

the terms of this consent order to be adequately protective of the public health, safety and welfare, and for good cause shown;

IT IS, therefore, on this 23rd day of December, 2015,

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:

1. The license of Tina Merrick Levitt, D.D.S., to practice dentistry is surrendered effective immediately, for a minimum period of four months from entry of this Order and until further order of the Board. Respondent shall deliver her original license for the current renewal period, her CDS registration, her DEA registration, and prescription pads bearing her name, to Jonathan Eisenmenger, Executive Director, New Jersey Board of Dentistry, P.O. Box 45005, Newark, New Jersey, 07101.

2. Respondent shall not practice dentistry in this State until further order of the Board. During the period of surrender, Respondent shall not be physically present in any dental office in this State except to receive dental treatment by a licensed dentist. Respondent shall comply with the attached directives regarding licensees whose surrender of license has been accepted by the Board.

3. Within 30 days of the date of this Order, Respondent, at her expense, shall participate with the Professional Assistance Program (PAP) and shall comply with the recommendations for treatment, including but not limited to monthly face-to-face contact with representatives from that program, attendance at support groups, including NA or AA at a minimum of three times per week, urine monitoring not less than once a week, and continued therapy with a psychiatrist or therapist, if recommended. If

Respondent discontinues participation with the Professional Assistance Program or fails to comply with the conditions imposed by the program or outlined in this consent order without obtaining approval of the Board and the Professional Assistance Program, she shall be deemed in violation of this Order.

4. Respondent shall abstain from the use of alcohol and psychoactive substances, unless prescribed by a treating physician or dentist for a documented medical or dental condition with prior notification to the Executive Medical Director of the Professional Assistance Program of the diagnosis and prescribed medications. In addition, Respondent shall advise any and all treating physicians and/or dentists of her history of alcohol abuse.

5. The Professional Assistance Program shall submit quarterly reports, including urine results, to the Board regarding Respondent's participation and compliance with all requirements of the PAP and this order. If Respondent has positive urine, misses an appointment without consent, has a lapse or slip in her recovery, terminates treatment with her psychiatrist or therapist, or her participation with the PAP, the PAP shall immediately inform the Board. For purposes of this paragraph, "immediately" shall mean reporting the information orally within 24 hours and following up with a written report within 48 hours.

6. (a) Any failure by Respondent to submit or provide a urine sample within twenty-four (24) hours of a request will be deemed to be equivalent to a confirmed positive urine test. In the event Respondent is unable to appear for a

scheduled urine test or provide a urine sample due to illness or other impossibility, consent to waive that day's test must be secured from the Professional Assistance Program. Respondent shall notify the Professional Assistance Program if she will be out of the State for any reason, so that the program may make a determination regarding alternate testing.

(b) Any urine test result showing creatinine levels below 20 mg/dL and a specific gravity below 1.003 shall create a rebuttable presumption of a confirmed positive urine test. Any such result shall be followed immediately by a confirming GC/MS test.

(c) Respondent shall familiarize herself with all foods, food additives, or other products (such as poppy seeds) which may affect the validity of urine screens, be presumed to possess that knowledge, and shall refrain from the use of such substances. Ingestion of such substances shall not be an acceptable reason for a positive urine screen and/or failure to comply with the urine monitoring program.

(d) The Professional Assistance Program may, after notifying the Board, modify the frequency of testing or method of testing during the monitoring period.

7. Respondent shall provide any and all releases to any and all parties who are participating in a monitoring, treatment, or other program as outlined in this order, as may be required in order that all reports, records, and other pertinent information may be provided to the Board in a timely manner. Respondent agrees that any information

received by the Board regarding respondent's treatment or participation in a monitoring program may be used in connection with any proceedings pertaining to his license.

