

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

In the Matter of)
)
SHAWANA NEOPI PATTERSON, D.D.S.) **ORDER**
(License No. 9248))
)

THIS MATTER is before the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners Hearing Panel (“Hearing Panel”) pursuant to the authority granted to it in Chapter 90 of the North Carolina General Statutes, including the Dental Practice Act and the Rules and Regulations of the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners. The Hearing Panel hereby makes the following:

FINDINGS

1. On October 21, 2011, Petitioner was issued license number 9248 to practice dentistry by credentials in North Carolina.
2. On January 11, 2019, the Board issued a Final Agency Decision revoking Petitioner's North Carolina dental license.
3. In February 2022, Petitioner applied for reinstatement of her North Carolina dental license. Upon receiving the application, the Investigative Panel for the Board reopened and investigated several complaints that were pending at the time of Petitioner's revocation.
4. After completing its investigation of those matters, the Investigative Panel determined that Dr. Patterson's first application for reinstatement did not satisfy the necessary requirements, including failing to demonstrate reformation.
5. The Investigative Panel issued a letter on June 1, 2023, notifying Petitioner about the denial of her application for reinstatement and of her right to request a formal hearing before the full Board within 30 days.
6. Petitioner did not submit a request for a hearing on her first application, the matter was closed, and the denial of her reinstatement application was reported to the National Practitioner Databank (“NPDB”).
7. In October 2023, Petitioner submitted a second application for reinstatement of her dental license.

8. On November 9, 2023, the Investigative Panel for the Board issued a letter notifying Petitioner of the denial of her second reinstatement application and that she could request a hearing on the denial.

9. Through counsel, Petitioner timely requested a hearing on the denial of her application for reinstatement on November 28, 2023.

10. On December 8, 2023, the Hearing Panel for this matter in its discretion granted Petitioner's request for a hearing.

11. On January 4, 2024, the Investigative Panel issued a Notice of Hearing on Petitioner's application for reinstatement of her dental license, with the formal hearing set for April 18, 2024.

12. Also on January 4, 2024, the Hearing Panel issued a Prehearing Scheduling Management Order in this matter.

13. The parties engaged in written discovery and the Investigative Panel took Petitioner's deposition.

14. On March 29, 2024, after the discovery period concluded, Petitioner through her counsel notified the Board that she was withdrawing her application for reinstatement of her dental license and her request for a formal hearing.

15. The NPDB advised the Board that Petitioner's withdrawal was a reportable event under the circumstances.

Based on the foregoing findings, the Hearing Panel enters the following:

CONCLUSIONS

1. As of March 29, 2024, Petitioner's application for reinstatement was withdrawn from the Hearing Panel's consideration, thereby rendering the Notice of Hearing and Prehearing Scheduling and Management Order in this matter moot, and leaving no pending issues to be heard in this matter.

2. Petitioner withdrew her application for reinstatement of her dental license while still under investigation and after it was initially denied. She requested a formal hearing on her application but withdrew the request before it could be adjudicated.

3. Under these circumstances, Petitioner's withdrawal of her second application for reinstatement of her dental license also must be reported to the NPDB.

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, the Hearing Panel enters the following:

ORDER

1. The hearing of this matter is CANCELLED and this matter is CLOSED.
2. The withdrawal of Petitioner's application for reinstatement of her dental license shall be reported to the National Practitioner Databank.

This the 17th day of April, 2024.

THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE
BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

BY: Catherine A Watkins DDS

Catherine A. Watkins, DDS
Presiding Member of the Hearing Panel