

**SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN MISSOURI DENTAL BOARD  
AND JAMES MICHAEL SKAHAN, D.D.S.**

Comes now James Michael Skahan, 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.

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 013354, is subject to disciplinary action by the Board in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 621 as amended and Chapter 332, RSMo.

**JOINT STIPULATIONS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. The 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, RSMo.
2. James Michael Skahan failed to submit the required renewal fee and application to renew his dental license No. 013354 prior to November 30, 2006.
3. Pursuant to Board regulation 20 CSR 2110-2.017(8), the license of any dentist or dental hygienist shall expire if not renewed on or before the license expiration date.
4. On December 1, 2006, Licensee's license No. 013354, to practice dentistry in the state of Missouri expired.
5. On or about February 13, 2009, Skahan submitted the necessary fees and application to renew his license to practice dentistry ("Application").
6. From December 1, 2006 through March 2009, Licensee practiced dentistry at 1320 E. Kingsley, Suite B, Springfield, Missouri ("the office") without a current and active license.

7. The practice of dentistry is defined in section 332.071, RSMo, which states:

332.071. A person or other entity "practices dentistry" within the meaning of this chapter who:

(1) Undertakes to do or perform dental work or dental services or dental operations or oral surgery, by any means or methods, including the use of lasers, gratuitously or for a salary or fee or other reward, paid directly or indirectly to the person or to any other person or entity;

(2) Diagnoses or professes to diagnose, prescribes for or professes to prescribe for, treats or professes to treat, any disease, pain, deformity, deficiency, injury or physical condition of human teeth or adjacent structures or treats or professes to treat any disease or disorder or lesions of the oral regions;

(3) Attempts to or does replace or restore a part or portion of a human tooth;

(4) Attempts to or does extract human teeth or attempts to or does correct malformations of human teeth or jaws;

(5) Attempts to or does adjust an appliance or appliances for use in or used in connection with malposed teeth in the human mouth;

(6) Interprets or professes to interpret or read dental radiographs;

(7) Administers an anesthetic in connection with dental services or dental operations or dental surgery;

(8) Undertakes to or does remove hard and soft deposits from or polishes natural and restored surfaces of teeth;

(9) Uses or permits to be used for the person's benefit or for the benefit of any other person or other entity the following titles or words in connection with the person's name: "Doctor", "Dentist", "Dr.", "D.D.S.", or "D.M.D.", or any other letters, titles, degrees or descriptive matter which directly or indirectly indicate or imply that the person is willing or able to perform any type of dental service for any person or persons, or uses or permits the use of for the person's benefit or for the benefit of any other person or other entity any card, directory, poster, sign or any other means by which the person indicates or implies or represents that the person is willing or able to perform any type of dental services or operation for any person;

(10) Directly or indirectly owns, leases, operates, maintains, manages or conducts an office or establishment of any kind in which dental services or dental operations of any kind are performed for any purpose; but this section shall not be construed to prevent owners or lessees of real estate from lawfully leasing premises to those who are qualified to practice dentistry within the meaning of this chapter;

(11) Controls, influences, attempts to control or influence, or otherwise interferes with the dentist's independent professional judgment regarding the diagnosis or treatment of a dental disease, disorder, or physical condition except that any opinion rendered by any health care professional licensed under this chapter or chapter 330, 331, 334, 335, 336, 337, or 338, RSMo, regarding the diagnosis, treatment, disorder, or physical condition of any patient shall not be construed to control, influence, attempt to control or influence or otherwise interfere with a dentist's independent professional judgment;

(12) Constructs, supplies, reproduces or repairs any prosthetic denture, bridge, artificial restoration, appliance or other structure to be used or worn as a substitute for natural teeth, except when one, not a registered and licensed dentist, does so pursuant to a written uniform laboratory work order, in the form prescribed by the board, of a dentist registered and currently licensed in Missouri and which the substitute in this subdivision described is constructed upon or by use of casts or models made from an impression furnished by a dentist registered and currently licensed in Missouri;

(13) Attempts to or does place any substitute described in subdivision (12) of this section in a human mouth or attempts to or professes to adjust any substitute or delivers any substitute to any person other than the dentist upon whose order the work in producing the substitute was performed;

(14) Advertises, solicits, or offers to or does sell or deliver any substitute described in subdivision (12) of this section or offers to or does sell the person's services in constructing, reproducing, supplying or repairing the substitute to any person other than a registered and licensed dentist in Missouri;

(15) Undertakes to do or perform any physical evaluation of a patient in the person's office or in a hospital, clinic, or other medical or dental facility prior to or incident to the performance of any dental services, dental operations, or dental surgery;

(16) Reviews examination findings, x-rays, or other patient data to make judgments or decisions about the dental care rendered to a patient in this state.

