

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF:

WILLIAM R. PRICE, D.D.S.
(License No. 3594)

)
)
)
)

CONSENT ORDER

THIS MATTER is before the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners ["Board" or "Dental Board"] as authorized by G.S. § 90-41 for consideration of a Consent Order for Dr. William R. Price, D.D.S. ["Dr. Price" or "Respondent"] in lieu of a formal administrative hearing. The parties hereby consent to the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set out herein and to the entry of the Order of Discipline. Respondent acknowledges that the Board has evidence to demonstrate or prove the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and to warrant the Order of Discipline. The Respondent represented himself. Crystal S. Carlisle represented the Investigative Panel of the Board. Based upon the consent of the parties hereto, the Board hereby enters the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Dental 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 Practice Act and the Rules and Regulations of the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners.
2. Respondent was licensed to practice dentistry in North Carolina on June 28, 1971 and holds license number 3594. He has remained licensed to practice

dentistry in North Carolina since 1971 and was subject to the Dental Practice Act and the Board's Rules and Regulations at all times relevant hereto.

3. On February 3, 2015, Respondent delivered permanent crowns to teeth numbers 8 and 9 for patient KE. KE was unhappy with the resulting esthetics, and Respondent replaced the crowns on April 21, 2015. KE remained unhappy with the esthetics of the crowns.

4. On May 21, 2015, KE was treated by a fourth-year dental student at East Carolina University in conjunction with his supervising faculty dentist. The dental student and supervising faculty dentist opined that the defective restorations on teeth numbers 8 and 9 needed to be replaced because the crowns placed by Respondent were extremely white, did not fully seat and seal the lingual margin, and an explorer would slide under the margin and catch.

5. In late 2015, Respondent sectioned patient TP's fixed upper denture and converted it into a partial denture. Patient TP was unhappy with the partial denture due to issues with fit, function and retention. Respondent attempted to work with TP to correct the issues, but was unable to accomplish a satisfactory result.

6. Patient TP was subsequently evaluated by another dentist who opined that the partial, due to non-existent retention features and the serious potential to compromise the remaining maxillary canines, did not meet the standard of care.

7. In April of 2015, Respondent delivered permanent crowns to patient CJ. Patient CJ was unhappy with the shade, height and position of the crowns and the metal that showed between her teeth.

8. Respondent initially attempted to work with CJ to correct the problems; however, after several visits, he advised her to seek treatment elsewhere.

9. Patient CJ was subsequently seen by a prosthodontist who opined that the teeth were too long incisally, resulting in wear or excessive adjustment of the porcelain to the point that the opaque layer is visible; the shade and value of the restorations did not blend with the adjacent teeth; the composite veneer on tooth #27 was overcontoured and had irregular consistency; and the incisal plane was not level.

10. In May of 2015, patient DL presented to Respondent for an upper partial denture. DL was unhappy with the fit and esthetics of the appliance placed by Respondent.

11. DL was subsequently seen by another dentist who opined that the appliance was too distorted for adequate repair and must be remade.

12. The standard of care for dentists licensed to practice in North Carolina requires dentists to adequately consider and accomplish proper fit, function, retention, esthetics and placement of dentures, bridges, and crowns.

13. Respondent violated the standard of care for dentists licensed to practice dentistry in North Carolina by placing dentures, bridges and crowns that lacked proper fit, function, retention, esthetics, or placement.

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and with the consent of the parties hereto, the Hearing Panel enters the following:

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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

2. Respondent was properly notified of this matter and has agreed to the entry of this Consent Order.

3. Respondent's failure to comply with the applicable standard of care in his treatment of KE, TP, CJ and DL as set forth in the Findings of Fact constitute negligence in the practice of dentistry within the meaning of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-41(a)(12).

4. Respondent's negligent acts constitute a violation of Article 2, Chapter 90 of the North Carolina General Statutes within the meaning of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-41(a)(6).

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and with the consent of the parties hereto, it is ORDERED as follows:

ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

1. License number 3594 issued to Respondent for the practice of dentistry in North Carolina is suspended for one (1) year.

2. With Respondent's consent, his license to practice dentistry shall be immediately restored, with no period of active suspension, provided for one (1) year he complies with the following probationary terms and conditions:

- a. Respondent shall violate no provisions of the Dental Practice Act or the Board's Rules and Regulations;

- b. Respondent shall neither permit nor direct any of his employees to violate any provision of the Dental Practice Act or the Board's Rules and Regulations;
- c. Respondent shall permit the Board and its agents to inspect and observe his office and patient records and interview employers, employees, and co-workers at any time during normal office hours;
- d. Respondent shall, within one (1) year from the date of this Order, complete continuing education courses especially designed for him by either the University of North Carolina School of Dentistry or the East Carolina University School of Dentistry in conjunction with, and approved in advance by, the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners. These shall be comprehensive, remedial courses in recordkeeping, diagnosis and treatment planning, and ethics and jurisprudence. This requirement shall be in addition to the continuing education required by the Board for renewal of Respondent's dental license. Respondent shall submit to the Board's Deputy Operations Officer written proof of satisfactory completion of these courses before they will be accepted in satisfaction of this requirement. It is the Respondent's responsibility to make all arrangements for and bear the costs of these courses within the specified time;

- e. Respondent shall issue a full refund to patients DL and TP within six (6) months from the date of this Order. Respondent shall provide written proof that the refund has been issued.
- f. Within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order, Respondent shall reimburse the Board for the costs associated with the investigation of this matter in the amount of \$2,500.00.

3. If Respondent fails to comply with any provision of this Order or breaches any term or condition thereof, the Board shall promptly schedule a Show Cause Hearing to permit Respondent to show cause why his dental license should not be suspended. If, as a result of the Show Cause Hearing, the Board is satisfied that Respondent failed to comply with or breached any term or condition of this Order, Respondent's license shall be rescinded and, upon written demand, Respondent shall immediately surrender his dental license and current renewal certificate to the Board for a period of one (1) year. This sanction shall be in addition to and not in lieu of any sanction the Board may impose as a result of future violations of the Dental Practice Act or the Board's Rules.

This the 5th day of April, 2017.

THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE
BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

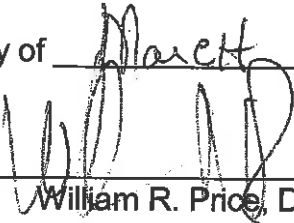
By:

Casie S. Goode
Casie S. Goode
Assistant Director of Investigations

STATEMENT OF CONSENT

I, William R. Price, D.D.S., do hereby certify that I have read the foregoing Consent Order in its entirety. I assent to its 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, that I will not contest the findings of fact, the conclusions of law, or the order of discipline in any future proceedings before or involving the Dental Board, including if future disciplinary proceedings or action is warranted in this matter. I knowingly waive any right to 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 have had the opportunity to consult with an attorney prior to signing this Consent Order.

This the 29 day of March, 2017.



William R. Price, D.D.S