

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF:

JULIE K. LONG, RDH
(License Number 13703)

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**CONSENT ORDER OF
INDEFINITE SUSPENSION**

THIS MATTER is before the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners ["Board"], as authorized by G.S. § 90-231(b), for consideration of a Consent Order of Indefinite Suspension in lieu of a formal administrative hearing. Julie Kay Long, RDH ["Respondent"] acknowledges that the Board has sufficient evidence to prove and establish the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and to warrant this Consent Order. Respondent represented herself. Douglas J. Brocker represented the Board's Investigative Panel. Based upon the consent of the parties hereto, the Board enters the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Board is a body duly organized under the laws of North Carolina and is the proper party to bring this proceeding pursuant to the authority granted to it in Chapter 90 of the North Carolina General Statutes, including the Dental Hygiene Act in Article 16, and the rules and regulations of the Board set forth in 21 North Carolina Administrative Code Chapter 16.
2. Respondent was licensed to practice dental hygiene in North Carolina on January 6, 2023, and holds license number 13703.
3. Respondent is and has remained licensed to practice dental hygiene in North Carolina and is subject to the Dental Hygiene Act and the Board's rules and regulations at all times relevant to this Consent Order.

4. In 2023, the Board received information that Respondent was unsafe to practice as a dental hygienist due to Respondent's chronic or persistent use of substances causing Respondent's impairment.

5. Respondent voluntarily met with the Board's Director of Investigations on October 2, 2023.

6. During the meeting with the Director of Investigations Respondent admitted that she has engaged in excessive use of alcohol and other substances, which admission corroborated other evidence the Board has obtained about Respondent's persistent use of intoxicants and other substances.

7. During the same meeting with the Director of Investigations, Respondent agreed with the Board to obtain an alcohol and substance use assessment through the North Carolina Caring Dental Professionals Program ["NC CDP"] but failed to appear for the scheduled assessment on October 25, 2023.

Based on the above Findings of Fact, the Board reaches the following:

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board has jurisdiction over the person of Respondent and the subject matter of this case.

2. Respondent's conduct indicates she is in violation of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-229(a)(4), which authorizes disciplinary or other action if a hygienist is a chronic or persistent user of intoxicants or other substances to the extent that the same impairs the licensee's ability to practice dental hygiene.

3. In light of Respondent's conduct and statements, protection of the public requires that Respondent's dental hygiene license be suspended indefinitely unless and until she can demonstrate that she is safe to resume practice.

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Board enters the following:

ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

1. The dental hygiene license in North Carolina of Respondent, Julie Kay Long, RDH, is hereby **INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED**.

2. Respondent may petition the Board to lift the indefinite suspension and reinstate her North Carolina dental hygiene license by applying for reinstatement in accordance with 21 NCAC 16C .0601 and by demonstrating through clear and convincing evidence, that she has:

- a. Undergone an evaluation with NC CDP and complied with all provisions of the evaluation obtained through NC CDP and any Participation Agreements, including any treatment, individual therapy, and monitoring, consistent with the recommendations resulting from the evaluation, and successful participation in NC CDP;
- b. Obtained the proper support and advocacy of NC CDP for lifting the suspension and reinstating her license with appropriate conditions; and

- c. Established that she is safe to resume the practice of dental hygiene.

3. If the Board approves Respondent's subsequent petition and reinstates Respondent's North Carolina dental hygiene license in the future, the Board may impose probationary terms and conditions of reinstatement deemed necessary for the protection of the public, including, but not limited to, the requirement(s) that Respondent shall:

- a. not violate any provision of the Dental Hygiene Act or the Board's rules and regulations;
- b. submit to interviews by the Board or its authorized agent during regular office hours or at such other times as are mutually convenient and arrange for the Board or its agent to interview her employer, any contracting dentist, and co-workers during regular office hours;
- c. participate in NC CDP and abide by all terms and conditions of her Evaluation and Participation Agreements with NC CDP and any addenda or succeeding agreements with NC CDP; and
- d. sign all necessary releases authorizing NC CDP to provide information to the Board concerning participation and compliance with NC CDP including a monthly report and not revoke any such releases while this or another Consent Order with the Board remains in effect. Respondent's revocation of any releases authorizing NC CDP to provide information to the Board would

constitute a violation of the Consent Order and warrant re-activating suspension of her dental hygiene license.

4. Respondent recognizes that the conditions, limitations, or requirements set forth in this Consent Order, including those necessary for potential reinstatement, may present her with certain practical difficulties. The Board concludes that each one is necessary to ensure public protection and it does not intend to modify or eliminate any of the conditions, limitations, or requirements set forth herein based on such potential difficulties.

5. The Board shall retain jurisdiction of this matter and Respondent to enforce the provisions herein or enter orders as necessary in the future.

This the 30th day of October 2023.

THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE
BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

BY: Casie S. Goode
Casie S. Goode
Deputy Operations Officer

STATEMENT OF CONSENT

I, Julie Kay Long, RDH, do hereby certify that I have read the foregoing Consent Order in its entirety. I assent to the terms and conditions set out herein. I freely and voluntarily admit that there is a factual basis for the findings of fact herein, that the findings of fact support the conclusions of law, and that I will not contest the findings of fact, the conclusions of law, or the consent order of discipline in any future proceedings before or involving the Board, including if future disciplinary proceedings or action is warranted in this matter. I knowingly waive any right to seek judicial review, appeal, or otherwise later challenge this Consent Order once entered. I understand that the Board will report the contents of this Consent Order to the National Practitioner Data Bank and that this Consent Order will become part of the Board's permanent public record. I further acknowledge that this required reporting may have adverse consequences in other contexts and any potential effects will not be the basis for a reconsideration of this Consent Order. I agree to service of the Consent Order to the email or mailing address of record with the Board and waive service by any other method. I have had the opportunity to consult with an attorney prior to signing this Consent Order.

This the 29th day of October 2023.


Julie Kay Long, RDH

Waiver of Limited Ex Parte Communication

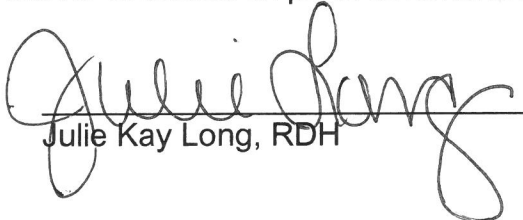
I understand that the proposed Consent Order that I have signed is subject to review and approval and is not effective until approved by the Hearing Panel. **I agree and consent that the Hearing Panel members may be provided with the proposed Consent Order for review and consideration.**

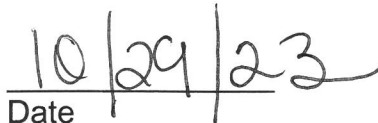
I further agree and consent that the Board staff, the Investigative Panel (IP), and its counsel may discuss the proposed Consent Order and related information and documentation with Hearing Panel members for the purpose of advocating approval of the proposed Consent Order without me or my counsel being present.

If the proposed Consent Order is not approved, I agree and consent that neither I nor anyone on my behalf will assert that that these limited ex parte communications, including review of the documents, will disqualify any Hearing Panel members from considering and deciding this matter after a contested case hearing.

I also agree that I am not entitled to obtain or discover the above-referenced limited communications or the substance of these communications between the Hearing Panel members and the Board staff, the IP, and its counsel, regardless of whether the proposed Consent Order is approved.

I have had the opportunity to consult with counsel before signing and agreeing to this waiver of limited ex parte communication.


Julie Kay Long, RDH


Date