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N.J. BOARD OF DENTISTRY  
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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 SUSPENSION : Administrative Action  
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF :  
 :  
George Szalavetz, D.M.D. : FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE  
License No. 22DI02276400 :  
 :  
TO PRACTICE DENTISTRY :  
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY :

Following its review of information concerning a 2011 action taken by the New York State Department of Education against George Szalavetz, D.M.D. ("respondent"), the Board issued a Provisional Order of Discipline on March 7, 2012. That order provisionally found that respondent had engaged in acts constituting a crime or offense based on his conviction in the State of New York for offering a false instrument for filing; had engaged in professional misconduct; and had an action taken against his license by a sister State. The Provisional Order, which provided an opportunity to respond to the findings and conclusions contained in it, proposed a suspension of the respondent's license to practice dentistry in this State for a period of two (2) years, with three (3) months served as active suspension and the remainder of the two (2) years stayed and served as a period of probation.

In response, Dr. Szalavetz requested that the Board not impose the sanction set forth in the Provisional Order. He stated that he had committed no misconduct in New Jersey and that he was in full compliance with New York State's order. Dr. Szalavetz offered an expression of remorse, stated has repaid the funds that he obtained through his misconduct, and has performed community service, which he planned to continue "as a payback to those less fortunate." The prosecuting deputy provided a letter to the Board dated May 1, 2012, highlighting the seriousness of the matter and the bases for discipline, but noted the Board could, in its review, impose a lesser sanction.

The Board has fully considered this matter and is not persuaded by respondent's statements. The underlying conduct, that is, the submission of false claims to obtain payment for services that were not provided, has repeatedly been found by this Board to be the type of professional misconduct that warrants a significant sanction. The Board will sustain its provisional determination to suspend respondent's license. The Board finds that this resolution is fair and consistent with the public policy to help reduce and eliminate manipulation of insurance claims to secure unwarranted benefits.

Therefore, the Board makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is licensed to practice dentistry in the State of New Jersey and has been licensed at all times relevant to this matter.

2. On January 11, 2011, before the New York State Education Department, Office of Professional Discipline, State Board of Dentistry, respondent admitted guilt to a charge of professional misconduct, following a conviction for Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the Second Degree.

3. Respondent's license to practice in the State of New York was suspended for a period of two (2) years with three (3) months served as active suspension and the remainder of the two (2) years suspension stayed and served as a period of probation. During the period of probation, respondent was required to perform one hundred (100) hours of public service.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent's admission that he engaged in acts that constitute a crime or offense, a basis for discipline under N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(f), his suspension by the New York State Education Department, a basis for discipline under N.J.S.A.

45:1-21(g), and engaging in acts that constitute professional misconduct as determined by the Board, a basis for discipline under N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e), provide grounds for disciplinary action in this State.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this *16<sup>th</sup>* day of *January*, 2013,  
ORDERED that:

1. The license of George Szalavetz, D.M.D., to practice dentistry in this State is suspended for a period of two (2) years, three (3) months of which shall be served as a period of active suspension, the remainder to be stayed and served as a period of probation. Such suspension shall commence 30 days after the entry of this Final Order.

2. The Board reserves the right to impose any conditions on respondent's return to practice that the Board believes are necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY

By   
Peter DeSciscio, D.M.D.  
Board President