

BEFORE THE
BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS
STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of)	
)	Case # 2016-5015
Mehul Parekh)	
)	
Applicant.)	STIPULATED FINAL ORDER
)	
)	
)	

The Oregon Board of Chiropractic Examiners (hereafter "Board" or "OBCE") is the state agency responsible for licensing, regulating and disciplining chiropractic physicians and certified chiropractic assistants in the State of Oregon. Mehul Parekh DC (hereafter "Applicant"), has applied to be licensed by the Board to practice as a chiropractic physician in Oregon.

Findings of Fact

1.

In May 2016 the board received an application for chiropractic licensure from Applicant, a chiropractor licensed in New York. While his licensure was pending, and before it was issued, the Board received information that Applicant was working in a chiropractic clinic and providing direct treatment to patients.

Information provided by Applicant indicated he began working for the chiropractic clinic on September 12, 2016. Applicant told the supervising DC that he was waiting for his licensure to go through. In addition, initially Applicant told the Board investigator he was only job shadowing another licensed DC and had not offered treatment. Applicant claimed that he was being supervised by the licensed DC and was just talking to patients that had questions.

On October 27, 2016, Applicant contacted the Board investigator and arranged a meeting for the same day. During that meeting and after apologizing, Applicant admitted that he had been giving patients direct treatment and summarized that he had seen approximately 8 patients and had provided care on a total of 28 patient visits. After reviewing his records, Applicant believes he had 22 patient visits rather than the 28 earlier testified to. Applicant provided the specific patient names. Applicant stated he provided treatment via functional neurology, consisting of physical exams, spinal manipulations, exercise prescriptions and demonstrations, extremity joint manipulations and soft tissue therapies. Applicant admitted that he had made a serious error in judgment in beginning to practice chiropractic prior to being licensed by the Board. The treatment was provided from September 14, 2016 to October 13, 2016. Since that time, Applicant has ceased treating other patients.

Conclusions of Law

2.

If this matter were to proceed to hearing and the Board prevailed, the Board determined that there would be violations of ORS 684.020(1), 100(1)(f), unprofessional conduct; OAR 811-035-0015 (14): practicing chiropractic without a current Oregon license.

Stipulations

3.

Therefore, pursuant to ORS 183.415 and ORS 684.100(9)(e) the OBCE orders:

1. The parties have agreed to enter this stipulated final order. Applicant agrees that he is aware of his right to a hearing with his attorney present to contest the charges and hereby waives that right and agrees to entry of this order. Applicant agrees to waive any right to appeal. The parties wish to settle and resolve the above matter without further proceedings.
2. Applicant agrees that the Board will suspend his ability to take all necessary tests for licensure for a period of 6 months from October 13, 2016 and when he ceased practicing. Applicant agrees he is suspended from reapplying for licensure until June 9, 2017. In the meantime, Applicant agrees he cannot provide any treatment or chiropractic care as defined in Chapter 684 of the ORS within the State of Oregon.
3. Applicant agrees he will continue to not practice chiropractic in the State of Oregon as defined in Chapter ORS 684 and OAR 811.
4. Applicant agrees to pay the Board a civil penalty in the sum of \$8,000. Pursuant to ORS 293.231 the Board will refer the amounts owed to collection if it has received no payment on this for more than 90 days. Thereafter, the Board will consider assignment to the Oregon Department of Revenue or a private collection agency for collection. Final fees may include additional percentages for any increase in the amount you owe due to the accrual of interest on the unpaid principal amount.
- 5) Applicant agrees to provide two community service presentations to chiropractic students, through a Board approved entity. Applicant agrees to provide written verification of the presentations made to the Board.

6. Applicant agrees to withdraw his Chiropractic Assistant application.
7. If Applicant violates any of the terms of this order, the Board may seek further disciplinary action.
8. This matter is reportable to the National Practitioner Data Bank.
9. This order is effective on the date signed by the Board and is a public record.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 8th day of March 2017.

BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS
State of Oregon

Original signatures are available in OBCE office.

By: Cassandra C. Skinner J.D., Executive Director

Original signatures are available in OBCE office.

By: Mehul Parekh, D.C.

Dated: _____