regulation and to ensure compliance with A.R.S. § 41-1093.01.

If you have any questions, I can be reached at (602) 542-1617.

Sincerely,



Tobi Zavala  
Executive Director