IN THE MATTER OF * BEFORE THE MARYLAND

GLENNETTA WHITE, D.D.S. * STATE BOARD OF

APPLICANT * DENTAL EXAMINERS

* Case Number: 2018-262

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

ORDER

On or about January 16, 2019, the Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners (the "Board") notified **GLENNETTA WHITE, D.D.S.** (the "Applicant") of its intent to deny her Application for Dental Hygiene Licensure by Examination under the Maryland Dentistry Act (the "Act"), codified at Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. ("Health Occ.") §§ 4-101 *et seq.* (2014 Repl. Vol. & 2017 Supp.).

Specifically, the Board charged the Applicant with violating the following provisions of the Act:

Health Occ. § 4-302. Qualifications of applicants

- (a) In general. -- Except as otherwise provided in this title, to qualify for a license, an applicant shall be an individual who meets the requirements of this section.
- (b) Moral character. -- The applicant shall be of good moral character.

Health Occ. § 4-315. Denials, reprimands, probations, suspensions, and revocations – Grounds

(b) License to practice dental hygiene. -- Subject to the hearing provisions of § 4-318 of this subtitle, the Board may deny a general license to practice dental hygiene, a teacher's license to practice dental hygiene, or a temporary license to practice dental hygiene to any applicant, reprimand any licensed dental hygienist, place any licensed dental hygienist on probation, or suspend or revoke the license of any licensed dental hygienist, if the applicant or licensee:

- (1) Fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a license for the applicant or licensee or for another;
- (3) Behaves unprofessionally or in a grossly immoral way, or violates a professional code of ethics pertaining to the dental hygiene profession;
- (6) Is disciplined by a licensing or disciplinary authority of any other state or country or convicted or disciplined by a court of any state or country for an act that would be grounds for disciplinary action under the Board's disciplinary statutes; [and]
- (7) Performs intraoral functions not authorized by statute or the rules and regulations of the Board[.]

Pursuant to Health Occ. § 4-315(b)(6) cited above, the Applicant was disciplined by the Virginia Board of Dentistry for acts committed in Virginia, which, if they had been committed in Maryland, would constitute violations of the following:

Health Occ. § 4-315. Denials, reprimands, probations, suspensions, and revocations – Grounds

- (b) License to practice dental hygiene. -- Subject to the hearing provisions of § 4-318 of this subtitle, the Board may deny a general license to practice dental hygiene, a teacher's license to practice dental hygiene, or a temporary license to practice dental hygiene to any applicant, reprimand any licensed dental hygienist, place any licensed dental hygienist on probation, or suspend or revoke the license of any licensed dental hygienist, if the applicant or licensee:
 - (3) Behaves unprofessionally or in a grossly immoral way, or violates a professional code of ethics pertaining to the dental hygiene profession;
 - (7) Performs intraoral functions not authorized by statute or the rules and regulations of the Board; [and]
 - (20) Willfully and without legal justification, fails to cooperate with a lawful investigation conducted by the Board[.]

More than thirty (30) days elapsed since the Applicant was notified of the Board's charges and her opportunity to request a hearing, and the Applicant failed to request a hearing.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Board finds the following facts.

- 1. On or about February 23, 2018, the Board received an Application for Dental Hygiene Licensure by Examination (the "2018 Application") from the Applicant. The 2018 Application was signed and dated February 22, 2018.
- 2. On the 2018 Application, the Applicant answered "NO" to all questions in the "Character and Fitness" section, including the following:
 - a. Has any licensing or disciplinary board of any jurisdiction, including Maryland, or any federal entity denied your application for licensure, reinstatement, or renewal, or taken any action against your license, including but not limited to reprimand, suspension, revocation, a fine, or non-judicial punishment? If you are under a Board Order or were ever under a Board Order in a state other than Maryland you must enclose a certified legible copy of the entire Order with this application.
 - b. Have any investigations or charges been brought against you or are any currently pending in any jurisdiction, including Maryland, by any licensing or disciplinary board or any federal or state entity?
 - h. Do you have criminal charges pending against you in any court of law, excluding minor traffic violations?"
 - n. Have you been named as a defendant in a filing or settlement of a malpractice action?

