

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

In the matter of the License to)
Practice Social Work of:)
)
Constance A. Gieser)
)
)

ORDER

WHEREAS:

1. The North Dakota Board of Social Work Examiners (“Board”) is authorized pursuant to North Dakota Century Code (N.D.C.C.) ch. 43-41 to license and regulate the practice of social work.
2. The Board is authorized to suspend, revoke, or otherwise discipline any license issued by the Board on the grounds set forth in N.D.C.C. § 43-41-10.
3. Licensees of the Board are required to complete thirty approved continuing education contact hours, including two (2) hours social work ethics, for each two-year licensing period. N.D.A.C. § 75.5-02-03-07(1).
4. Constance A. Gieser (“Gieser”) is a social worker licensed by the Board.
5. Gieser submitted an application to renew her license, which stated in part:

The Board has adopted a continuing education audit system in which licensees will be randomly selected to submit verification of attendance for the required continuing education earned in this two-year licensure period. If you are selected for the audit, you will be notified by letter with instructions on how to complete the audit process.

6. Through the application for renewal Gieser attested that the following statement was true:

I have completed or will have completed the hours of continuing education, including 2 hours of social work ethics, as required by N.D.C.C. 43-41-12 and N.D. Administrative Code 75.5-02-03-07 during the 2018-2019 licensure period. If the NDBSWE concludes that I have not complied with the requirements set forth in NDCC § 43-41-12 and ND Administrative Code 75.5-02-03-07, and the NDBSWE does not grant an extension or waiver under NDCC § 43-41-12, I hereby agree to waive my right to an administrative hearing and appeal pursuant to NDCC ch. 28-32 and agree that the NDBSWE may issue an order taking disciplinary action against my license.

7. Gieser was selected for a continuing education audit, and the Board sought documentation from Gieser confirming that she obtained the required continuing education hours.
8. Gieser did not submit documentation confirming she completed the hours.
9. At its August 11, 2020, the Board reviewed this matter and concluded that Gieser violated N.D.C.C. § 43-41-10(1)(d), § 43-41-12(5), and North Dakota Administrative Code § 75.5-02-03-07(1).
10. At its August 11, 2020, meeting the Board decided to initiate a disciplinary action against Gieser's license.
11. An Order executed on August 13, 2020, incorrectly stated that the Board decided to revoke Gieser's license. That Order is superseded by the following Order, correctly stating that Gieser's license is not revoked, but is suspended.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Gieser's license is suspended.
2. Gieser shall complete the required continuing education hours for the licensing period ending January 31, 2019, and shall submit evidence to the Board indicating completion of those hours. All costs associated with the hours shall be borne by Gieser. These hours shall be in addition to continuing education hours required by law and shall not count toward the current licensing period.
3. The Board will review Gieser's submissions and determine whether Gieser met the terms of this Order. If Gieser fails to fulfill the terms of this Order during the current licensing period, the Board may take further disciplinary action against her license without a hearing or appeal.

Dated this 26th day of September, 2020.

NORTH DAKOTA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK
EXAMINERS

By: Bianca Bell

Bianca Bell
President

