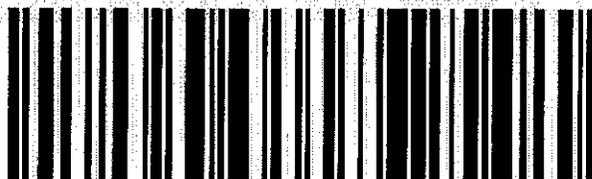


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location	Collection-99 Voluntary Surrender of
summary	License to Pratice Dental Hygiene 03/02/2005
author	Tracy Steel
expiration_date	03/02/2070
max_versions	4
title	Cupolo Stacy J 22HI00457900
document	Cupolo Stacy J 22HI00457900
keywords	
dsclass	Document
description	

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY

IN THE MATTER OF THE
SURRENDER OF THE LICENSE OF

STACY J. CUPOLO
License # HI 4579

TO PRACTICE DENTAL HYGIENE
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Administrative Action

**VOLUNTARY SURRENDER
OF LICENSE TO PRACTICE
DENTAL HYGIENE**

This matter was initially opened to the State Board of Dentistry upon receipt of information that Stacy J. Cupolo ("respondent") had been arrested on two occasions related to passing forged prescriptions. Based on that conduct, respondent agreed to enter into a Consent Order entered on November 5, 2003, in which she agreed to suspension of her license for a minimum period of six months. Pursuant to the terms of that Consent Order, upon her application to return to practice, Ms. Cupolo, with counsel Marcie Mackolin, Esq., appeared before the Board on July 21, 2004.

At that time, respondent advised the Board that she has been admitted into the Pre-Trial Intervention Program in Ocean County and had followed all requirements of that program. She submitted for the Board's consideration the report from Surinderjeet S. Sandhu, M.D., and Evelyn Sullivan, L.C.S.W., of Preferred Behavioral Health of New Jersey, where respondent is being treated. Those evaluators stated that respondent's prognosis to maintain a drug free lifestyle was "extremely good" and that she could safely return to work as a dental hygienist. Ms. Cupolo testified that at the time of the incidents underlying her arrests, she was undergoing a particular stressful period in her life. She represented to the Board that she was committed to her recovery and wished to resume her career as a hygienist.

Following review of the respondent's testimony and the evaluations submitted, the Board accepted Ms. Cupolo's representations that she fully understood the seriousness of the conduct in which she engaged and that she was actively working toward addressing issues related to her use of controlled dangerous substances. The Board determined that she could return to practice, with restrictions, including notice to her employer(s) that her license was restricted based on her impairment, urine monitoring (performed through the Well Being Program of the New Jersey Dental Association ("WBP")), continued counseling, and abstinence from the use of alcohol or controlled dangerous substances. If such medication were prescribed by a physician or dentist, Ms. Cupolo had an obligation to cause the prescribing practitioner to submit a report to the Board in order to avoid confusion from a confirmed positive urine test. The reinstatement order, entered on September 8, 2004, provided that her license would be subject to an automatic suspension if she violated any terms of the order.

In December 2004, the Board received information from the WBP that Ms. Cupolo had tested positive for propoxyphene (Darvon) in her November 11, 2004, urine test. At that time, William Keene, D.D.S., M.A., Director of the WPB, advised the Board that Ms. Cupolo had met with him, had explained she had used an old prescription, which she did not realize was a narcotic, when she was in pain and unable to sleep. Dr. Keene recommended several steps to be taken by Ms. Cupolo and advised the Board that if she followed those recommendations, she "should be safe to continue in her profession." The Board determined at that time not to pursue the automatic suspension of her license and to continue to monitor her conduct.

On January 17, 2005, Dr. Keene provided the results of a urine sample submitted by Ms. Cupolo on January 4, 2005. That sample tested positive for Oxazepam, a tranquilizer. On February 16, 2005, Dr. Keene forwarded the results of a urine specimen taken on February 8, 2005. That sample tested positive for cocaine metabolites.

The Board has considered that information and has determined that Ms. Cupolo has violated the terms of the order of reinstatement and that her continued licensure and practice as a registered dental hygienist is not consistent with the public health, safety, and welfare. Three positive urine tests within a three month period cause the Board to question respondent's ability to practice and her commitment to recovery. In lieu of entering an Order of Automatic Suspension as provided in the Order of Reinstatement, the Board will accept the voluntary surrender by Ms. Cupolo of her license to practice dental hygiene. The Board will not consider any application for reinstatement of her license in the absence of a demonstration of protracted period of recovery. Prior to any application for reinstatement, respondent must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Board successful

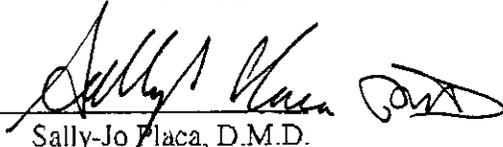
completion of an in-patient treatment program, continued counseling, attendance at AA/NA meetings, and a minimum of one year of weekly, negative urine screens.

THEREFORE, IT IS ON THIS 2nd DAY OF ~~FEBRUARY~~ ^{March}, 2005

ORDERED THAT:

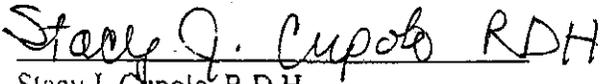
1. The license of Stacy Cupola, R.D.H., to practice dental hygiene is surrendered effective immediately. Ms. Cupola shall deliver her original license for the current renewal period to the State Board of Dentistry within seven (7) days of the entry of this order to Joann Boyer, Acting Executive Director, New Jersey Board of Dentistry, P.O. Box 45005, Newark, New Jersey 07101. Ms. Cupola shall notify her employer of the entry of this order.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY

By: 

Sally-Jo Placa, D.M.D.
President

I have read and I understand the terms of this order and agree to be bound by it. I consent to the entry of this Order.


Stacy J. Cupola, R.D.H.

I consent to the entry of this order as to form.

Marcie Mackolin, Esq.