

**SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN MISSOURI DENTAL BOARD
AND JOEL PETERSON, D.D.S.**

Comes now Joel Peterson, D.D.S. ("Licensee") and the Missouri Dental Board ("Board") and enter into this settlement agreement for the purpose of resolving the question of whether Licensee's license as a dentist will be subject to discipline.

Pursuant to the terms of § 536.060, RSMo 2000, the parties hereto waive the right to a hearing by the Administrative Hearing Commission of the State of Missouri ("AHC") regarding cause to discipline the Licensee's license, and, additionally, the right to a disciplinary hearing before the Board under § 621.110, RSMo 2000, as amended, and stipulate and agree that a final disposition of this matter may be effectuated as described below.

Licensee acknowledges that he understands the various rights and privileges afforded him by law, including the right to a hearing of the charges against him; the right to appear and be represented by legal counsel; the right to have all charges against him proven upon the record by competent and substantial evidence; the right to cross-examine any witnesses appearing at the hearing against him; the right to present evidence on his own behalf at the hearing; the right to a decision upon the record by a fair and impartial administrative hearing commissioner concerning the charges pending against him and, subsequently, the right to a disciplinary hearing before the Board at which time he may present evidence in mitigation of discipline; and the right to recover attorney's fees incurred in defending this action against his license. Being aware of these rights provided him by operation of law, Licensee knowingly and voluntarily waives each and every one of these rights and freely enters into this settlement agreement and agrees to abide by the terms of this document, as they pertain to him.

Licensee acknowledges that he has received a copy of the investigative report and other documents relied upon by the Board in determining there was cause to discipline his license, along with citations to law and/or regulations the Board believes was violated.

For the purpose of settling this dispute, Licensee stipulates that the factual allegations contained in this settlement agreement are true and stipulates with the Board that Licensee's license, numbered 014885, is subject to disciplinary action by the Board in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 621 and Chapter 332, RSMo, as amended.

JOINT STIPULATION OF FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Missouri Dental Board ("Board") is an agency of the State of Missouri created and established pursuant to § 332.021, RSMo 2000, for the purpose of executing and enforcing the provisions of Chapter 332.

2. Joel Peterson ("Licensee") is licensed by the Board as a dentist, License No. 014885. Licensee's Missouri license was at all times relevant herein, and is now, current and active.

3. To renew a dental license, Licensee is required to submit satisfactory evidence of completion of fifty hours of continuing education during the two-year period immediately proceeding the renewal period.¹

4. Of the fifty (50) hours required, not less than forty (40) must be hours directly related to the updating and maintaining of knowledge and skills in the treatment, health and safety of the individual dental patient.²

1 Section 332.181.1.4 RSMo, and regulation 20 CSR 2110-2.40(2).

2 Regulation 20 CSR 2110.2.240(2).

5. Licensee is required to maintain documentation of completion of the required continuing education hours. Failure to obtain the required continuing education hours, submit satisfactory evidence, or maintain documentation is a violation of section 332.321.³

6. Regulation 20 CSR 2110-2.240 details the Board's minimum requirements for continuing dental education for dentists. It states in pertinent part:

Continuing Dental Education

(1) Definitions.

(A) Continuing dental education—Instruction for dentists and dental hygienists directly relating to the practice of dentistry . . . as defined in sections 332.071 and 332.091, RSMo.

(B) Time block—A two (2)-year period with starting dates of December 1, 2002 through November 30, 2004; December 1, 2004 through November 30, 2006 and repeating in this sequence from that date.

(C) Board-approved sponsors are—

1. American Dental Association (ADA) and its constituent and component societies;
2. Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) and its state and local affiliates;
3. ADA recognized dental specialty organizations and their state and local affiliates;
4. National Dental Association and its state and local affiliates;
5. American Dental Hygienists' Association and its constituents and component societies;

³ Section 332.181.1.4.

6. National Dental Hygienists' Association and its state and local affiliates;
7. American Medical Association and American Osteopathic Association and their respective state and local societies;
8. American Nurses Association and its state and local affiliates;
9. ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation approved dental, dental hygiene and dental assisting schools;
10. ADA continuing education recognition program;
11. AGD national sponsor approved program;
12. Federal and state government agencies, including any of the branches of the military;
13. Hospitals accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations;
14. Missouri Public Health Association;
15. American Red Cross;
16. American Heart Association;
17. Central Regional Dental Testing Service, Inc. (CRDTS);
18. Dental Assisting National Board, Inc. (DANB);
19. American Dental Assistants Association and its constituents and component societies; and
20. Any other sponsor approved by the board pursuant to subsection (2)(B).

7. On Licensee's 2004-2006 renewal application Licensee swore and affirmed under penalty of law that he obtained fifty (50) hours of Board-approved continuing education during the period of December 1, 2002, through November 30, 2004.

8. The Board renewed Licensee's license.

9. The Board conducted an audit of Licensee to verify compliance with the continuing education requirement.⁴

10. Licensee submitted adequate documentation for only forty hours of continuing education for the December 1, 2002 through November 30, 2004 period.

