

IN AND BEFORE THE OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND SUPERVISION
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

FILED

JAN 15 2015

OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL LICENSURE & SUPERVISION

STATE OF OKLAHOMA, *ex rel.*)
THE OKLAHOMA BOARD)
OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND)
SUPERVISION,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
v.)
)
KAREN STEVENSON)
LICENSE NO. OA 1432,)
)
Defendant.)

Case No. 14-05-4968

**ORDER ACCEPTING
VOLUNTARY SUBMITTAL TO JURISDICTION**

Plaintiff, the State of Oklahoma, *ex rel.* the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision ("Board"), by and through its attorney, Joseph L. Ashbaker, Jr., Assistant Attorney General, for the State of Oklahoma and the staff of the Board, as represented by the Secretary of the Board, Billy H. Stout, M.D., and the Executive Director of the Board, Lyle Kelsey, and the Defendant, Karen Stevenson, O.T.A., Oklahoma Occupational Therapist Assistant License No. OA1432, who appears in person and with counsel, Linda Scoggins, offer this Voluntary Submittal to Jurisdiction effective January 15, 2015, for acceptance by the Board *en banc* pursuant to Okla. Admin. Code § 435:5-1-5.1.

By voluntarily submitting to jurisdiction and entering into this Order, the Defendant pleads guilty to the allegations in the Complaint and Citation filed herein on May 29, 2014, and further acknowledges that a hearing before the Board would result in some sanction under the Oklahoma Allopathic Medical and Surgical Licensure and Supervision Act ("Act").

The Defendant, Karen Stevenson, O.T.A., states that she is of sound mind and is not under the influence of, or impaired by, any medication or drug that impairs her ability to understand this agreement and the proceedings surrounding it and that she fully recognizes her right to appear before the Board for an evidentiary hearing on the allegations made against her. The Defendant hereby voluntarily waives her right to a full hearing, submits to the jurisdiction of the Board and agrees to abide by the terms and conditions of this Order. The Defendant acknowledges that she has read and understands the terms and conditions stated herein, and

that this Voluntary Submittal to Jurisdiction has been reviewed and discussed with her and her counsel.

Agreements and Stipulations

The Plaintiff, the Defendant and the Board staff stipulate and agree as follows:

1. This Board is the duly authorized State agency empowered to license and oversee the activities of occupational therapist assistants in the State of Oklahoma pursuant to the Oklahoma Allopathic Medical and Surgical Licensure and Supervision Act, 59 O.S. 2011 & Supp. 2013, §§ 480-518.1, and the Occupational Therapy Practice Act, 59 O.S. §§ 888.1-888.16.
2. The Defendant holds Occupational Therapist Assistant License No. OA1432.

Current Allegations of Unprofessional Conduct

History with the Board

3. On September 12, 2013, the Defendant was placed on Agreement with the Board due to questions raised during the application process regarding her drug-related and larceny of merchandise arrests in 1999, 2003, 2004, and 2005.

Violation of Agreement

4. On or about March 17, 2014, Defendant met with Board Compliance Coordinator and reported that she relapsed on Vicoprofen and alcohol “the night before the Super Bowl” (February 1, 2014). She stated her relapse was triggered by the stress of her boyfriend’s illness, loneliness and her co-dependency issues. The Defendant admitted she did not attend a minimum of three (3) meetings per week of a recognized 12-step program. Because of her relapse, Defendant voluntarily agreed to quit practicing as an Occupational Therapist Assistant until such time as this matter was heard by the Board.
5. The Defendant is in violation of the following paragraphs of the Agreement for Licensure entered into on September 12, 2013:

Paragraph C: Applicant will take no medication except that which is authorized by a physician treating Applicant for a legitimate medical need and only during that time in which he is being treated by the physician for that specific medical need. Applicant will have the affirmative duty to inform any and every doctor treating Applicant of this agreement prior to the commencement of, or continuation of presently ongoing, treatment;

Paragraph D: Applicant will have the affirmative duty not to ingest any other substance which will cause a body fluid sample to test positive for prohibited substances, including but not limited to alcohol;

Paragraph J: Any violation of the terms, conditions and requirements of this Agreement shall constitute conclusive evidence of unprofessional or dishonorable conduct, which may result in disciplinary action, including suspension or revocation; and

Paragraph Q – Applicant will attend a minimum of three (3) meetings per week of a recognized 12-step program.

