

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF:

KALEIGH S. SANCHEZ, R.D.H,	)	
f/n/a KALEIGH S. WESTLUND, R.D.H.	)	CONSENT ORDER OF
	)	CONDITIONAL LICENSURE

THIS MATTER is before the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners (Dental Board) pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 90-41.1 and 150B-38, for consideration of the application for the dental hygiene license of Kaleigh S. Sanchez, R.D.H. (Petitioner). The Dental Board held a settlement conference on November 17, 2023 to determine if Petitioner should be granted a license. Petitioner represented herself, and Douglas J. Brocker represented the Investigative Panel. In lieu of a contested case hearing and pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-41.1(b), the parties voluntarily consent to the following Findings and Conclusions and to the entry of the Order of Conditional Licensure:

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 Hygiene Act in Article 16, and the Rules and Regulations of the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners, set forth in 21 North Carolina Administrative Code Chapter 16.
2. Petitioner graduated from the Halifax Community College dental hygiene program in 2018 and was licensed as a dental hygienist in South Carolina in that year and in Colorado in 2019.
3. Petitioner applied for a dental hygiene license in North Carolina on July 5, 2023.

4. According to her application and statements to the Board, Petitioner was working as a dental hygienist in Colorado for at least two years prior to submitting her NC licensure application.

5. Petitioner disclosed on her application several prior criminal charges, including several charges filed and resolved in 2022.

6. In May 2022, Petitioner was charged with several crimes, including misdemeanor theft and felony cybercrime.

7. The criminal charges arose out of Petitioner's employment as a customer service representative at Vail Resorts in Keystone Colorado in late 2020 through early 2021.

8. According to the police reports in the criminal proceedings, Petitioner and other employees were fraudulently issuing employee dependent passes and transferring money from their employer, Vail Resorts, to their own credit card accounts.

9. On August 15, 2022, Petitioner pled guilty to misdemeanor theft and felony computer cybercrime and fraud.

10. For the misdemeanor theft, Petitioner was sentenced to four years of probation and was ordered to pay restitution and court fees totaling \$55,075.47.

11. Petitioner received a deferred sentence on the guilty plea to felony computer cybercrime and fraud pending completion of her sentence on the misdemeanor theft conviction.

Based upon the Findings of Fact and the consent of the parties, the Board hereby enters the following:

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board has jurisdiction over Petitioner and the subject matter of this case.
2. Petitioner is subject to the Dental Hygiene Act and the Board's rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.
3. Petitioner's guilty pleas, including to felony computer cybercrime and fraud, violate G.S. 90-229(a)(3) and warrant action by the Board regarding her application for licensure.

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and with the consent of the parties hereto, the Board enters the following:

### ADDITIONAL FINDINGS REGARDING DISCIPLINE

1. At the time of her misconduct leading to her guilty pleas, Petitioner was actively licensed to practice dental hygiene in other states.
2. Petitioner disclosed her criminal charges and guilty pleas in her application, cooperated in providing information during the Board's investigation, and took responsibility for her misconduct at the settlement conference before the Board.
3. Petitioner is making good faith efforts to pay the substantial restitution, fees, and fines imposed on her through the criminal sentence.
4. Notwithstanding her disclosure and cooperation, the nature and recency of Petitioner's misconduct resulting in her guilty pleas and criminal sentence in 2022 demonstrates the need to protect the public by placing certain conditions and restrictions on her ability to practice dental hygiene if the Board issues her a license.

## CONSENT ORDER OF CONDITIONAL LICENSURE

1. Petitioner is conditionally granted a license to practice dental hygiene in the state of North Carolina subject to complying fully with the following probationary terms and conditions indefinitely:

(a) Petitioner shall fully and timely comply with and complete all probationary conditions and all other requirements of the sentence in her criminal matter, including payment of all restitution, court fees, and fines;

(b) Petitioner shall not be convicted of nor plead guilty or nolo contendere to any felony or misdemeanor criminal charge;

(c) Within 60 days after entry of this Order, Petitioner shall complete one or more continuing education courses in ethics and jurisprudence of at least six credit hours approved in advance by the Board's Investigative Panel. This requirement shall be in addition to the continuing education required by the Board for renewal of Respondent's dental hygiene license. Respondent shall submit to the Board's Director of Investigations written proof of satisfactory completion of these courses before they are accepted in satisfaction of this requirement. Respondent is responsible for making all arrangements for and bearing any costs of these courses within the specified time;

(d) Petitioner shall violate no provision of the Dental Hygiene Act or the Board's rules and regulations;

(e) Petitioner shall submit to interviews by the Board or its authorized agent during regular office hours, unless a mutually convenient alternative time can be arranged;

(f) Petitioner shall provide each employer with a copy of this Consent Order prior to beginning any employment and arrange for the Board or its agent to interview her employer and co-employees during regular office hours;

(g) Respondent shall respond to Board requests for inspections or interviews promptly and on the same day as the request and fully cooperate with the Board or its agents; and

(h) Petitioner shall give written notice to the Board of the street and mailing addresses of both her places of employment and residence. Petitioner shall notify the Board of any changes to either address within ten days of the change.

2. The Board recognizes that the conditions, limitations, or requirements set forth in this Consent Order may present Petitioner 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, except as set forth in paragraph three (3) of this Order.

3. If Petitioner successfully completes her criminal sentence and receives a dismissal of the felony charges pursuant to the deferred sentence, she may submit to the Board a written petition to terminate the conditions and provisions in this Consent Order. With the petition, Petitioner shall provide a certified copy of documentation in the criminal matter demonstrating the above, along with any other supporting documentation. Upon receipt of such a petition with supporting documentation, the Board may determine in its discretion whether protection of the public warrants termination of some or all the conditions and provisions in this Consent Order.

Alternatively, the Board may schedule an informal conference or formal hearing before making its determination.

4. If Petitioner violates any term of this Consent Order or breaches any term or condition of her conditional licensure, including failing to timely and fully comply with her probation and sentence in the criminal matters in Colorado, the Board will promptly schedule a hearing to require Petitioner to show cause why the conditional licensure should not be rescinded, and her dental hygiene license revoked. This sanction shall be in addition to and not in lieu of any sanction that the Board may impose as a result of future violations of the Dental Hygiene Act or the Board's rules.

This the 8th day of December, 2023.

THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE  
BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

BY: *Casie S. Goode*  
Casie S. Goode  
Director of Investigations

## STATEMENT OF CONSENT

I, Kaleigh S. Sanchez, RDH, 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 acknowledge that there is sufficient evidence to form 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 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 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 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 November, 2023.



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Kaleigh S. Sanchez, RDH

ADDENDUM:

Kaleigh S. Sanchez, R.D.H.

North Carolina License #14105