

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA

BOARD OF DENTISTRY

In the Matter of
Deborah Lehnus, D.D.S.
License No. 8846

ORDER FOR UNCONDITIONAL LICENSE

The Minnesota Board of Dentistry ("Board") met to review the petition of Deborah Lehnus, D.D.S. ("Licensee") for reinstatement of an unconditional license to practice dentistry in Minnesota.

BACKGROUND

1. On July 14, 1997, the Board adopted a Stipulation and Order ("1997 Stipulation and Order") which placed conditions on Licensee's license to practice dentistry in Minnesota based upon the following: inadequate safety and sanitary conditions; auxiliary misuse; substandard periodontal, endodontic, operative, and prosthodontic treatment; improper prescribing; and substandard recordkeeping. Thereafter, Licensee and the Board's Complaint Committee ("Committee") entered into an Amended Stipulation and Order which was adopted by the Board on November 20, 1998 ("1998 Amended Stipulation and Order") which placed limitations and conditions on Licensee's dental license. The 1998 Amended Stipulation and Order was based on evidence that Licensee provided substandard oral surgery treatment.

2. Pursuant to paragraph D. of the 1998 Amended Stipulation and Order, Licensee's license was placed in a conditional status.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Board makes the following findings of fact:

3. Pursuant to paragraph D. of the 1998 Amended Stipulation and Order which incorporated by reference in its entirety the 1997 Stipulation and Order, Licensee was required to do the following:

a. Paragraph D.1. limited Licensee to performing only non-surgical extractions on patients. She was required to provide patients with a referral to an appropriate dentist or an oral surgeon for surgical extractions. The Committee has not received any indication that Licensee has violated this portion of the 1998 Amended Stipulation and Order.

b. Paragraph D.2.a. required Licensee to successfully complete a residency program in oral surgery at an accredited institution which has been pre-approved by the Committee before petitioning for removal of the oral surgery limitation. Licensee successfully completed a pre-approved multi-day oral surgery course at the University of Minnesota.

c. Paragraph D.2.b-d. required Licensee to comply with all laws and rules of the Board of Dentistry, cooperate with the Board's requests, and comply with the most current infection control requirements. The Committee has not received any indication that Licensee has violated this portion of the 1998 Amended Stipulation and Order.

4. Pursuant to paragraph D. of the 1997 Stipulation and Order, Licensee was required to do the following:

a. Paragraph D.1.a. required Licensee to complete a minimum of 12 hours of instruction in endodontics including diagnosis, treatment planning, emergency treatment, access, and cleaning/shaping canals. Licensee successfully completed two endodontic courses to fulfill this requirement.

b. Paragraph D.1.b. required Licensee to complete a minimum of 10 hours of instruction in periodontics with a hands-on component including diagnosis, treatment planning, debridement, and non-surgical techniques. Licensee successfully completed a multi-day periodontics course at the University of Minnesota.

c. Paragraph D.2.a. required that within 30 days of completion of each course Licensee submit documentation of course completion, a copy of the course materials

used, and a written report on what Licensee learned and the changes made to her practice. Licensee submitted written reports for the endodontic and periodontic courses in a timely fashion which were reviewed and accepted by the Committee.

d. Paragraph D.2.b. required Licensee to submit to the Board a copy of his written protocol establishing infection control procedures for use in Licensee's office along with her staffs' signatures for verification of having read the manual. Licensee submitted her office infection control protocol which was signed by her staff to the Committee. The Committee reviewed and accepted the infection control documentation.

e. Paragraph D.3. required Licensee to pass the Minnesota Jurisprudence Examination with a score of at least 90 percent within 90 days of the effective date of the 1997 Stipulation and Order. Licensee passed the examination in September 1997.

f. Paragraph D.4. required Licensee to submit to at least one unannounced recordkeeping inspection of her dental office to be conducted by the Board's representative. The Board's representative conducted an unannounced recordkeeping inspection in October 1997. The Committee reviewed and accepted the results of the inspection.

g. Paragraph D.5. required Licensee to pay the Board the sum of \$3,000 as partial reimbursement for the Board's costs in this matter. Licensee paid the money in a timely manner.

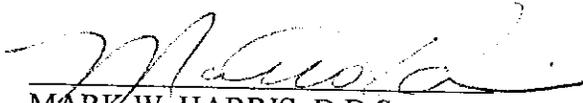
Based on the foregoing, the Board concludes that Licensee has complied with the 1998 Amended Stipulation and Order issued by the Board on November 20, 1998, and hereby issues the following:

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that an UNCONDITIONAL LICENSE to practice dentistry in the State of Minnesota be conferred upon Licensee, such license to carry all duties, benefits, responsibilities, and privileges inherent therein through Minnesota statute and rule.

Dated: January 20, 2006

MINNESOTA BOARD
OF DENTISTRY

By: 
MARK W. HARRIS, D.D.S.
President