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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE DENTISTRY EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY :
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST : ORDER DENYING EXTENSION OF
: STAY OF SUSPENSION AND
CATHERINE A. LARSEN, D.D.S., : REINSTATING SUSPENSION
RESPONDENT. :

The parties to this proceeding for the purposes of sec. 227.53, Stats., are:

Catherine A. Larsen, D.D.S.
W6751 Firelane 5
Menasha, WI 54952

State of Wisconsin
Dentistry Examining Board
1400 East Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708

At its meeting on March 5, 1997, the State of Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board reviewed information received indicating that the respondent, Catherine A. Larsen, has violated conditions contained within the *Final Decision and Orders* dated November 6, 1996 and May 3, 1995, that she remain free of alcohol. Ms. Larsen appeared personally before the board at the meeting.

Based upon information received, respondent has failed to comply with the terms and conditions contained within her *Final Decision and Orders* dated November 6, 1996 and May 3, 1995. Accordingly, the State of Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board adopts the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Catherine A. Larsen, hereinafter the respondent, W6751 Firelane 5, Menasha, Wisconsin 54952, was issued a license to practice dentistry in the State of Wisconsin, number 3121, on June 23, 1983.

2. On May 3, 1995, the State of Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board issued a *Final Decision and Order* which suspended the license of respondent to practice dentistry for a period of five (5) years, but provided for a stay of the suspension at three month intervals, conditioned upon respondent's compliance with the terms and limitations contained within the Order.

3. The basis for the board's action was a finding that from at least 1992 through May 1994, respondent had abused alcohol and on numerous occasions such alcohol abuse had interfered with her practice of dentistry.

4. One of the conditions contained in paragraph 2.a. of the board's Order of May 3, 1995, provided in material part that: "Respondent shall remain free of alcohol. . . ."

5. On September 4, 1996, the board reviewed information received from respondent's employer indicating that several staff members at respondent's place of employment believed respondent to have provided dental services to patients while intoxicated on or about July 19, 1996. Respondent admitted to a physician to having drunk alcohol to the point of intoxication the evening before the day in question.

6. Finding that respondent had failed to comply with the condition contained in paragraph 2.a. of the board's Order of May 3, 1995 that she remain free of alcohol, the board issued an *Order Denying Extension of Stay of Suspension and Reinstating Suspension* dated September 5, 1996.

7. On November 6, 1996, the board issued a *Final Decision and Order*, which in effect reinstated respondent's stay of suspension and ordered that she comply with all of the terms and conditions previously imposed by the *Final Decision and Order* dated May 3, 1995.

8. As stated above in paragraph 4, one of the conditions contained in paragraph 2.a. of the board's Order of May 3, 1995, provided in material part that: "Respondent shall remain free of alcohol. . . ."

9. Information received by the board and discussed at its regular meeting on March 5, 1997 indicates that respondent has again violated the requirement in her disciplinary order that she remain free of alcohol. This information included a positive screen for alcohol resulting from a urine sample collected from respondent on January 22, 1997, and respondent's admission to her alcohol counselor on January 28, 1997 that she had a few drinks of an alcoholic beverage.

10. Respondent has failed to comply with the condition of her Order that she remain free of alcohol.

11. Paragraph 6 of the board's Order of May 3, 1995, as incorporated into its Order of November 6, 1996, provides as follows:

"Violations of Order. Violation of any term of this Order or of any law substantially relating to the practice of Dentistry may result in summary suspension of respondent's license; denial of an extension of a stay of suspension; imposition of additional conditions and limitations; or the imposition of other additional discipline, including revocation of license."

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The State of Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board has jurisdiction in this proceeding pursuant to Chapter 447, Stats.

2. The State of Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board has the authority to enter the following Order pursuant to Chapter 447, Stats., and the provisions within the *Final Decision and Orders* dated November 6, 1996 and May 3, 1995.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the stay of suspension of the license of Catherine A. Larsen to practice as a dentist in the State of Wisconsin is hereby terminated.

FURTHERMORE, IT IS ORDERED that the five (5) year suspension of respondent's license provided in the *Final Decision and Orders* dated November 6, 1996 and May 3, 1995, is reinstated.

FURTHERMORE, IT IS ORDERED, that respondent may request a hearing upon the determination that he has violated or failed to comply with the prior board order, which will be held in accordance with the procedures set forth in Ch. RL 1, Wis. Adm. Code, only if the request for hearing is filed within forty five (45) days after the mailing of this Order.

Dated this 11th day of March, 1997.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
DENTISTRY EXAMINING BOARD



James A. Sievert, D.D.S.
Chairman

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