WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE DENTISTRY EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

AARON T. GUBLER, D.M.D., RESPONDENT.

ORDER 0007239

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 19 DEN 083

The parties to this action for the purpose of Wis. Stat. § 227.53 are:

Aaron T. Gubler, D.M.D. Antigo, WI 54409

Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board P.O. Box 8366 Madison, WI 53708-8366

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Department of Safety and Professional Services P.O. Box 7190 Madison, WI 53707-7190

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final disposition of this matter, subject to the approval of the Dentistry Examining Board (Board). The Board has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Board in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Aaron T. Gubler, D.M.D. (Respondent) (Year of Birth 1978) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin to practice dentistry, having license number 1001467-15, first issued on January 10, 2017 and current through September 30, 2021. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Antigo, Wisconsin 54409.
- 2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent practiced as a dentist at a dental clinic (Clinic), located in Antigo, Wisconsin.
- 3. In February of 2017, Respondent purchased the Clinic from Dentists A and B. Dentist A continued to practice with Respondent at the Clinic until April 2019.

- 4. Prior to the purchase of the Clinic and through June/July 2019, at least one (1) unlicensed employee of the Clinic (Assistant C) adjusted crowns with a high-speed handpiece on Clinic patients, and removed tartar and calculus from Clinic patients who were minors.
- 5. Assistant C was trained to adjust crowns using a high-speed handpiece by Dentists A and B in 2003-04. Respondent asked Assistant C to adjust crowns using the high-speed handpiece following Respondent's purchase of the Clinic. Assistant C adjusted crowns on approximately twelve (12) of Respondent's patients.
- 6. Assistant C was directed by Dentists A and B to remove tartar and calculus from children's teeth using a scaler. After Respondent purchased the Clinic, Assistant C continued to remove tartar and calculus from children's teeth, including Respondent's patients. Assistant C would tell Respondent when she had completed the tartar and calculus removal of his patients.
- 7. In June/July 2019, Respondent advised Assistant C that she, and other unlicensed assistants were to stop adjusting crowns and to stop removing tartar and calculus. Respondent told Assistant C that Respondent would perform all crown adjustments going forward.
- 8. In resolution of this matter, Respondent consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 447.07, and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).
- 2. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 447.01(3)(a), the practice of dental hygiene includes, in part, removal of calcareous deposits from a natural or restored surface of a human tooth.
- 3. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 447.01(8)(am), the practice of dentistry includes, in part, treatment of conditions of the human oral cavity or its adjacent or associated tissues and structures.
- 4. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § DE 5.02(1), by engaging in any practice which constitutes a substantial danger to the health, welfare or safety of a patient or the public.
- 5. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § DE 5.02(5), by practicing in a manner which substantially departs from the standard of care ordinarily exercised by a dentist which harms or could have harmed a patient.
- 6. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § DE 5.02(21), by aiding or abetting or permitting unlicensed persons in the practice of dentistry.

- 7. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § DE 5.02(22), by aiding or abetting or permitting unlicensed persons in the practice of dental hygiene.
- 8. As a result of the above violations, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 447.07(3)(a) and (j).

ORDER

- 1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
- 2. Respondent is REPRIMANDED.
- 3. The license to practice dentistry issued to Respondent (license number 1001467-15) is LIMITED as follows:
 - a. Within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order, Respondent shall successfully complete twelve (12) hours of education on the topic of office/practice management, and twelve (12) hours of education on the topic of ethics, offered by a provider pre-approved by the Board's monitoring liaison, including taking and passing any exam offered for the courses.
 - b. All education completed pursuant to this Order shall be taken in-person. Any deviation from in-person education must first be preapproved by the Board's monitoring liaison.
 - c. Respondent shall submit proof of successful completion of the ordered education in the form of verification from the institution providing the education to the Department Monitor at the address stated below.
 - d. None of the education completed pursuant to this requirement may be used to satisfy any continuing education requirements that have been or may be instituted by the Board or Department, and also may not be used in future attempts to upgrade a credential in Wisconsin.
 - e. This limitation shall be removed from Respondent's license after satisfying the Board or its designee that Respondent has successfully completed all ordered education.
- 4. Within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$1,340.00.
- 5. Request for approval of courses, proof of successful course completion and payment of costs (made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services) shall be sent by Respondent to the Department Monitor at the address below:

Department Monitor
Division of Legal Services and Compliance

Department of Safety and Professional Services P.O. Box 7190, Madison, WI 53707-7190 Telephone (608) 267-3817; Fax (608) 266-2264 <u>DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov</u>

Respondent may also submit this information online at: https://dspsmonitoring.wi.gov/

- 6. In the event that Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's license (no. 1001467-15) to practice dentistry in the state of Wisconsin may, in the discretion of the Board or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of the Order. The Board may, in addition and/or in the alternative, refer any violation of this Order to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further investigation and action.
 - 7. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

WISCONSIN DENTISTRY EXAMINING BOARD

By:	NaORBA	3 March 2021	
- J	A Member of the Board	Date	

STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE DENTISTRY EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

STIPULATION

AARON T. GUBLER, D.M.D, RESPONDENT.

ORDER 0007239

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 19 DEN 083

Respondent Aaron T. Gubler, D.M.S. and the Division of Legal Services and Compliance, Department of Safety and Professional Services stipulate as follows:

- 1. This Stipulation is entered into as a result of a pending investigation by the Division of Legal Services and Compliance. Respondent consents to the resolution of this investigation by Stipulation.
- 2. Respondent understands that by signing this Stipulation, Respondent voluntarily and knowingly waives the following rights:
 - the right to a hearing on the allegations against Respondent, at which time the State has the burden of proving those allegations by a preponderance of the evidence;
 - the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against Respondent;
 - the right to call witnesses on Respondent's behalf and to compel their attendance by subpoena;
 - the right to testify on Respondent's own behalf;
 - the right to file objections to any proposed decision and to present briefs or oral arguments to the officials who are to render the final decision;
 - the right to petition for rehearing; and
 - all other applicable rights afforded to Respondent under the United States Constitution, the Wisconsin Constitution, the Wisconsin Statutes, the Wisconsin Administrative Code, and other provisions of state or federal law.
- 3. Respondent is aware of Respondent's right to seek legal representation and has been provided an opportunity to obtain legal counsel before signing this Stipulation. Respondent is represented by Linda Meagher.
- 4. Respondent agrees to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board (Board). The parties to the Stipulation consent to the entry of the attached Final Decision and Order without further notice, pleading, appearance or consent of the parties. Respondent waives all rights to any appeal of the Board's order, if adopted in the form as attached.

- 5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Board, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further proceedings. In the event that the Stipulation is not accepted by the Board, the parties agree not to contend that the Board has been prejudiced or biased in any manner by the consideration of this attempted resolution.
- 6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance and any member of the Board ever assigned as an advisor in this investigation may appear before the Board in open or closed session, without the presence of Respondent or Respondent's attorney, for purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that any member of the Board may have in connection with deliberations on the Stipulation. Additionally, any such advisor may vote on whether the Board should accept this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.
- 7. Respondent is informed that should the Board adopt this Stipulation, the Board's Final Decision and Order is a public record and will be published in accordance with standard Department procedure.
- 8. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondent in recommending the Board adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

Aaron T. Gubler, D.M.D., Respondent Antigo, WI 54409 License no. 1001467-15	01/06/2021 Date
Linda Meagher, Attorney for Respondent Gass. Weber, Mullins, LLC	1/13/2054 Date

Linda Meagher, Attorney for Respondent Gass, Weber, Mullins, LLC 241 North Broadway Suite 300 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Gretchen Mrozinski, Attorney

Date

Department of Safety and Professional Services Division of Legal Services and Compliance P.O. Box 7190

Madison, WI 53707-7190