8. Pursuant to section 332.081.1, RSMo, no person shall practice dentistry in Missouri or provide dental services as defined in section 332.071 unless and until the board has issued to the person a certificate certifying that the person has been duly registered as a dentist in Missouri, as provided in this chapter, to practice dentistry or as a dental hygienist, or has issued to the person or entity a permit, to be renewed each period, to provide dental services in Missouri.

9. Pursuant to section 195.030.2, RSMo, no person shall manufacture, compound, mix, cultivate, grow, or by any other process produce or prepare, distribute, dispense or prescribe any controlled substance, without having first obtained a registration issued by the department of health and senior services in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by it.

10. On or about December 1, 2006, Skahan's registration to prescribe controlled substances expired.

11. On or about January 21, 2009, patient H.A. presented a prescription for Tylenol with codeine, written by Skahan, to the Walgreens Pharmacy in Springfield, Missouri.

12. From December 1, 2006 continuing through February 4, 2009, Skahan wrote prescriptions for patients he treated at the office.

13. Pursuant to section 332.361.1, RSMo, only duly registered and currently licensed dentists in Missouri may write a prescription for any drug necessary or proper in the practice of dentistry, provided that no such prescription is in violation of either the Missouri or federal narcotic drug act.

14. Licensee's conduct constitutes a violation of Board regulation 20 CSR 2110-2.071(10) which states: Any licensee who fails to renew his/her license on or before the license expiration date shall not perform any act for which a license is required unless and until the license is properly renewed.

15. Cause exists for the Board to take disciplinary action against Licensee's license under § 332.321.2 (6), (7), (12), (13), and (15), 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:

....

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

(7) Impersonation of any person holding a permit or license or allowing any person to use his or her permit, license or diploma from any school;

(12) Failure to display a valid certificate, permit or license if so required by this chapter or by any rule promulgated hereunder;

(13) Violation of any professional trust or confidence;

....

(15) Violation of the drug laws or rules and regulations of this state, any other state or the federal government;

....

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Licensee's license to practice dentistry in the State of Missouri, License No. 013354, is immediately placed on **FIVE (5) YEARS PROBATION** ("disciplinary period"). Licensee shall be entitled to engage in the practice of dentistry, provided he adheres to the terms of this Order. The terms of the disciplinary period shall be:

**I. REQUIREMENTS REGARDING CONTINUING EDUCATION**

A. Licensee shall complete fifty (50) in-classroom continuing education hours in general education.

- B. All continuing education hours shall be completed in the first twelve (12) months of the disciplinary period.
- C. These hours are in addition to those hours required by law for renewal and must be in-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 submit the required documentation to the Board will be a violation of the terms of discipline.

#### **Jurisprudence Exam**

- D. Licensee shall take and pass the Board's designated jurisprudence examination within six (6) 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 six (6) months of the disciplinary period shall constitute a violation of this Agreement.

#### **Ethics Course**

- E. Licensee shall take the continuing education course in ethics sponsored by the University of Missouri-Kansas City or its equivalent. This continuing education shall be in addition to the continuing education required by law for licensure renewal by the Board. This course must be taken within the first twelve (12) months of Licensee's disciplinary period. Licensee shall provide the Board with proof of attendance from the sponsor of the program no later than thirty (30) days after attending the course. Failure to obtain the required additional continuing education hours and/or submit the required documentation to the Board will result in a violation of the terms of discipline.

## **II. 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.
- D. 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.
- E. During the disciplinary period, Licensee shall timely renew his license and timely pay all fees required for licensing and comply with all other board requirement necessary to maintain Licensee's license in a current and active state.
- F. 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.
- G. 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 Order.
- H. If Licensee fails to comply with the terms of this Order, in any respect, the Board may impose such additional or other discipline that it deems appropriate, including revocation.
- I. This Order 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.

### **III. 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 Order, 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.

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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 324, 332, 610, 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

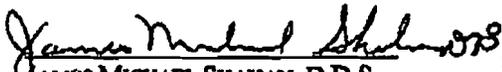
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Hearing Commission to review this Agreement, Licensee may submit his request to: Administrative Hearing Commission, Truman State Office Building, Room 640, 301 W. High Street, P. O. Box 1557, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101.

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

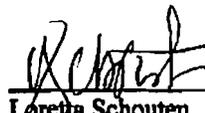
  
JAMES MICHAEL SKAHAN, D.D.S.

  
BRIAN BARNETT  
Executive Director  
Missouri Dental Board

Date March 16, 2009

Date 3/16/09

  
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ATTORNEY FOR LICENSEE

ATTORNEY FOR THE BOARD