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

STATE OF OKLAHOMA	)	MAY 1 6 2008
EX REL. THE OKLAHOMA BOARD	)	
OF MEDICAL LICENSURE	)	OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF
AND SUPERVISION,	)	MEDICAL LICENSURE & SUPERVISION
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	
v.	)	Case No. 08-03-3477
	)	
	)	
STEPHEN VANCE PAUL, P.A.,		
LICENSE NO. PA770	)	
	)	
Defendant.	)	

### FINAL ORDER OF REVOCATION

This cause came on for hearing before the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision (the "Board") on May 15, 2008, at the office of the Board, 5104 N. Francis, Suite C, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, pursuant to notice given as required by law and the rules of the Board.

Elizabeth A. Scott, Assistant Attorney General, appeared for the plaintiff and defendant appeared not.

The Board *en banc* after hearing arguments of counsel, reviewing the exhibits admitted and the sworn testimony of Steve Washbourne, investigator for the Board, and being fully advised in the premises, found that there is clear and convincing evidence to support the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Orders:

## Findings of Fact

- 1. The Board is a duly authorized agency of the State of Oklahoma empowered to license and oversee the activities of physician assistants in the State of Oklahoma pursuant to 59 Okla. Stat. §480 et seq. The Board has jurisdiction over this matter, and notice has been given in all respects in accordance with law and the rules of the Board.
- 2. Defendant, Stephen Vance Paul, P.A., formerly held Oklahoma physician assistant license no. PA770.
  - 3. On or about November 1, 2007, Defendant was disciplined by the Oklahoma State

Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision (the "Board") based upon several incidents involving substance abuse, including two (2) arrests. After due notice and hearing, the Board suspended Defendant's license to practice as a physician assistant for a minimum of six (6) months and ordered that he must personally appear before the Board to request reinstatement.

- 4. On or about March 13, 2008, Defendant called in a prescription for Tramadol 50 mg. #120 for his wife, Julie Paul, at the CVS Pharmacy located in Mustang, Oklahoma. The pharmacist at CVS confirmed that when asked who his supervising physician was, Defendant gave the name Ray Trammell, M.D. at the Department of Corrections. When the pharmacist could not confirm that Dr. Trammell was Defendant's supervising physician, he refused to fill the prescription.
- 5. After the CVS Pharmacy refused to fill the prescription, Defendant attempted to fill the same prescription for Tramadol 50mg. #120 for his wife, Julie Paul, at the Walgreens Pharmacy in Mustang, Oklahoma. The Walgreens pharmacist likewise refused to fill the prescription when he could not confirm that Dr. Trammell was Defendant's supervising physician.
- 6. The CVS pharmacist confirmed to Board investigators that on or about February 10, 2008, Defendant had called in Phenergan 25mg. #10 for his wife, Julie Paul, and had listed Ray Trammell, M.D. as his supervising physician.
- 7. Board investigators subsequently contacted Dr. Trammell, who confirmed that he had never called in any prescriptions for Julie Paul, that she was not a patient, and that he had had no contact with Defendant since June 2007.
- 8. On or about March 28, 2008, Board investigators met with Defendant. When asked if he had called in any prescriptions since he lost his license in November 2007, Defendant lied and stated "NO".
- 9. When Board investigators confronted him with the Phenergan prescription from February 2008, Defendant then admitted that he had in fact called in that prescription for his wife while he was suspended. Defendant additionally admitted that he had represented to the CVS Pharmacy that Ray Trammell, M.D. was his supervising physician when he knew that was not true. Defendant also admitted that while he was suspended, he had tried to call in the prescription for Tramadol for his wife, but the pharmacists at both CVS and Walgreens refused to fill it.
- 10. Board investigators then asked Defendant if he had driven himself to the Board offices for his interview, knowing that he had a suspended driver's license due to his most recent DUI in Canadian County. Defendant admitted that he had driven himself even though he had a suspended license. Defendant additionally admitted that if asked by the judge in Canadian County if he had driven with a suspended driver's license, he would lie to the judge.
  - 11. On or about April 28, 2008, Defendant tested positive for alcohol on a drug test

administered by the Oklahoma Health Professionals Recovery Program.

- 12. On or about May 7, 2008. Defendant tested positive for Oxycodone on a drug test administered by the Oklahoma Health Professionals Recovery Program. Defendant admitted to the Board Investigator that he did not have a prescription for the Oxycodone but got it from a friend.
  - 13. Defendant is guilty of unprofessional conduct in that he:
    - 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. Confessed to a crime involving violation of the laws of this state in violation of 59 O.S. §509(7).
    - C. Failed to furnish the Board, its investigators or representatives, information lawfully requested by the Board in violation of OAC 435:10-7-4(37).

## Conclusions of Law

- 1. The Board has jurisdiction and authority over the Defendant and subject matter herein pursuant to the Oklahoma Allopathic Medical and Surgical Licensure and Supervision Act (the "Act") and its applicable regulations. The Board is authorized to enforce the Act as necessary to protect the public health, safety and welfare.
  - 2. Defendant is guilty of unprofessional conduct in that he:
    - 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. Confessed to a crime involving violation of the laws of this state in violation of 59 O.S. §509(7).
    - C. Failed to furnish the Board, its investigators or representatives, information lawfully requested by the Board in violation of OAC 435:10-7-4(37).

3. The Board further found that the Defendant's license should be **REVOKED** based upon any or all of the violations of the unprofessional conduct provisions of 59 Okla. Stat. \$509(7) and (8) and OAC 435:10-7-4 (11), and (37).

#### Order

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

- 1. The license of Defendant, Stephen Vance Paul, P.A., Oklahoma license no. PA770, is hereby **REVOKED** as of the date of this hearing, May 15, 2008.
- 2. Promptly upon receipt of an invoice, Defendant shall pay all costs of this action authorized by law, including without limitation, legal fees and costs, investigation costs, staff time, salary and travel expenses, witness fees and attorney's fees.
- 3. Defendant's revoked license shall not be reinstated unless Defendant has reimbursed the Board for all taxed costs and expenses incurred by the State of Oklahoma.

Dated this 16 day of May, 2008.

Gerald C. Zumwak, M.D., Secretary Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on the  $\frac{Q}{Q}$  day of May, 2008, I mailed, via first class mail, postage prepaid, a true and correct copy of this Order to Stephen Vance Paul, 1017 Gladys Way; Mustang, OK 73064.

Janet Swindle