11. Licensee has a duty to maintain full and complete records of all approved continuing education credits earned pursuant to 20 CSR 2110-2.240(2)(A).

12. Licensee's failure to obtain the required fifty (50) continuing education credits constitutes a violation of section 332.261.2(5) and (6) and regulation 20 CSR 2110-2.240(2).

13. Pursuant to regulation 20 CSR 2110-2.240(5), "a violation of any provision of this rule shall be deemed by the board to constitute misconduct, fraud, misrepresentation, dishonesty, unethical conduct or unprofessional, or any combination of these, in the performance of the functions, duties, or both, of a dentist or a dental hygienist, depending on the license's conduct."

14. Cause exists for the Board to take disciplinary action against Licensee's license under § 332.321.2(3), (5), and (6), RSMo, which states in pertinent part:

2. The board may cause a complaint to be filed with the administrative hearing commission as provided by chapter 621, RSMo, against any holder of any permit or license required by this chapter or any person who has failed to renew or has surrendered his or her permit or license for any one or any combination of the following causes:

⁴ Regulation 20 CSR 2110-2.40(2)(A).

....

(3) Use of fraud, deception, misrepresentation or bribery in securing any certificate of registration or authority, permit or license issued pursuant to this chapter or in obtaining permission to take any examination given or required pursuant to this chapter;

....

(5) Incompetency, misconduct, gross negligence, fraud, misrepresentation or dishonesty in the performance of the functions or duties of any profession licensed or regulated by this chapter;

(6) Violation of, assisting, or enabling any person to violate, any provision of this chapter, or any lawful rule or regulation adopted pursuant to this chapter;

JOINT AGREED DISCIPLINARY ORDER

Based upon the foregoing, the parties mutually agree and stipulate that the following shall constitute the disciplinary order entered by the Board in this matter under the authority of § 621.045.3, RSMo 2000, as amended:

1. The terms of discipline shall include that Licensee's dental license numbered 014885 is immediately placed on **PROBATION** for a period of **ONE (1) YEAR** ("disciplinary period").
2. During the disciplinary period, Licensee shall be entitled to engage in the practice of dentistry under Chapter 332, RSMo, provided he adheres to all of the terms of this Settlement Agreement. The terms of the probation shall be:

I. REQUIREMENTS REGARDING CONTINUING EDUCATION

Jurisprudence Exam

- A. Licensee shall take and pass the Board's designated jurisprudence examination within nine (9) months of the start of the disciplinary period. Licensee shall contact the Board office to request a current law packet and permission to sit for the jurisprudence examination no less than thirty (30) days prior to the date Licensee desires to take the examination. Licensee shall submit the required re-examination fee to the Board prior to taking the examination. Failure to take and pass the examination during the first nine (9) months of the disciplinary period shall constitute a violation of this Agreement.

Additional Continuing Education Hours

- B. Licensee shall complete the **ten (10) in-classroom continuing education hours** that he was delinquent within nine (9) months of the start of the disciplinary period. Licensee shall also complete **an additional ten (10) hours** of in-classroom approved continuing education within nine (9) months of the start of the disciplinary period for a total of 20 hours of continuing education. These hours are in addition to those hours required by law for renewal and must be classroom/out of office hours. NO correspondence or internet courses will be accepted by the Board. These additional continuing education hours cannot carry over into the next reporting period. Licensee shall provide the Board with proof of attendance of the continuing education hours no later than thirty (30) days after attending the course. Failure to attend the required continuing education programs and/or timely submit the required documentation to the Board will result in a violation of the terms of discipline.

III. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. Licensee shall meet with the Board or its representatives at such times and places as required by the Board after notification of a required meeting.
- B. Licensee shall submit reports to the Missouri Dental Board, P.O. Box 1367, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, stating truthfully whether he has complied with all the terms and conditions of this Settlement Agreement by no later than January 1 and July 1 during each year of the disciplinary period.
- C. Licensee shall keep the Board apprised of his current home and work addresses and telephone numbers. Licensee shall inform the Board within ten days of any change of home or work address and home or work telephone number.

- B. Licensee shall comply with all provisions of the Dental Practice Act, Chapter 332, RSMo; all applicable federal and state drug laws, rules, and regulations; and all federal and state criminal laws. "State" here includes the state of Missouri and all other states and territories of the United States.
- C. During the disciplinary period, Licensee shall timely renew his license and timely pay all fees required for licensing and comply with all other board requirements necessary to maintain Licensee's license in a current and active state.
- D. If at any time during the disciplinary period, Licensee removes himself from the state of Missouri, ceases to be currently licensed under the provisions of Chapter 332, or fails to advise the Board of his current place of business and residence, the time of his absence, unlicensed status, or unknown whereabouts shall not be deemed or taken as any part of the time of discipline so imposed in accordance with § 332.321.9, RSMo.
- E. During the disciplinary period, Licensee shall accept and comply with unannounced visits from the Board's representatives to monitor his compliance with the terms and conditions of this Settlement Agreement.
- F. If Licensee fails to comply with the terms of this Settlement Agreement, in any respect, the Board may impose such additional or other discipline that it deems appropriate, including revocation.
- G. This Settlement Agreement does not bind the Board or restrict the remedies available to it concerning any other violation of Chapter 332, RSMo, by Licensee not specifically mentioned in this document.

