

FILED CAB

AUG 24 2010

KS State Board of Healing Arts

BEFORE THE KANSAS STATE BOARD OF HEALING ARTS

In the Matter of)	
Amber Sponaugle, O.T.A.)	Docket No. 10-HA00058
Application for License to Practice)	
as an Occupational Therapy Assistant)	OAH No. 10HA0008
_____)	

CONSENT ORDER

COMES NOW, the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts, ("Board"), by and through Stacy R. Bond, Associate Litigation Counsel ("Petitioner"), and Amber S. Sponaugle, O.T.A. ("Licensee"), by and through the Law Office of Carol Ruth Bonebrake, PA, and move the Board for approval of a Consent Order affecting Applicant's license to practice as an occupational therapy assistant in the State of Kansas. The Parties stipulate and agree to the following:

1. Applicant's last known mailing address to the Board is: (confidential)
Sneedville, TN 37689.
2. On or about July 23, 2009, Applicant submitted to the Board an application for licensure as an occupational therapy assistant. Such application was deemed complete on September 18, 2009.
3. The Board is the sole and exclusive administrative agency in the State of Kansas authorized to regulate the practice of healing arts, specifically the practice of occupational therapy. K.S.A. 65-5401 *et seq.* and K.S.A. 65-5402.
4. This Consent Order and the filing of such document are in accordance with applicable law and the Board has jurisdiction to enter into the Consent Order as provided by K.S.A. 77-505 and 65-2838. Upon approval, these stipulations shall

constitute the findings of the Board, and this Consent Order shall constitute the Board's Final Order.

5. The Kansas Occupational Therapy Practice Act is constitutional on its face and as applied in the case. Applicant agrees that, in considering this matter, the Board is not acting beyond its jurisdiction as provided by law.
6. Applicant voluntarily and knowingly waives her right to a hearing. Applicant voluntarily and knowingly waives her right to present a defense by oral testimony and documentary evidence, to submit rebuttal evidence, and to conduct cross-examination of witnesses. Applicant voluntarily and knowingly agrees to waive all possible substantive and procedural motions and defenses that could be raised if an administrative hearing were held.
7. The terms and conditions of the Consent Order are entered into between the undersigned parties and are submitted for the purpose of allowing these terms and conditions to become an Order of the Board. This Consent Order shall not be binding on the Board until an authorized signature is affixed at the end of this document. Applicant specifically acknowledges that counsel for the Board is not authorized to sign this Consent Order on behalf of the Board.
8. The Board has received information and investigated the same, and has reason to believe that there may be grounds (confidential) to take action with respect to Applicant's license under the Occupational Therapy Practice Act, K.S.A. 65-5401 *et seq.*

9.

(confidential)

10

11. Applicant was first licensed to practice as an occupational therapy assistant in the State of Tennessee on November 4, 2004.

12.

13.

14.

(confidential)

15. Applicant's license to practice occupational therapy assistant in the State of Tennessee has never been disciplined.

16. A protective order is hereby entered to protect all confidential information under

(confidential)

17. Pursuant to K.S.A. 65-5410, the Board may deny, refuse to renew, suspend, revoke or limit a license or publicly or privately censure the Applicant's license and pursuant to K.S.A. 65-5410(c) the Board has the authority to impose administrative fines for violations of the Occupational Therapy Practice Act.
18. According to K.S.A. 77-505, the Board has authority to enter into this Consent Order without the necessity of proceeding to a formal hearing.
19. All pending investigation materials regarding Applicant were fully reviewed and considered by the Board member(s) who serve on the Board's Disciplinary Panel. Disciplinary Panel No. 24 authorized and approved settlement of this matter with the provisions contained in this Consent Order.
20. In lieu of conducting a formal hearing, Applicant, by signature affixed to this Consent Order, hereby voluntarily agrees to the following monitoring requirement as a non-disciplinary condition to being granted licensure to engage in the practice of occupational therapy assistant:

MONITORING

- a.

(confidential)

b.

c.

d.

(confidential)

e.

f.

g.

(confidential)

h.

i. Applicant shall at all times keep Board staff informed of all her current practice locations, addresses and telephone numbers. Applicant shall provide the above information in writing to the Board within ten (10) days of any such change.

TIMEFRAME

j. The above monitoring provisions and limitations are not self-terminating. After a period of two (two) years, Applicant may request modification or termination of the provisions. For any period of time that Applicant is not actively practicing as an occupational therapy assistant in Kansas, the monitoring provisions and limitations will remain in effect but will be tolled and not counted towards reducing the two (2) year timeframe.

21. Applicant's failure to comply with the provisions of this Consent Order may result in the Board taking disciplinary action as the Board deems appropriate according

the Kansas Administrative Procedure Act and Kansas Occupational Therapy Practice Act.

22. Nothing in this Consent Order shall be construed to deny the Board jurisdiction to investigate alleged violations of the Occupational Therapy Practice Act, or to investigate complaints received under the Risk Management Law, K.S.A. 64-4921 et seq., that are known or unknown and are not covered under this Consent Order, or to initiate formal proceedings based upon known or unknown allegations of violations of the Occupational Therapy Practice Act.

23. Applicant hereby releases the Board, its individual members (in their official and personal capacity), attorneys, employees and agents, hereinafter collectively referred to as "Releasees", from any and all claims, including but not limited to those alleged damages, actions, liabilities, both administrative and civil, including the Kansas Act for Judicial Review and Civil Enforcement of Agency Actions, K.S.A. 77-601 et seq. arising out of the investigation and acts leading to the execution of this Consent Order. This release shall forever discharge the Releasees of any and all claims or demands of every kind and nature that Applicant has claimed to have had at the time of this release or might have had, either known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, and Applicant shall not commence to prosecute, cause or permit to be prosecuted, any action or proceeding of any description against the Releasees.

