

FILED

FEB 17 2016

BOARD OF MASSAGE
AND BODYWORK THERAPY

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF MASSAGE AND BODYWORK
THERAPY

IN THE MATTER OF THE
APPLICATION OF

Administrative Action

MEILAN HUANG

FINAL ORDER OF
DENIAL OF LICENSURE

TO PRACTICE MASSAGE AND
BODYWORK THERAPY IN THE
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

This matter was opened to the Board of Massage and Bodywork Therapy ("the Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and the following preliminary findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Meilan Huang submitted an application for licensure by the Board.
2. Ms. Huang was arrested on April 10, 2008 and charged with owning, controlling, supervising or keeping a house of prostitution or prostitution business, and with engaging in prostitution. She entered a guilty plea to engaging in prostitution on June 5, 2008. The applicant was working at a massage establishment at the time of her arrest. Ms. Huang does not specifically deny engaging in prostitution, however she

implies that she was denied due process. She was 34 years old, and had an attorney who spoke Chinese at the time she entered the guilty plea.

3. On Ms. Huang's application, she implies that she did not realize that she was pleading guilty to engaging in prostitution at the time she entered the plea.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Ms. Huang's conviction on charges of engaging in prostitution at a time when she was employed in a massage establishment subjects her to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(f).

2. The conduct underlying Ms. Huang's conviction on charges of prostitution constitutes an act of moral turpitude within the intendment of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(f) which relates adversely to the practice of massage and bodywork therapy.

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Denial of Licensure was entered on December 15, 2015, provisionally denying Ms. Huang's application for licensure, with no subsequent application for licensure to be entertained for a period of four years, dating from the entry of any Final Order of Denial of Licensure entered in this matter. A copy of the Order was served upon Ms. Huang at her address of record by certified and regular mail. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th day

following entry unless Ms. Huang requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting the applicant's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

Ms. Huang replied to the Provisional Order. She maintained that she was denied due process with regard to her conviction because she entered into a plea agreement, and was not found guilty after trial. Ms. Huang argued that she had not subsequently been arrested, and provided documentation, in the form of income tax returns, indicating that she has been working as a cleaner in the years following her arrest.

The Board considered this matter, and determined that the Board was not the appropriate forum in which to challenge the validity of her conviction or her guilty plea. The Board accepts the conviction as valid. The Board notes that the conduct underlying the guilty plea relates adversely to the practice of massage and bodywork therapy, in that such conduct serves to degrade the profession in the eyes of the public, and damages the reputation of legitimate practitioners. The conduct is also harmful to the atmosphere of the neighborhoods in which it occurs. Moreover Ms. Huang's attitude does not appear to

demonstrate contrition or rehabilitation. The Board therefore determined that the Provisional Order should be finalized, denying licensure.

ACCORDINGLY,

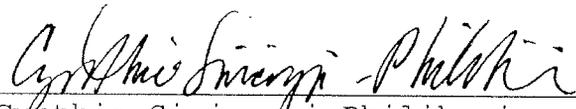
IT IS on this 17th DAY of February, 2016,

ORDERED that:

1. Ms. Huang's application for licensure as a massage and bodywork therapist in the State of New Jersey is hereby denied. No subsequent application for licensure will be entertained for a period of four years, dating from the filing of a Final Order in this matter. At the time of any subsequent application for licensure, Ms. Huang shall be asked to demonstrate rehabilitation.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF
MASSAGE AND BODYWORK THERAPY

By:


Cynthia Sinicropi-Philibosian, LMIST
Chairperson