Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DIRECTIVE AND ORDER REGARDING THE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS AND THERAPISTS

Pursuant to the Executive Order of March 16, 2020 Relating to Various Healthcare Matters

I, Robert R. Neall, Secretary of Health, for the prevention, control, and treatment of 2019 Novel Coronavirus ("SARS-CoV-2") and the disease that it causes, Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19"), and on consideration of the Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists' advice and recommendation of April 1, 2020, do hereby direct and order the following:

I. **ALCOHOL AND DRUG TRAINEE:** An Alcohol and Drug Trainee ("ADT") may provide counseling services via teletherapy in accordance with COMAR 10.58.06 and subject to the following terms and conditions:

(a) During the state of emergency as declared by the Governor;

(b) Using IT equipment owned by a facility, clinic, or office;

(c) At a facility, clinic, office, or alternate location as determined to be appropriate by the ADT's Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists ("Board")-approved supervisor; and

(d) Under the supervision of a Board-approved supervisor who is physically, electronically, or otherwise immediately available.

II. **INTERSTATE TELETHERAPY:** During the state of emergency as declared by the Governor, a professional counselor or therapist who has a current, unexpired license or certification to practice professional counseling that is in good standing in another state, territory, or jurisdiction may provide counseling or therapy services using teletherapy in accordance with COMAR 10.58.06 to a client located in Maryland only if:

(a) the out of State professional counselor or therapist has a therapeutic relationship with the client that was previously established in the other state, territory, or

jurisdiction;

(b) the therapeutic relationship was established while the client was physically located in the other state, territory, or jurisdiction; and

(c) the therapeutic relationship was established on or before a state of emergency was declared in the state of Maryland.

THIS DIRECTIVE AND ORDER IS ISSUED UNDER MY HAND THIS 6TH DAY OF APRIL 2020 AND IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY FOR THE DURATION OF THE STATE OF EMERGENCY AND CATASTROPHIC HEALTH EMERGENCY.

Robert R. Neall
Secretary