

**BEFORE THE
NORTH CAROLINA ADDICTIONS SPECIALIST PROFESSIONAL
PRACTICE BOARD**

NORTH CAROLINA ADDICTIONS)
SPECIALIST PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE))
BOARD,)
 Petitioner)
)
v.)
)
SABRIYA L. SHARIF-HANIFA,)
 Respondent)
 LCAS-A No. 3175)

FINAL DECISION

EC No. 649-20

THIS CAUSE came on to be heard before the North Carolina Addictions Specialist Professional Practice Board ("the Board") on July 23, 2021, on the Notice of Hearing dated April 26, 2021. In the absence of the President and Vice-President, Johnny Bass, Treasurer, presided.

The Board, having received the evidence and having heard the arguments of counsel, makes the following FINDINGS OF FACT:

1. Petitioner North Carolina Addictions Specialist 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. During all relevant times, Respondent Sabriya L. Sharif-Hanifa was registered as a Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist - Associate (LCAS-A No. 3175).

3. On December 23, 2020, the Board received an Ethics Complaint ("the Complaint") against Respondent.

4. On December 28, 2020, Michael McGuire, Ethics Committee Chairman, sent a copy of the Complaint to Respondent, demanding response, within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt, to the allegations contained therein.

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7/24/21

5. The Board has sent follow up letters on March 1, 2021; March 18, 2021; March 24, 2021; April 7, 2021; and April 12, 2021. In the April 12, 2021 letter, which Respondent received on April 13, 2021, the Board demanded response by April 24, 2021; and noted 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. On April 26, 2021, the Board issued a Notice of Hearing, which was served on Respondent on April 27, 2021.

7. Respondent has made no response to the Complaint.

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

1. Respondent is subject to the North Carolina Addictions Specialist 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.

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, and particularly for failure to cooperate with the Board's investigation of the Complaint, up to and including permanent revocation of Respondent's status as a LCAS-A.

3. The appropriate discipline to impose, with respect to the actions alleged above, is permanent revocation of Respondent's status as a LCAS-A.

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

1. Respondent's status as an LCAS-A (LCAS-A No. 3175) is permanently revoked.
2. Each party shall bear their own costs.

QMB
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NOTICE

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

This the 7 day of July, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA ADDICTIONS
SPECIALIST PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE
BOARD

By: Johnny Bass
Johnny Bass, Treasurer 7/24/21