HARRIS & HILTON, P.A.

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January 28, 2020

BY OVERNIGHT MAIL SIGNATURE CAPTURE

Mr. Christopher Macemore 275 Darnell Avenue Elkin, NC 28621

Re: Christopher Macemore; EC-571-19

Dear Mr. Macemore:

Enclosed please find a copy of the Order entered by the North Carolina Addictions Specialist Professional Practice Board, with respect to the above referenced matter.

Should you wish to have the stay lifted, so that you could resume practice, the first step would be to make a full and complete response to the Ethics Complaint against you.

Very truly yours,

HARRIS & HILTON, P.A.

Nelson G. Harris

NGH:tsm Enclosure

cc: Mr. Ba

Mr. Barden Culbreth (by email) (w/ Enclosure)

Mr. Elizabeth Ramos (by email) (w/ Enclosure)

Mr. Christopher Macemore (by email) (w/ Enclosure)

Mr. Barden Culbreth (w/ Enclosure)

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA ADDICTIONS SPECIALIST PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE BOARD

| NORTH CAROLINA ADDICTIONS |) |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| SPECIALIST PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE | $\hat{\mathcal{L}}$ |
| BOARD, |) |
| Petitioner |) |
| |) |
| v. |) ORDER |
| |) |
| CHRISTOPHER MACEMORE, |) EC No. 571-19 |
| Respondent |) |
| LCAS-A No. 23958 |) |

THIS CAUSE came on to be heard before the North Carolina Addictions Specialist Professional Practice Board, formerly known as the North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board ("the Board") on January 24, 2020, as regularly noticed for hearing by Notice of Hearing dated November 23, 2020.

The Board, having heard the evidence, and having reviewed the record, makes the following **FINDINGS OF FACT:**

- 1. Petitioner North Carolina Addictions Specialist Professional Practice Board (known through December 31, 2019 as the "North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board") ("the Board"), was established by G.S. 90-113.32, and is recognized as the registering, certifying, and licensing authority for substance abuse professionals described in the Practice Act. The Board was established to safeguard the public health, safety, and welfare, to protect the public from being harmed by unqualified persons, to assure the highest degree of professional care and conduct on the part of credentialed substance abuse professionals, to provide for the establishment of standards for the education of credentialed substance abuse professionals, and to ensure the availability of credentialed substance abuse professionals of high quality to persons in need of these services. The Board, under authority granted by the Practice Act regulates Board-credentialed persons offering substance abuse counseling services, substance abuse prevention services, or any other substance abuse services for which the Board may grant registration, certification or licensure.
- 2. On July 17, 2018, Respondent was licensed as a Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist Associate (LCAS-A No. 23958).
- 3. On August 19, 2019, the Board received an Ethics Complaint ("the Complaint") against Respondent; the substance of which is that Respondent had tried to forge a prescription for Oxycodone.

- 4. On August 19, 2019, the Board sent a copy of the Complaint to Respondent, demanding response.
- 5. On October 22, 2019, having received no response, counsel for the Board send a letter to Respondent, at the address provided by Respondent (275 Darnell Avenue, Elkin, NC 28621) demanding that Respondent respond to the Complaint by November 21, 2019, and noting that failure to respond constituted a failure to cooperate with the Board's investigation, in violation of 21 NCAC 68 .0510, and grounds for discipline under 21 NCAC 68 .0601(7)(e).
- 6. Respondent received the October 22, 2019 letter on October 24, 2019; as evidenced by a FedEx Overnight Mail Proof of Delivery bearing the signature of "L.MACEMORE".
 - 7. Respondent has made no response to the Complaint.
- 8. On January 21, 2020, Respondent contacted counsel for the Board by email, indicated that his father suffered a stroke on January 19, 2020, and requested a continuance of the hearing until April 2020.
- 9. Respondent is subject to the North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Act and the rules promulgated thereunder. The Board has jurisdiction over the person of the Respondent and the subject matter of this proceeding.
- 10. Pursuant to 21 NCAC 68. 0601 and other provisions of the 21 NCAC 68.0101 et seq., grounds exist to discipline Respondent relating to the facts and circumstances set forth above, up to and including permanent revocation of Respondent's registration as a Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist Associate.
- 11. Under the facts and circumstances of this case, and particularly given that Respondent did not respond to the Complaint prior to requesting a continuance, the motion to continue should be denied.
- 12. The appropriate discipline to impose, with respect to the actions alleged above, and in light of Respondent's contact and motion to continue, may be anything up to permanent revocation of Respondent's registration as a Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist Associate.

BASED UPON THE FOREGOING FINDINGS OF FACT, THE COURT CONCLUDES AS A MATTER OF LAW:

- 1. The North Carolina Addictions Specialist Professional Practice Board is a body duly organized under the laws of North Carolina and is the proper party to bring this proceeding under the authority granted it in Chapter 90, Article 5C of the North Carolina General Statutes and the corresponding Rules at 21 North Carolina Administrative Code ("NCAC"), Chapter 68.
- 2. Pursuant to 21 NCAC 68. 0601 and other provisions of the 21 NCAC 68.0101 et seq., grounds exist to discipline Respondent relating to the facts and circumstances set forth

above, up to and including permanent revocation of Respondent's registration as a Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist - Associate, for Respondent's failure to respond to the Complaint.

3. The appropriate discipline to impose in connection with Respondent's failure to respond, given the circumstances alleged in the Complaint, to the Ethics Complaint is a five (5) year suspension of Respondent's license as a Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist – Associate (LCAS-A No. 23958); with the suspension subject to being lifted if Respondent responds to the Ethics Complaint and if the Board, after reasonable investigation, and hearing, determines that the stay should be lifted.

<u>ORDER</u>

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED as follows:

- 1. Respondent's license as a Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist – Associate (LCAS-A No. 23958) is suspended for five (5) years.
- 2. The Board may lift the stay if Respondent responds to the Ethics Complaint, and if the Board, after reasonable investigation, and hearing, determines that the stay should be lifted.
 - 3. This Order is effective upon the date executed by the Board.

NOTICE

To obtain judicial review of this Final Decision, the entity or individual seeking review must file a petition within thirty (30) days after service of a written copy thereof, with the Clerk of the Superior Court of the County where the entity is headquartered or the individual resides.

This the 21 day of January, 2020.

THE NORTH CAROLINA ADDICATIONS SPECIALIST PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE BOARD

By: Laura Veach, Board President