8. Prior to any restoration of her license, Respondent shall:
 - a. Affirmatively demonstrate a minimum of four months of abstaining from use of any psychoactive substances, including alcohol, except as permitted by this order;
 - b. Request an appearance before the Board or a committee of the Board to discuss readiness to re-enter the practice of dentistry. At that time Respondent shall be prepared to propose her plans for future practice in New Jersey;
 - c. Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Board that she is physically and psychologically fit and that she is capable of discharging the functions of a licensee in a manner consistent with the public's health, safety, and welfare, and that she is not then suffering from any impairment or limitation resulting from the use of or in possession of any controlled dangerous substance, whether legal or illegal, which could affect his practice.
 - d. Provide the Board with reports from each and every mental health professional (including but not limited to: psychologists, counselors, therapists, psychiatrists) who have participated in Respondent's care
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and/or treatment for the condition in this matter during the period of time from her entry into treatment to his appearance.

- e. Provide the Board with a report from the Professional Assistance Program, which shall include a recommendation that they fully support her return to practice and details the nature and extent of her involvement with that entity, including a full accounting of all urine monitoring.
- f. Affirmatively establish her fitness, competence, and capacity to re-enter the active practice of dentistry within New Jersey, including an accounting of all continuing education courses completed while her license was surrendered.
- g. Provide the Board with a full account of conduct during the intervening period of time from entry into treatment to her appearance pursuant to this Order.

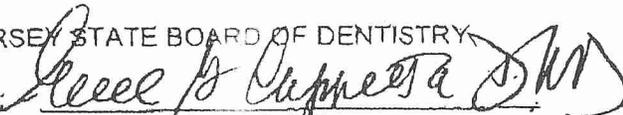
9. Following review of all relevant documents submitted and Respondent's testimony, if any, the Board, in its sole discretion, will determine whether and under what conditions respondent may return to practice. The Board may require Respondent to submit to an independent psychiatric evaluation prior to rendering its decision.

10. Restoration of Respondent's CDS registration in New Jersey, if applicable, shall be sought from the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs pursuant to the

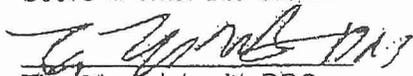
requirements set forth in N.J.S.A. 24:21-1, et. seq., the New Jersey Controlled Dangerous Substance Act, and governing rules.

11. Nothing in this Order shall be deemed to preclude the Board from taking any action it deems appropriate should the Board's review of information cause it to determine that such action is warranted. Entry of this order is without prejudice to further action and/or investigation by the Director of Division of Consumer Affairs or other law enforcement entities resulting from Respondent's conduct.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY

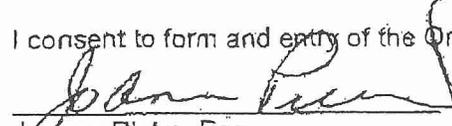
By: 
Emil Cappetta, D.D.S.
Board President

I have read and understand the within Consent Order and agree to be bound by its terms. Consent is hereby given to the Board to enter this Order.


Tina Merrick Levitt, DDS

12-18-15
Date

I consent to form and entry of the Order.


Joanne Pietro, Esq.

12-18-15
Dated

I have read the terms of this order and

agree on behalf of the Professional Assistance Program to comply with the terms pertaining to the PAP.

LEB

Louis E. Baxter, Sr., M.D.
Executive Medical Director
Professional Assistance Program

12/21/15
Date

**DIRECTIVES APPLICABLE TO ANY DENTISTRY BOARD LICENSEE
WHO IS SUSPENDED, REVOKED OR WHOSE SURRENDER OF LICENSURE
HAS BEEN ACCEPTED**

A practitioner whose license is suspended or revoked or whose surrender of license has been accepted by the Board, shall conduct him/herself as follows:

1. Document Return and Agency Notification

The licensee shall promptly deliver to the Board office at 124 Halsey Street, 6th floor, Newark, New Jersey 07102, the original license and current biennial registration certificate, and if authorized to prescribe drugs, the current State and Federal Controlled Dangerous Substances Registration. With respect to suspensions of a finite term, at the conclusion of the term, the licensee may contact the Board office for the return of the documents previously surrendered to the Board.