24. Applicant further understands and agrees that upon signature by Applicant, this document shall be deemed a public record and shall be reported to any reporting entities authorized to receive disclosure of the Consent Order.

25. This monitoring agreement shall not constitute discipline of Applicant's license.
26. This Consent Order, when signed by both parties, constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and may only be modified or amended by a subsequent document executed in the same manner by the parties.
27. Applicant agrees that all information maintained by the Board pertaining to the nature and result of any complaint and/or investigation may be fully disclosed to and considered by the Board in conjunction with the presentation of any offer of settlement, even if Applicant is not present. Applicant further acknowledges that the Board may conduct further inquiry as it deems necessary before the complete or partial acceptance or rejection of any offer of settlement.
28. Applicant, by signature to this document, waives any objection to the participation of the Board members, including the Disciplinary Panel and General Counsel, in the consideration of this offer of settlement and agrees not to seek the disqualification or recusal of any Board member or General Counsel in any future proceedings on the basis that the Board member or General Counsel has received investigative information from any source which otherwise may not be admissible or admitted as evidence.
29. Applicant acknowledges that she has read this Consent Order and fully understands the contents.
30. Applicant acknowledges that this Consent Order has been entered into freely and voluntarily.
31. All correspondence or communication between Applicant and the Board relating to the Consent Order shall be by certified mail addressed to the Kansas State

Board of Healing Arts, Attn: Compliance Coordinator, 235 S. Topeka Blvd.,
Topeka, Kansas 66603-3068.

32. Applicant shall obey all federal, state and local laws and rules governing the practice of occupational therapy in the State of Kansas that may be in place at the time of execution of the Consent Order or may become effective subsequent to the execution of this document.

33. Upon execution of this Consent Order by affixing a Board authorized signature below, the provisions of this Consent Order shall become an Order under K.S.A. 65-2838. This Consent Order shall constitute the Board's Order when filed with the office of the Executive Director for the Board and no further Order is required.

34. The Board may consider all aspects of this Consent Order in any future matter regarding Applicant.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Consent Order and agreement of the parties contained herein is adopted by the Board as findings of fact and conclusions of law.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that upon meeting all technical requirements for licensure, Applicant shall be granted a license.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

MONITORING

a.

(confidential)

b.

c.

d.

(confidential)

e.

f.

g.

(confidential)

h.

- i. Applicant shall at all times keep Board staff informed of all her current practice locations, addresses and telephone numbers. Applicant shall provide the above information in writing to the Board within ten (10) days of any such change.

TIMEFRAME

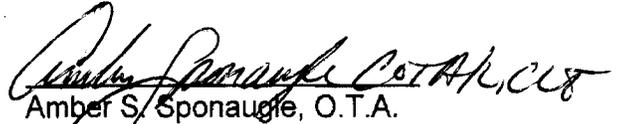
- j. The above monitoring provisions and limitations are not self-terminating. After a period of two (two) years, Applicant may request modification or termination of the provisions. For any period of time that Applicant is not actively practicing as an occupational therapy assistant in Kansas, the monitoring provisions and limitations will remain in effect but will be tolled and not counted towards reducing the two (2) year timeframe.

IT IS SO ORDERED on this 23rd day of August, 2010.

FOR THE KANSAS STATE
BOARD OF HEALING ARTS:

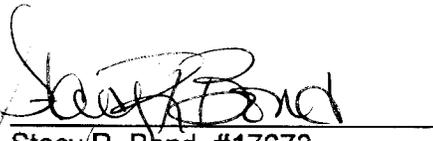

Kathleen Selzer Lippert
Executive Director

8/23/10
Date


Amber S. Sponaugle, O.T.A.
Licensee

7/2/10
Date

PREPARED AND APPROVED BY:


Stacy R. Bond, #17673
Associate Litigation Counsel
Kansas State Board of Healing Arts
235 S. Topeka Boulevard
Topeka, Kansas 66603-3068
785-296-0962


Jennifer E. Bazin, #21269
Law Office of Carol Ruth
Bonebrake, PA
107 SW 6th Avenue, Suite 210
Topeka, Kansas 66603
785-234-4661

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that I served a true and correct copy of the Consent Order by United States mail, postage prepaid, on this 24th day of August, 2010, to the following:

Amber S. Sponaugle, O.T.A.
Licensee
(confidential)
Seymour, TN 37865

Carol Ruth Bonebrake
107 SW 6th Ave, Suite 210
Topeka, Kansas 66603

And the original was hand-filed with:

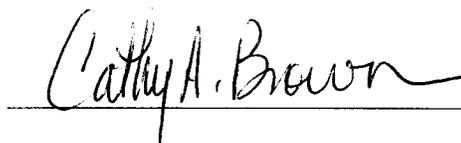
Kathleen Selzler Lippert
Executive Director
Kansas Board of Healing Arts
235 S. Topeka Boulevard
Topeka, Kansas 66603-3068

And a copy was hand-delivered to:

Stacy R. Bond
Associate Litigation Counsel
Kansas Board of Healing Arts
235 S. Topeka Boulevard
Topeka, Kansas 66603-3068

Melissa Massey
Compliance Coordinator
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Cathy A. Brown