Conclusions of Law

6. The Defendant is guilty of unprofessional conduct in that she is in:

Violation of any provision(s) of the medical practice act or the rules and regulations of the Board or of any action, stipulation or agreement of the Board as stated in Okla. Admin. Code § 435:10-7-4(39).

Order

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision as follows:

1. The Board en banc hereby adopts the agreement of the parties in this Voluntary Submittal to Jurisdiction
2. It is **ORDERED** that Defendant's license is hereby **SUSPENDED** for a period of six (6) months commencing on September 1, 2014, and ending on March 1, 2015, after successful participation and completion of Saint Anthony's Recovery and Treatment (START) Program.
3. It is **ORDERED** that during Defendant's participation in the START Program, Defendant will provide **MONTHLY REPORTS** from the START Program Director to the Board Compliance Coordinator, and said monthly reporting shall terminate upon Defendant's successful completion of START;

4. It is **ORDERED** that upon termination of Defendant's six-month suspension, Defendant will be placed on **PROBATION** for a period of five (5) years. Said **PROBATION** will commence on March 1, 2015, and shall have the following provisions:

Standard Terms:

- a) Defendant will conduct her practice in compliance with the Oklahoma Allopathic Medical and Surgical Licensure and Supervision Act and the Occupational Therapy Practice Act as interpreted by the Board. Any question of interpretation regarding the Act or this order shall be submitted in writing to the Board, and no action based on the subject of the question will be taken by Defendant until clarification of interpretation is received by Defendant from the Board or its designee.
- b) Defendant will furnish a copy of this order to each and every state in which she holds licensure or applies for licensure and to all hospitals, clinics or other facilities in which she holds or anticipates holding any form of staff privileges or employment.
- c) Defendant will not supervise allied health professionals that require surveillance of a licensed occupational therapist assistant practitioner.
- d) Defendant will keep the Board informed of her current address.
- e) Defendant will keep current payment of all assessment by the Board for prosecution, investigation and monitoring of her case unless Defendant affirmatively obtains a deferment of all or part of said fees upon presentation of evidence that is acceptable to the Board Secretary.
- f) Defendant will be financially responsible for all assessments by the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision for prosecution, investigation and monitoring of her case, which shall include, but is not limited to, a fee of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) per month during the term of probation. Defendant will keep current these payments unless Defendant affirmatively obtains a deferment of all or part of said fees upon presentation of evidence that is acceptable to the Board Secretary. This provision is applicable except as otherwise delineated to the contrary.
- g) Until such time as all indebtedness to the Board has been satisfied, Defendant will reaffirm said indebtedness in any and all bankruptcy proceedings.

- h) Defendant shall make herself available for one or more personal appearances before the Board or its designee upon request.
- i) Defendant shall submit any required reports and forms on a timely and prompt basis to the Compliance Coordinator or designee.
- j) Defendant will execute such releases of medical and psychiatric records during the entire term of probation as necessary for use by the Compliance Coordinator to obtain copies of medical records and authorize the Compliance Coordinator to discuss Defendant's case with Defendant's treating physicians and/or any physicians holding Defendant's records.
- k) Failure to meet any of the terms of this Board Order will constitute cause for the Board to initiate additional proceedings to suspend, revoke or modify license after due notice and hearing.