2. Practice Cessation

The licensee shall cease and desist from engaging in the practice of dentistry in this State. This prohibition not only bars a licensee from rendering professional services, but also from providing an opinion as to professional practice or its application, or representing him/herself as being eligible to practice. Although the licensee need not affirmatively advise patients or others of the revocation, suspension or surrender, the licensee must truthfully disclose his/her licensure status in response to inquiry. The disciplined licensee is also prohibited from occupying, sharing or using office space in which another licensee of this Board provides health care services. Unless otherwise ordered by the Board, the disciplined licensee may contract for, accept payment from another licensee for or rent at fair market value office premises and/or equipment. In no case may the disciplined licensee authorize, allow or condone the use of his/her provider number by the practice or any other licensee or health care provider. In situations where the licensee has been suspended for less than one year, the licensee may accept payment from another professional who is using his/her office during the period that the licensee is suspended, for the payment of salaries for office staff employed at the time of the Board action.

A licensee whose license has been revoked, suspended for one (1) year or more or permanently surrendered must remove signs and take affirmative action to stop advertisements by which his/her eligibility to practice is represented. The licensee must also take steps to remove his/her name from all prescription blanks and pads, professional listings, telephone directories, professional stationery, or billings. If the licensee's name

is utilized in a group practice title, it shall be deleted.

Prescription pads bearing the licensee's name shall be destroyed. A destruction report form shall be obtained from the Office of Drug Control (973-504-6558) and filed with that office. If no other licensee is providing services at the practice location, all medications must be removed and returned to the manufacturer (if possible), or destroyed or safeguarded. In situations where the licensee has been suspended for a period of less than one year, prescription pads and medications must be secured in a locked place for safekeeping.

3. Practice Income Prohibitions/Divestiture of Equity Interest in Professional Service Corporations

A licensee shall not charge, receive or share in any fee for professional services rendered by him/herself or others while barred from engaging in the professional practice. The licensee may be compensated for the reasonable value of services lawfully rendered and disbursements incurred on a patient's behalf prior to the effective date of the Board action.

A licensee whose license is revoked, surrendered or suspended for a term of one (1) year or more shall be deemed to be disqualified from the practice, and shall be required to comply with the requirements to divest him/herself of all financial interest in the professional practice pursuant to Board regulations contained in N.J.A.C. 13:30-8.21. Such divestiture shall occur within 90 days following the entry of the Board Order. Upon divestiture, a licensee shall forward to the Board a copy of documentation forwarded to the New Jersey Department of Treasury, Commercial Reporting Division, demonstrating that the interest has been terminated. If the licensee is the sole shareholder in a professional service corporation, the corporation must be dissolved within 90 days of the licensee's disqualification.

4. Patient Records

If, as a result of the Board's action, a practice is closed or transferred to another location, the licensee shall ensure that during the three (3) month period following the effective date of the disciplinary order, a message will be delivered to patients calling the former office premises, advising where records may be obtained. The message should inform patients of the names and telephone numbers of the licensee (or his/her attorney) assuming custody of the records. The same information shall also be disseminated by means of a notice to be published at least once per month for three (3) months in a newspaper of general circulation in the geographic vicinity in which the practice was conducted. At the end of the three month period, the licensee shall file with the Board the name and telephone number of the contact person who will have access to patient records of former patients. Any change in that individual or his/her telephone number shall be promptly reported to the Board. When a patient or his/her representative requests a copy of his/her patient record or asks that the record be forwarded to another health care provider, the licensee shall promptly provide the record without charge to the patient.

5. Probation/Monitoring Conditions

A disciplined practitioner whose active suspension of license has been stayed in full or in part, conditioned upon compliance with a probation or monitoring program, shall fully cooperate with the Board or its designated representatives, including the Enforcement Bureau of the Division of Consumer Affairs, in ongoing monitoring of the licensee's status and practice. Such monitoring shall be at the expense of the disciplined practitioner.