- 3. After received the 2018 Application, the Board's staff queried the National Practitioner Databank (NPDB). Based on the result of the query, the Board began an investigation.
- 4. Pursuant to the Board's investigation, records were obtained from the Virginia Board of Dentistry (the "VA Board"), where the Applicant had previously practiced dentistry and dental hygiene. The records indicated the following.
- 5. On or about August 27, 1996, the VA Board granted the Applicant a license to practice dental hygiene in Virginia, license number 0402-004293. On or about March 31, 2004, this license expired.
- 6. On or about February 13, 2006, the VA Board granted the Applicant a license to practice dentistry in Virginia, license number 0401-411319.

Unlicensed Practice and Professional Discipline in Virginia

- 7. On or about November 1, 2007, the VA Board and the Applicant entered into a Consent Order (the "2007 VA Consent Order").
- 8. The 2007 VA Consent Order found that in 2005 and 2006, when the Applicant was unlicensed in Virginia, the Applicant had practiced radiation technology, dental hygiene, and dentistry without authorization in Virginia, and misrepresented herself as "Dr. Glenn" with patients.
- 9. Pursuant to findings in the 2007 VA Consent Order, the Applicant was issued a reprimand, ordered to complete continuing education courses in ethics and risk

¹ The National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) is a web-based repository of reports containing information on medical malpractice payments and certain adverse actions related to health care practitioners, providers, and suppliers. Established by Congress in 1986, it is a workforce tool that prevents practitioners from moving state to state without disclosure or discovery of previous damaging performance.

management, ordered to take and pass the VA Board's Dental Law Examination, and pay a monetary penalty of \$3000 (three thousand dollars).

The Applicant failed to disclose the 2007 VA Consent Order to the Board on the
 2018 Application.

Licensure Revocation in Virginia

- 11. On or about December 12, 2013, the Applicant's license to practice dentistry in Virginia, license number 0401-411319 was revoked by an Order of the VA Board (the 2013 VA Revocation Order").
- 12. In the 2013 VA Revocation Order, the VA Board found that the Applicant had violated numerous statutory and regulatory provisions related to standards of care and recordkeeping. The VA Board also found the Applicant had failed to comply with patient record maintenance requirements upon the closure of her practice.
- 13. In addition, the 2013 VA Revocation Order stated: "Dr. White has been completely unreachable since on or about December 2012. ... Dr. White's former dental hygienist testified that [Dr.] White lives at the same address she has for years, but is simply refusing to deal with her issues with the Board."
- 14. Pursuant to the findings in the 2013 VA Revocation Order, the Applicant's license to practice dentistry in Virginia, license number 0401-411319, was revoked. In addition, the Applicant was ordered to pay administrative costs of \$5000 (five thousand dollars).
- 15. The Applicant failed to disclose the 2013 VA Revocation Order to the Board on the 2018 Application.

Denial of Reinstatement Application for Dental Hygiene License in Virginia

- 16. On or about August 3, 2016, the Applicant submitted an Application for Reinstatement of Dental Hygiene License (the "2016 VA Application") to the VA Board.
- 17. On or about March 21, 2017, the VA Board issued an order denying the 2016 VA Application based on the Applicant's failure to "provide documentation of continuing education evidencing continuing competence in the practice of dental hygiene."
- 18. The Applicant failed to disclose the denial of the 2016 VA Application to the Board on the 2018 Application.

Maryland Criminal Charges

- 19. In furtherance of the investigation, the Board obtained certified court documents from the District Court of Maryland for Baltimore City.
- 20. On or about October 15, 2017, according to the documents, the Applicant was charged in Baltimore City with: (1) second degree assault; and (2) carrying a dangerous weapon with the intent or purpose of injuring an individual in an unlawful manner.
- 21. As of February 23, 2018, at the time the Applicant submitted the 2018 Application to the Board, these charges were actively pending.²
- 22. The Applicant failed to disclose her 2017 criminal charges to the Board on the 2018 Application.

