



CHRIS CHRISTIE  
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO  
Lt. Governor

## New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Division of Consumer Affairs  
New Jersey State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners  
124 Halsey Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Newark, NJ 07102



JOHN J. HOFFMAN  
Acting Attorney General

STEVE C. LEE  
Acting Director

November 3, 2014

**Mailing Address:**  
P.O. Box 45014  
Newark, NJ 07101  
(973) 504-6455

By Certified and Regular Mail

Shelly Palumbo, P.T.  
608 Washington Street  
Hoboken, N.J. 07030

Re: Uniform Penalty Letter (UPL) In Lieu of Formal Disciplinary Complaint

Dear Ms. Palumbo:

This letter is to advise you that the New Jersey State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners (the "Board") has had an opportunity to review information concerning your practice of physical therapy at Mile Square Physical Therapy & Sports Medicine, 202 Main Street, Clifton, N.J. It appears from that review that you permitted unlicensed aides to place hot and cold packs and to administer electrical stimulation on patients prior to October 2013. In addition, it appears that you failed to wear a name tag while practicing.

The Board has preliminarily concluded that you have violated N.J.A.C. 13:39A-2.4(b) by permitting unlicensed persons to engage in placing electrodes on the skin of patients and by permitting unlicensed persons to engage in administering modalities. The Board has also preliminarily concluded that you have violated N.J.A.C. 13:39A-3.9 by failing to wear a name tag identifying you as a physical therapist when acting in that capacity.

The Board has determined that it will first offer you an opportunity to settle this matter and thereby avoid the initiation of formal disciplinary proceedings. Should you wish to avail yourself of this opportunity, you should sign the acknowledgment below and agree to the following:

- 1) cease and desist from the aforesaid violations;
- 2) pay a penalty in the total amount of \$1,500.00, comprised of \$1,000.00 for permitting unlicensed practice and \$500.00 for failure to wear a name tag; and
- 3) pay costs of investigation in the amount of \$288.00, (penalty and costs to be paid immediately upon your signing of the acknowledgment at the bottom of this letter by bank check, money order, wire transfer, credit card or certified check made payable to the State of New Jersey).

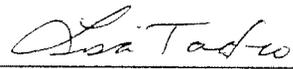
Alternatively, you may waive your right to a hearing and submit a written statement or explanation to the Board. The Board will then consider your submission and render a final decision, which may include any of the terms set forth above. Any disposition by way of a settlement will be a public record, and will have the same effect as an order of the Board. Any failure to comply with the terms to which you agree will be deemed a violation.

If you do not wish to settle this matter, you may request a hearing. In that event, this letter will serve as notice of the charges against you and a hearing will be scheduled before the Board. At that hearing, you will have an opportunity, either personally or with the assistance of an attorney, to respond to the charges and submit evidence and present testimony as may be necessary in order for the Board to make a final determination concerning the charges of unlawful activity. You should be aware that in making its final decision, the Board may, if unlawful activity has been proven, assess civil penalties in an amount greater than that offered in this letter. Additionally, the Board may, if the facts are found to so warrant, enter an order requiring you to reimburse certain monies, directing you to cease and desist from engaging in unlawful acts and/or requiring you to pay additional costs incurred in the matter, including the costs of the hearing.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter or the settlement offer herein, I suggest that you contact Deputy Attorney General John D. Hugelmeyer, who may be reached at (973) 648-4741.

The enclosed certification should be completed and returned to the Board within fifteen (15) days following your receipt of this letter. In the event that the Board receives no response from you within fifteen (15) days, the Board's settlement offer will be withdrawn, and **you will be deemed in default**. The allegations against you will be deemed uncontested. The Board will then proceed to schedule the matter for final review and will enter an appropriate order. Once an order has been entered, your failure to pay any penalties or to fully comply with the order may result in further action to suspend or revoke your license.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF  
PHYSICAL THERAPY EXAMINERS

By:   
Lisa Tadeo  
Executive Director

cc: John D. Hugelmeyer, D.A.G.

CERTIFICATION

I, Shelly Palumbo, P.T., hereby acknowledge that I have read and reviewed the Board's letter dated November 3, 2014 regarding allegations of violations of the Board's enabling act and/or regulations.

Please check one:

X I acknowledge the conduct which has been charged and **agree** to:

1. cease and desist from permitting unlicensed practice and failing to wear a name tag;
2. pay a civil monetary penalty in the total amount of \$1,500.00; and
3. pay costs of investigation in the amount of \$288.00, (to be paid immediately by bank check, money order, wire transfer, credit card or certified check made payable to the State of New Jersey).

I am also aware that the action taken against me by the Board is a matter of public record, and that the Board's letter and this certification are public documents.

\_\_\_\_\_ I hereby waive any rights I may have to a hearing in this matter in order to defend myself against any charges, but ask the Board to **consider my explanation** before rendering its final decision. I understand that the Board may order any of the terms specified in its letter and that if it does so, I will be obligated to comply. I am also aware that the action taken against me by the Board herein is a matter of public record, and that the Board's letter and this certification are public documents. Failure to comply may subject me to further disciplinary action and any failure to make a required payment will result in the filing of a certificate of debt.

\_\_\_\_\_ I **request a formal administrative hearing** to contest the charges specified in this UPL. I understand that I will be advised of the time, date and place for that hearing at another time. I am aware that I may be represented by an attorney and that at the time of the hearing I may submit to the Board testimony and documentation relevant to the charges. I understand that in making its final decision, the Board may, if unlawful activity has been proven, assess civil penalties in an amount greater than that herein offered in its letter and may order such other remedies as it may deem appropriate. I am also aware that this proceeding is a matter of public record and that the Board's letter and this certification are public documents.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Shelly Palumbo, P.T.

Dated: 11/18/14