(a.) Monitoring of practice conditions may include, but is not limited to, inspection of professional premises and equipment, and inspection and copying of patient records (confidentiality of patient identity shall be protected by the Board) to verify compliance with Board Order and accepted standards of practice.

(b.) Monitoring of status conditions for an impaired practitioner may include, but is not limited to, practitioner cooperation in providing releases permitting unrestricted access to records and other information to the extent permitted by law from any treatment facility, other treating practitioner, support group or other individual or facility involved in the education, treatment, monitoring or oversight of the practitioner, or maintained by the rehabilitation program for impaired practitioners. If bodily substance monitoring has been ordered, the practitioner shall fully cooperate by responding to a demand for breath, blood, urine or other sample in a timely manner and by providing the designated sample.

6. Reports of Reimbursement

A disciplined practitioner shall promptly report to the Board his/her compliance with each directive requiring monies to be reimbursed to patients to other parties or third party payors or to any Court.

7. Report of Changes of Address

A disciplined practitioner shall notify the Board office in writing within ten (10) days of change of address.

**NOTICE OF REPORTING PRACTICES OF BOARD
REGARDING DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS**

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-3(3), all orders of the New Jersey State Board of Dentistry are available for public inspection. Should any inquiry be made concerning the status of a licensee, the inquirer will be informed of the existence of the order and a copy will be provided if requested. All evidentiary hearings, proceedings on motions or other applications which are conducted as public hearings and the record thereof, including the transcript and documents marked in evidence, are available for public inspection upon request.

Pursuant to Public Law 101-191, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, the Board is obligated to report to the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank any adverse action relating to a dentist:

- (1) Which revokes or suspends (or otherwise restricts) a license; or
- (2) Which censures, reprimands or places on probation, or restricts the right to apply or renew a license; or
- (3) Under which a license is surrendered.

In accordance with an agreement with the American Association of Dental Examiners, a report of all disciplinary orders is provided to that organization on a monthly basis.

Within the month following entry of an order, a summary of the order may appear on the public agenda for the monthly Board meeting and is forwarded to those members of the public requesting a copy. In addition, the same summary will appear in the minutes of that Board meeting, which are also made available to those requesting a copy.

On a periodic basis the Board disseminates to its licensees a newsletter which includes a brief description of all of the orders entered by the Board. In addition, the same description may appear on the Internet Website of the Division of Consumer Affairs.

From time to time, the Press Office of the Division of Consumer Affairs may issue releases including the summaries of the content of public orders.

Nothing herein is intended in any way to limit the Board, the Division or the Attorney General from disclosing any public document.



State of New Jersey
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF LAW
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Newark, NJ 07101

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

JOHN J. HOFFMAN
Acting Attorney General

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

Michelle Miller
Acting Director

February 17, 2016

VIA Electronic Mail
Joann Pietro, R.N. Esq.
150 Morris Avenue
Springfield, New Jersey

RE: I/M/O: Tina Merrick Levitt, DDS

Dear Ms. Pietro:

Please be advised that the New Jersey State Board of Dentistry has reviewed Dr. Levitt's request that she be permitted to go to her dental office to facilitate the sale of her dental practice. Based on your representations to me that Dr. Levitt plans to go to her office only on days when the office is closed and that she will not have any patient contact, the Board has approved her request with those conditions.

This letter shall be considered an addendum to the December 23, 2015, Consent Order of Voluntary Surrender, specifically paragraph 2, which had previously restricted Dr. Levitt from being physically present in any dental office in New Jersey except to receive dental treatment by a licensed dentist. This letter is considered public and will therefore, be attached to the filed Consent Order. Finally, please note that the other terms of the December 23, 2015, Consent Order remain in full force and effect. Any violation of the above terms and filed Consent Order may result in disciplinary action by the Board against Dr. Levitt.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (973)648-4741.



Sincerely yours,

JOHN J. HOFFMAN
ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY

By: Meaghan Goulding
Meaghan Goulding
Deputy Attorney General

cc: Louis Baxter, Executive Director, Professional Assistance
Program

Encl.