Malpractice Settlement

23. Information obtained from the NPDB indicates that on or about March 1, 2016, the Applicant was the subject of a malpractice settlement agreement in the amount of

 $^{^2}$ On or about March 23, 2018, approximately one month after the Applicant submitted her 2018 Application to the Board, these charges were disposed of by *nolle prosequi*.

\$150,000. The settlement resolved a malpractice action filed on March 6, 2012 in Virginia which named the Applicant as a defendant.

- 24. According to the NPDB, the settlement was the result of the Applicant providing the "wrong procedure or treatment" on October 12, 2009, resulting in minor permanent injury to a patient.
- 25. The Applicant failed to disclose the fact that she had been named as a defendant in this malpractice action and settlement to the Board on the 2018 Application.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes as a matter of law that the Applicant's conduct as described above constitutes violations of the Act and a basis on which to deny her 2018 Application. Specifically:

The Applicant's conduct, as described above, including supplying false answers on the 2018 Application to Character and Fitness Section questions a, b, h, and n, constitutes: fraudulently or deceptively attempting to obtain a license, in violation of Health Occ. §4-315(b)(1); behaving unprofessionally or in a grossly immoral way, or violating a professional code of ethics pertaining to the dental hygiene profession, in violation of Health Occ. § 4-315(b)(3); and indicates that the Applicant lacks good moral character, a requirement for licensure under Health Occ. § 4-302(b).

The 2007 Consent Order and the 2013 VA Revocation Order indicate that the Applicant has been disciplined by a licensing or disciplinary authority of any other state for an act that would be grounds for disciplinary action under the Board's disciplinary statutes, in violation of Health Occ. § 4-315(b)(6). Specifically, the acts for which the

Applicant was disciplined in Virginia included *inter alia*: engaging in the unauthorized practice of dentistry, dental radiation technology, and dental hygiene; committing violations of recordkeeping and practice standards; failing to properly notify patients and provide for records maintenance upon closing her practice; misrepresenting her credentials to patients; and failing to respond during a VA Board investigation. These acts, if they had occurred in Maryland, would constitute grounds for disciplinary action under the following: Health Occ. §§ 4-315(b): (2) ("Behaves unprofessionally or in a grossly immoral way, or violates a professional code of ethics pertaining to the dental hygiene profession"); (7) ("Performs intraoral functions not authorized by statute or the rules and regulations of the Board"); and (20) ("Willfully and without legal justification, fails to cooperate with a lawful investigation conducted by the Board").

ORDER

Based on the foregoing, it is by the Board hereby:

ORDERED that the Applicant's Application for Dental Hygiene Licensure by Examination is hereby **DENIED**; and it is further

ORDERED that this document constitutes an Order of the Board and is therefore a public document for purposes of public disclosure, as required by Md. Code Ann., General Provisions, §§ 4-101 through 4-601 (Repl. Vol. 2014 & 2017 Supp.).

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

Pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 4-319, the Applicant has the right to take a direct judicial appeal. Any appeal shall be filed within thirty (30) days from the date of this Final Order and shall be made as provided for judicial review of a final

decision in the Maryland Administrative Procedure Act, Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-222 (2014 Vol. & 2017 Supp.); and Title 7, Chapter 200 of the Maryland Rules of Procedure.

If the Applicant files an appeal, the Board is a party and should be served with the court's process at the following address:

Francis X. McLaughlin, Jr., Executive Director Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners Spring Grove Hospital Center Benjamin Rush Building 55 Wade Avenue/Tulip Drive Catonsville, Maryland 21228

At that point, the Administrative Prosecutor is no longer a party to this case and need not be served or copied.

March 6, 2019
Date

Arthur C. Jee, D.M.D., President Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners