

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
KENTUCKY BOARD OF KENTUCKY BOARD
OF LICENSURE FOR OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
AGENCY CASE NO. 2005-08

IN RE: OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT LICENSE NO. A3142
ISSUED TO STEPHANIE BLUNK

Settlement Agreement

* * * * *

Whereas, the Kentucky Board of Licensure for Occupational Therapy (“Board”) having investigated a matter regarding an alleged violation of the laws and regulations governing the practice of occupational therapy against Stephanie Blunk (“Respondent”);

Whereas, the parties mutually desire to settle the issues in an expeditious manner, without the need for a formal hearing;

It is hereby stipulated and agreed between the undersigned parties that this matter shall be settled and resolved upon the following terms:

Voluntary Waiver of Rights

The Respondent has had the opportunity at all times to seek the advice from competent counsel of choice. No coercion has been exerted upon the Respondent, nor have any promises been made other than those reflected in this Settlement Agreement. The Respondent has freely and voluntarily entered into this Settlement Agreement, motivated only by a desire to resolve the issues addressed herein. The Respondent has executed this Settlement Agreement only after a careful reading of it and a full understanding of all of its terms.

The Respondent is fully aware of the rights to contest charges in a formal hearing. These rights include: representation by an attorney at the Respondent's own expense, the right to a public hearing on any charges contained in the Formal Complaint, the right to confront and cross-examine witnesses called to testify against the Respondent, the right to present evidence on the Respondent's behalf, the right to compulsory process to secure the attendance of such witnesses, the right to testify on the Respondent's own behalf, the right to receive written findings of fact and conclusions of law supporting the decision on the merits of the Formal Complaint, and the right to obtain judicial review of the Board's decision. All of these rights are being voluntarily waived by the Respondent in exchange for the Board's acceptance of this Settlement Agreement.

Jurisdiction

The Respondent acknowledges that the Board has jurisdiction over the Respondent and the conduct which has precipitated this Settlement Agreement. The Respondent also acknowledges that the Board has the legal power to take disciplinary action up to and including revocation of the Respondent's license to practice as an occupational therapy assistant in Kentucky.

The Respondent acknowledges that the Board will retain jurisdiction over this matter until all terms and conditions set forth in this Settlement Agreement have been met to the satisfaction of the Board.

Publication of Settlement Agreement

The Respondent acknowledges that, once adopted by the Board, this Settlement Agreement is considered a public document, available for inspection at any time by any member

of the public under the Kentucky Open Records Act. Further, the Respondent understands that the Board is free to make any use it deems appropriate of the contents of this Settlement Agreement, which shall include the Board's ability to share the content of this Settlement Agreement with any governmental or professional Board or organization, publication of a summary in the Board's newsletter, and reporting under federal law.

Effect Upon Licensure Status: Reprimand and Probation

For the purposes of this Settlement Agreement, and in consideration of the following terms, the parties agree to the following as the agreed upon disciplinary action:

1) The Board hereby issues this REPRIMAND.

2) The Respondent's license to practice occupational therapy in the Commonwealth of Kentucky shall be placed on probation for 30 days upon the entry of this Order by the Board. During the probation, the Respondent shall not violate any of the laws or regulations governing the practice of occupational therapy.

Release of Liability

In consideration of execution of this Settlement Agreement, the Respondent, the Respondent's executors, administrators, successors and assigns, hereby releases and forever discharges the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Kentucky Board of Licensure for Occupational Therapy, and the Kentucky Attorney General and each of their members, agents, and employees in their individual and representative capacities, from any and all manner of actions, causes of action, suits, debts, judgments, executions, claims and demands whatsoever, known and unknown, in law or equity, that the Respondent ever had, now has, may have or claim to have

against any or all of the persons or entities named in this paragraph arising out of or by reason of this investigation, this disciplinary action, this Settlement Agreement, or its administration.

Acceptance by the Board

It is hereby agreed between the parties that this Settlement Agreement shall be presented to the Kentucky Board of Licensure for Occupational Therapy at the next regularly-scheduled meeting of the Board.

The Respondent understands that the Board is free to accept or reject this Settlement Agreement, and if rejected by the Board, a formal disciplinary hearing against the Respondent may be scheduled thereafter with the Hearing Officer and counsel. The Respondent hereby agrees to waive any right the Respondent might have to challenge the impartiality of the Board, based solely upon the presentation of this Settlement Agreement, to hear the disciplinary charges if, after review by the Board, this Settlement Agreement is rejected.

If the Settlement Agreement is not accepted by the Board, it shall be regarded as null and void. Admissions by the Respondent in the Settlement Agreement will not be regarded as evidence against the Respondent at the subsequent disciplinary hearing. The Respondent will be free to defend and no inferences against the Respondent will be made from the Respondent's willingness to have entered into this Settlement Agreement.

The Settlement Agreement will not be submitted for Board consideration until after it has been agreed to and executed by the Respondent. The Settlement Agreement shall not become effective until it has been approved by a majority of the Board and endorsed by a representative member of the Board.

Complete Agreement

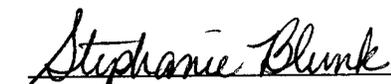
This Settlement Agreement consists of six (6) pages, including the certification page, and embodies the entire agreement between the Board and the Respondent. It may not be altered, amended or modified without the express written consent of both parties.

SO ORDERED on this ___day of _____, 2007.



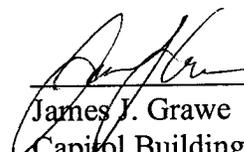
CHAIR, KENTUCKY BOARD OF
LICENSURE FOR OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Have Seen, Understood, and Approved:


Stephanie Blunk

Respondent

Date: 1/13/07

By: 
James J. Grawe
Capitol Building, Room 118
700 Capitol Avenue
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-3449
Counsel for the Board

Date: 3/8/07

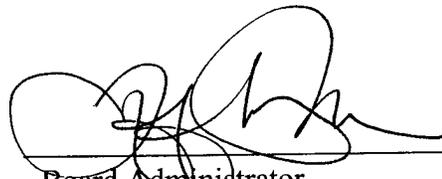
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the Agreement were mailed by regular first class mail on this 8th day of March, 2007, to:

Stephanie Blunk



James J. Grawe
Assistant Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General
Capitol Building, Room 118
700 Capitol Avenue
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-3449


Board Administrator