

FILED  
BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY  
  
NOV 25 2014

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY  
EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE  
SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF  
THE LICENSE OF

SUSAN M. STEINMETZ, P.T.  
LICENSE NO. 40QA00437200

TO PRACTICE PHYSICAL THERAPY  
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

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: Administrative Action  
:  
: FINAL ORDER  
: OF DISCIPLINE  
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This matter came before the New Jersey State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners upon information that the respondent has failed to complete a total of thirty (30) credits of continuing education in approved physical therapy courses during the period of February 1, 2010 through January 31, 2012, as required for the 2012-2014 biennial license renewal pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:9-37.18 (a) 10 and N.J.A.C. 13:39A-9.1 et. seq. Based upon information received and which the Board has reviewed, the following preliminary findings are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is a physical therapist in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.
2. On January 8, 2012 the respondent submitted her completed application for renewal of license as a physical therapist in the State of New Jersey. (Exhibit A, a copy of the renewal

application is attached and made a part hereto.)

3. On her application, the respondent responded “no” to the question of “Will you have completed the required continuing education (CE) by January 31st, 2012?” (Exhibit A, a copy of the renewal application is attached and made a part hereto.)

4. Respondent provided the Board with 4 CE credits taken during the time period of February 1, 2010 through January 31, 2012.

5. On or about May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Respondent sent a letter to the Board explaining that she was unable to complete the CE requirements because she was unable to afford the classes due to financial hardship.

#### CONCLUSION OF LAW

Respondent has not satisfied the requirements of N.J.S.A. 45:9-37.18 (a) 10 and N.J.A.C. 13:39A-9.1 et. seq. with regard to the completion of the appropriate number of approved continuing education credit hours and is therefore subject to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h), failure to comply with the provisions of an act or regulation administered by the Board, which constitutes grounds for suspension or revocation of any certificate, registration or license, and grounds for sanction pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-25.

#### DISCUSSION

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline (“POD”) was entered on February 12, 2013, and served upon the Respondent at the last known address by regular and certified mail.

The POD was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30<sup>th</sup> business day following entry unless Respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings

of Fact and Conclusions of Law by submitting a written report for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting Respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

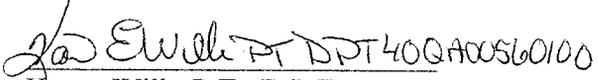
On March 15, 2013 a check was received from Respondent in the amount of \$500 in satisfaction of the penalty imposed in the POD. An additional 26 credits of continuing education courses were submitted with the correspondence. The Board accepted these credits.

**THEREFORE, IT IS ON THIS 25<sup>th</sup> DAY OF November, 2014**

**ORDERED that :**

1. Respondent paid in full the civil penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) imposed in the POD.
2. Respondent submitted proof of having completed the requisite thirty (30) hours of continuing education credits within ninety (90) days of the date of the receipt of the Final Order. As Respondent submitted proof of completion of the 26 outstanding continuing education credits. **These continuing education credits are NOT to be used to renew respondent's license for the 2014-2016 renewal period.**
3. Respondent met all of the terms and conditions of the POD and her license as a physical therapist remains active.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD  
OF PHYSICAL THERAPY EXAMINERS

By:   
Karen Wilk, P.T., D.P.T.  
Chair

Via Certified and Regular Mail  
CM: RRR