

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

**FILED**

JUN 19 2009

OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF  
MEDICAL LICENSURE & SUPERVISION

STATE OF OKLAHOMA )  
EX REL. THE OKLAHOMA BOARD )  
OF MEDICAL LICENSURE )  
AND SUPERVISION, )

) **Plaintiff** )

v. )

Case No. 09-04-3751

DEBORAH SUE JENNINGS, M.D., )  
LICENSE NO. 16198, )

) **Defendant.** )

**COMPLAINT**

COMES NOW the plaintiff, the State of Oklahoma ex rel. the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision (the "Board"), by and through its attorney, Elizabeth A. Scott, Assistant Attorney General, and for its Complaint against the Defendant, Deborah Sue Jennings, M.D., Oklahoma license no. 16198, alleges and states as follows:

1. The Board is a duly authorized agency of the State of Oklahoma empowered to license and oversee the activities of physicians and surgeons in the State of Oklahoma pursuant to 59 Okla. Stat. §480 *et seq.*
2. Defendant, Deborah Sue Jennings, M.D., holds Oklahoma license no. 16198 and practices as a psychiatrist in Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

**PATIENT RCL-SEXUAL MISCONDUCT**

3. A review of Defendant's records reveals that Defendant began treating Patient RCL, a forty-six (46) year old male, on or around January 24, 2000 for headaches, depression, post traumatic stress disorder and bipolar disorder. Defendant continued treating Patient RCL in her office until at least December 16, 2008. While the patient's office visits ended in December 2008, Defendant continued to prescribe medications, both controlled and non-controlled, to the patient until at least March 10, 2009. During this time, Defendant was on disability from the State of Oklahoma for his mental disorder. Pharmacy records reflect that Defendant prescribed numerous controlled and non-controlled substances to Patient RCL, including Hydrocodone,

Alprazolam, Promethazine, Clonazepam, Adderall, Ativan, Percocet, Trazadone, Neurontin, Zyprexa, Demerol, Roxycodone, Amitriptyline, Prozac, Lamictal, and Seroquel.

4. In or around December 2008, Defendant asked Patient RCL and his mother, Patient CCL, who she was also treating, to stay at her house to care for her horses while she and her fourteen (14) year old daughter were out of town. Defendant injured her knee while she was out of town, so when she returned, she asked Patient RCL and his mother, Patient CCL, to remain at her house to care for her horses and to take her daughter to school. Patients RCL and CCL agreed to do so. During this time, Defendant continued to treat both Patients RCL and Patient CCL and continued prescribing both controlled dangerous substances and other dangerous drugs to these patients.

5. In early 2009, Defendant and Patient RCL were watching television at her house. They began kissing and eventually engaged in unprotected sexual intercourse.

6. After this sexual encounter, Defendant admitted to Patient RCL that she had the Herpes virus.

7. In early to mid January 2009, Defendant advised Patient RCL's mother that Patient RCL was going to stay living with her. She told the patient's mother that she and the patient were going to try a relationship and possibly get married. Defendant advised the patient's mother that she knew she was breaking ethical rules by doing this. After this discussion, Patient CCL, who is Patient RCL's mother, moved out of Defendant's house and returned to her home.

8. Patient RCL continued to live with Defendant in her home for approximately six (6) weeks. During this time, they slept in the same bed and continued to engage in sexual intercourse. Defendant also continued to prescribe controlled dangerous substances to Patient RCL.

9. In mid to late March 2009, Defendant's personal relationship with Patient RCL deteriorated. During one (1) incident, Defendant admits that Patient RCL would not stop talking so she "popped" him on the head with her hand. After this incident, Patient RCL became upset and suicidal, threatening to shoot himself with one (1) of Defendant's guns. Defendant then called Patient RCL's mother, Patient CCL, who persuaded Patient RCL to move out of Defendant's house.

10. In early April 2009, Defendant called Patient RCL's house around midnight. She admitted she had been with Patient RCL's twenty-three (23) year old son and his friends drinking alcohol at a club in Checotah, Oklahoma. She had attempted to drive home to Tahlequah, but could only make it to Muskogee when she called Patient RCL and Patient CCL to come get her because she had had too much to drink and could not drive any further. Patient RCL and Patient CCL drove to Tahlequah and brought Defendant back to their home. Defendant slept with Patient RCL in his bed that night.

11. During April 2009, Defendant called Patient RCL and Patient CCL almost every day, not for issues involving these patients' treatment, but instead, in an attempt to maintain her personal, improper relationships with these patients.

12. During April 2009, Patient RCL became increasingly upset with Defendant's attempts to contact him and maintain a personal, rather than professional relationship with him. He refused to leave his mother's house, then subsequently admitted himself to inpatient treatment at Brookhaven in Tulsa for psychiatric help.

13. Defendant is guilty of unprofessional conduct in that she:

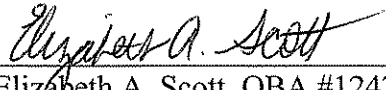
- A. Engaged in dishonorable or immoral conduct which is likely to deceive, defraud or harm the public in violation of 59 O.S. § 509 (8) and OAC 435:10-7-4 (11).
- B. Engaged in physical conduct with a patient which is sexual in nature, ... in violation of 59 O.S. §509 (17).
- C. Committed an act of sexual ... misconduct or exploitation related or unrelated to the licensee's practice of medicine and surgery in violation of OAC 435:10-7-4 (23).
- D. Abused the physician's position of trust by coercion [or] manipulation ... in the doctor-patient relationship in violation of OAC 435:10-7-4(44).
- E. Violated any provision of the medical practice act or the rules and regulations of the Board or of an action, stipulation, or agreement of the Board in violation of 59 O.S. §509 (13) and OAC 435:10-7-4(39).

### *Conclusion*

WHEREFORE, plaintiff requests that the Board conduct a hearing, and upon proof of the allegations contained herein, impose such disciplinary action as authorized by law, up to and including the revocation or suspension of the Defendant's license to practice as a physician and surgeon in the State of Oklahoma, the assessment of costs and fees incurred in this action, and any other appropriate action with respect to Defendant's license to practice as a physician and surgeon in the State of Oklahoma.

Dated this 19<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2009 at 8:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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