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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
SURRENDER OF THE LICENSE OF

ROBERT KARASEK, D.M.D.
License # 22DI01723700

TO PRACTICE DENTISTRY
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Administrative Action

**CONSENT ORDER OF
REINSTATEMENT**

The matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Dentistry ("the Board") upon the request of Robert Karasek, D.M.D. ("Respondent") to reinstate his license to practice dentistry. Respondent voluntarily surrendered his license by order filed November 20, 2015, following receipt of information that he relapsed into alcohol use.

Respondent had previously surrendered his license in February 2002 via a Consent Order for obtaining controlled dangerous substances in names of others for personal use, but was reinstated with restrictions on September 25, 2002, following treatment and compliance with a Consent Order. Respondent maintained sobriety and

compliance with the Board until he relapsed into alcohol use on April 13, 2014. As a result of his relapse, he stopped practicing dentistry and signed a Consent Order of Voluntary Surrender on May 21, 2014. Following additional treatment and monitoring by the PAP, he sought reinstatement of his dental license, which was reinstated on February 26, 2015, subject to certain terms, including his continued participation in the PAP and abstinence from alcohol and psychoactive substances.

In support of Respondent's request for reinstatement of his license, he appeared before the Board on March 2, 2016, without counsel. He was accompanied by Dr. Louis Baxter, Sr., M.D., Executive Medical Director from the Professional Assistance Program ("PAP"). At his appearance, Respondent testified that he is currently being monitored by the PAP and is in compliance with its treatment plan. Respondent also testified that he has maintained sobriety since his relapse in October 2015. In addition, Respondent highlighted that since his recent relapse, he is now engaging the services of an addiction psychiatrist and continued participation with his psychiatrist is part of his plan to maintain sobriety. Respondent also testified that he has an employment offer from his previous employer. The employer is aware of Respondent's substance and alcohol abuse history and is committed to supporting him.

According to Dr. Baxter, Respondent has been compliant with his treatment plan. He also highlighted that Respondent has never practiced dentistry while being under the influence of illicit substances or alcohol and has self-reported his relapses. He strongly supports Dr. Karasek's return to practice with conditions including absolute abstinence from all psychoactive substances, random twice-weekly urine monitoring,

regular attendance at Alcoholic Anonymous meetings, and monthly meetings with a PAP representative.

Based upon the record and his testimony, the Board has determined that Respondent's return to practice with conditions is appropriate at this time. The terms imposed by this Order are designed to ensure that as he re-enters practice in this State, Respondent's practice is consistent with the public health, safety and welfare. Respondent waiving any right to a hearing in this matter and voluntarily entering into this Order;

IT IS, therefore, on this 21st day of March, 2016,

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:

1. The license of Robert Karasek, D.M.D., to practice dentistry in this State is reinstated, subject to the terms in this Order. Respondent shall comply with all administrative issues related to the activation of his license, including payment of applicable fees.

2. Respondent shall be permitted to work only in a group practice for the first year of his return to practice. For the first six (6) months, he shall be limited to working no more than thirty (30) hours per week. After that required period, any increase in work hours must be approved by the Board and the Executive Director of the PAP.

3. Respondent shall remain enrolled in and participate with the PAP, at his own expense, and shall comply with recommendations for treatment, including but not limited to:

(a) monthly face-to-face meetings with representatives from that program for the first year of return to practice, then at a frequency to be determined by the PAP, consistent with his duration in recovery;

(b) regular attendance at Alcoholic Anonymous, at a minimum of three times per week;

(c) random, minimum of twice-weekly urine screens for the first year of return to practice. Thereafter, Respondent shall be screened on a random basis at a frequency to be determined by the Executive Director of the PAP, consistent with his duration of recovery; and

(d) continued treatment by his currently approved psychiatrist, or any successive mental health professional pre-approved by the Board, until such time as the mental health professional, in consultation with the Executive Director of the PAP, agrees that it is no longer required.

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 PAP of the diagnosis and prescribed medications. In addition, Respondent shall advise any and all treating physicians and/or dentists of his history of alcohol and substance abuse.

5. The PAP 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 a positive urine, misses an appointment without consent, has a lapse or slip in his recovery, terminates treatment with his psychiatrist or therapist, or his 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 himself 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 PAP 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. Respondent shall be subject to an Order of Automatic Suspension of his license upon the Board's receipt of any information which the Board, in its sole discretion, deems reliable demonstrating that Respondent has failed to comply with any of the conditions set forth in this Consent Order, including but not limited to a report of a confirmed positive urine, or a prima facie showing of use of alcohol or drugs.

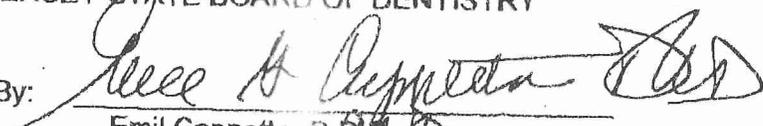
9. Respondent shall have a right to apply for removal of the automatic suspension on ten (10) days' notice to the Board and Attorney General. The Board may hold a hearing on that application before the full Board or before a committee of the Board. In the event a committee hears the application, its action shall be effectively immediately and subject to ratification of the full Board at its next scheduled

meeting. In a hearing seeking removal of the automatic suspension, any confirmed positive urine shall be presumed valid.

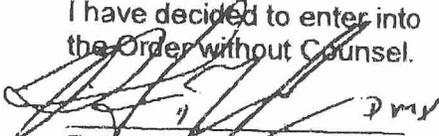
10. Nothing in this Order shall be deemed to preclude the Board from taking any action it deems appropriate should the Board's review of information cause it to determine that such action is warranted or from imposing restrictions or conditions on Respondent's license should the Board determine that such restrictions or conditions are appropriate to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

11. Respondent may seek modification of the terms of this Order not sooner than six (6) months from the date of its entry. The Board reserves the right to require Respondent's appearance prior to any modification or removal of conditions set forth in this Consent Order.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY

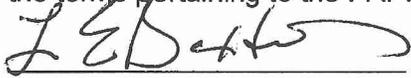
By: 
Emil Cappetta, D.D.S.
Board President

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. I am aware that this Order has serious legal consequences and I have decided to enter into the Order without Counsel.


Robert Karasick, D.M.D.

Date

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.



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

3/16/16

Date