Specific Terms:

- l) Defendant will have the probation fees waived during the pendency of her participation and enrollment in the START program. Further, all drug testing will be done through the START program during that program's pendency and will then be conducted through Board Compliance upon completion of the START program. Defendant will execute any waivers or releases required to allow the Boards Executive Staff Compliance Section access to all records and correspondence with START program and its directors, supervisors and workers.
- m) Defendant will submit for analysis biological specimens including, but not limited to, blood, urine and hair follicle, upon request of the Board or its designee, and Defendant will pay for the costs attendant thereto subject to the constraints of Paragraph (l) above.
- n) Defendant will take no medication except that which is authorized by a physician treating her for a legitimate medical need. Defendant has the affirmative duty to inform any and every doctor treating her of this Board Order immediately upon initiation, or continuation, of treatment.
- o) Defendant shall not ingest any substance which will cause a biological specimen to test positive for any prohibited substance, including, but not limited to, alcohol, street drugs, and any mind-altering or mood-altering drugs.
- p) Defendant will notify the Board or its designee of any relapse, including any

entry, or re-entry, into an inpatient rehabilitation, assessment, or evaluation program and shall provide to the Board or its designee written authorization for any and all records associated with said treatment, assessment or evaluation.

- q) Defendant will notify the Board or its designee of any arrest or charge filed against her of any conviction for driving under the influence or while intoxicated or involving alcohol or any other prohibited substance, or for any criminal offense involving substance abuse. This notification will include any complaint of intoxication or severe hangover at place of employment or while rendering health services.
- r) Defendant will attending counseling a minimum of once every thirty (30) days and shall continue said counseling until such time as Defendant's counselor and/or Board Secretary no longer deem it necessary. Defendant's counselor will provide quarterly reports to Compliance Coordinator for the duration of said counseling.
- s) Defendant will sign a contract with and attend a minimum of three (3) meetings per week as required by the Oklahoma Health Professionals Program ("OHPP.") upon completion of the START program and beginning her probationary period.
- t) Defendant's employment must be approved by Board Secretary.
- u) Defendant agrees and understands that disenrollment from, failure of, failure to participate in good faith as determined by program staff of the St. Anthony's START program or other prohibited behavior of this agreement will constitute a violation of this agreement and will be grounds for further Board action.

5. A copy of this Order shall be provided to the Defendant as soon as it is processed.

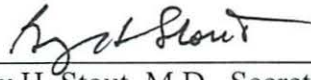
Dated this 11 day of January, 2015.



John William Kinsinger, M.D., President
Oklahoma State Board of Medical
Licensure and Supervision



Karen Stevenson, O.T.A.
License No. OA1432

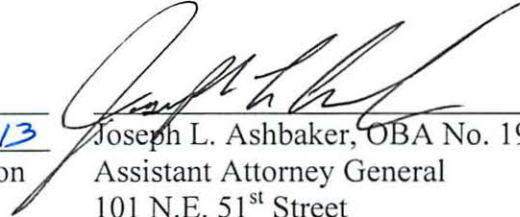


Billy H. Stout, M.D., Secretary
Oklahoma State Board Of Medical
Licensure And Supervision



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Oklahoma City, OK 73102

Attorney for Defendant

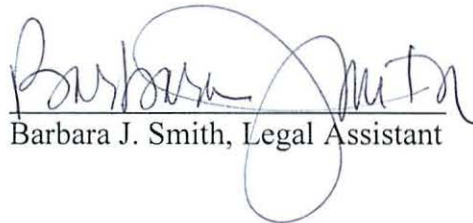


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*Attorney for State of Oklahoma, ex rel.
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Certificate of Service

This is to certify that on this 15th day of January, 2014, a true and correct copy of this Order Accepting Voluntary Submittal to Jurisdiction was mailed, with proper postage thereon, to Linda G. Scoggins at Doerner Saunders Daniel & Anderson, 105 N. Hudson, Suite 500, Oklahoma City, OK 73102.



Barbara J. Smith, Legal Assistant