IV. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. Licensee shall not allow his license to lapse.
- B. The terms of discipline apply even if Licensee places his license on inactive status.
- C. Licensee shall notify, within 15 days of the effective date of this Settlement Agreement, all hospitals, nursing homes, out-patient centers, surgical centers, clinics, and all other facilities where Licensee practices or has privileges of Licensee's disciplinary status. Notification shall be in writing and Licensee shall, contemporaneously with the giving of such notice, submit a copy of the notice to the Board for verification by the Board or its designated representative.

2. The parties to this Agreement understand that the Missouri Dental Board will maintain this Agreement as an open record of the Board as provided in Chapters 332, 610, 620, RSMo.

3. Upon the expiration of said discipline, Licensee's license to practice dentistry in Missouri shall be fully restored if all other requirements of law have been satisfied; provided however, that in the event the Board determines that the Licensee has violated any term or condition of this Settlement Agreement, the Board may, in its discretion, after an evidentiary hearing, vacate and set aside the discipline imposed herein and may suspend, revoke or otherwise lawfully discipline the Licensee.

4. No order shall be entered by the Board pursuant to the preceding paragraph of this Settlement Agreement without notice and an opportunity for hearing before the Board in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 536, RSMo.

5. If the Board determines that Licensee has violated a term or condition of this Settlement Agreement, which violation would also be actionable in a proceeding before the Administrative Hearing Commission or the circuit court, the Board may elect to pursue any lawful remedies or procedures afforded it and is not bound by this Settlement Agreement in its determination of appropriate legal actions concerning that violation. If any alleged violation of this Settlement Agreement occurred during the disciplinary period, the Board may choose to conduct a hearing before it either during the disciplinary period, or as soon thereafter as a hearing can be held to determine whether a violation occurred and, if so, it may impose further discipline. The Board retains jurisdiction to hold a hearing to determine if a violation of this Settlement Agreement has occurred.

6. The terms of this settlement agreement are contractual, legally enforceable, and binding, not merely recital. Except as otherwise provided herein, neither this settlement agreement nor any of its provisions may be changed, waived, discharged, or terminated, except by an instrument in writing signed by the party against whom the enforcement of the change, waiver, discharge, or termination is sought.

7. Licensee, together with his heirs and assigns, and his attorneys, do hereby waive, release, acquit and forever discharge the Board, its respective members and any of its employees, agents, or attorneys, including any former Board members, employees, agents, and attorneys, of, or from, any liability, claim, actions, causes of action, fees, costs and expenses, and compensation, including, but not limited to, any claims for attorney's fees and expenses, including any claims pursuant to § 536.087, RSMo, or any claim arising under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, which may be based upon, arise out of, or relate to any of the matters raised in this case, its settlement, or from the negotiation or execution of this settlement agreement. The parties acknowledge that this paragraph is severable from the remaining portions of this settlement agreement in that it survives in perpetuity even in the event that any court of law deems this settlement agreement or any portion thereof to be void or unenforceable.

8. Licensee understands that he may, either at the time the Settlement Agreement is signed by all parties, or within fifteen (15) days thereafter, submit the Agreement to the Administrative Hearing Commission for determination that the facts agreed to by the parties constitute grounds for disciplining Licensee's license. If Licensee desires the Administrative Hearing Commission to review this Agreement, Licensee may submit his request to:

Administrative Hearing Commission, Truman State Office Building, Room 640, 301 W. High Street, P. O. Box 1557, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101.

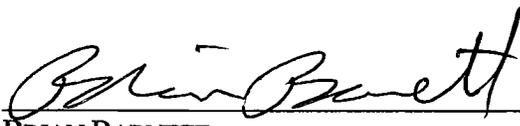
9. If Licensee requests review, this Settlement Agreement shall become effective on the date the Administrative Hearing Commission issues its order finding that the Settlement Agreement sets forth cause for disciplining Licensee's license. If Licensee does not request review by the Administrative Hearing Commission, the Settlement Agreement goes into effect fifteen (15) days after the document is signed by the Executive Director of the Board.

LICENSEE

BOARD



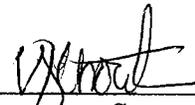
JOEL PETERSON, D.D.S.



BRIAN BARNETT
Executive Director
Missouri Dental Board

Date 06/04/08

Date 6/10/08



LORETTA SCHOUTEN
Missouri Bar No. 52290
7970 S. Tomlin Hill Road
Columbia, MO 65201
Telephone: 573-875-7169
Fax: 573-875-5603
llschouten@yahoo.com

ATTORNEY FOR THE BOARD