In the Matter of the
Occupational Therapy License
of Danielle Vazquez (Lorentz)
License Number: 104116

REINSTATEMENT
OF UNCONDITIONAL LICENSE

Minnesota Board of Occupational Therapy Practice

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) issued a determination in the matter of Danielle Vazquez (Lorentz) Occupational Therapist License number 104116. Authority in the case transitioned from MDH to the Minnesota Board of Occupational Therapy Practice (BOTP) in January 2018.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On August 24, 2016, MDH issued a determination conditioning Licensee's license to practice occupational therapy in the State of Minnesota.

2. The determination required Licensee to cooperate with the Health Professionals Services Program (HPSP) and adhere to the HPSP participation agreement and monitoring plan.

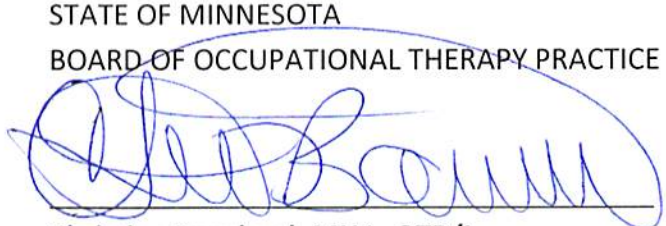
3. Upon successful completion, Licensee was allowed to request, in writing, a full and unrestricted license. HPSP notified the Board of Licensee's successful completion of the HPSP program. Licensee has submitted, in writing, a request for unconditional license. Licensee has successfully met all obligations of the previous MDH determination and is approved for an unconditional license.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that an unconditional license to practice occupational therapy in the State of Minnesota be conferred upon Licensee, such license to carry all duties, benefits, responsibilities, and privileges inherent therein through Minnesota statute.

Dated: September 19, 2019

STATE OF MINNESOTA
BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PRACTICE



Christina Bourland, MHA, OTR/L
Executive Director

MDH
Minnesota
Department
of Health

PROTECTING, MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF ALL MINNESOTANS

August 24, 2016

Danielle Lorentz
[redacted]

RE: MDH File Number: OTC17003

Dear Ms. Lorentz:

Based on the facts and law in this matter as described in the enclosed Staff Determination, the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has determined that you failed to cooperate with the Health Professionals Services Program (HPSP) when you pursued work as an occupational therapist against HPSP's recommendation and failed to adhere to [redacted]. MDH has determined that your conduct violates Minnesota Statues, section 148.6448, subdivision 1(23). Therefore, MDH is placing a condition on your license and restricting your right to practice occupational therapy. You are not authorized to practice occupational therapy until you have been evaluated and cleared for practice by the Health Professionals Services Program and your written request for an unrestricted license has been approved by MDH. This action is authorized by Minnesota Statutes, section 148.6448.

This decision will be made final and effective 30 days from the date it is received by you. During that 30-day period, you have the right to challenge this decision in a contested-case hearing, as provided under Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 14. Requests for a hearing should be made in writing and include specific grounds for challenging the Department's decision. If you wish to request a hearing, please send a written hearing request, within 30 days of your receipt of this letter, to:

Anne Kukowski, MS, JD
Manager, Health Occupations Program
Minnesota Department of Health
PO Box 64882
Saint Paul, MN 55164-0882

You may also deliver your request to 85 East Seventh Place, Suite 220, Saint Paul, MN; or fax it to Ms. Kukowski at (651)201-3839. If you have any questions about this matter, please contact Kevin Reinke at (651)201-5468.

Sincerely,

Susan Winkelmann, Assistant Director
Health Regulation Division

Enclosure: Determination in the Matter of Danielle Lorentz

cc: Anne Kukowski, Manager, Health Occupations Program

Effective Date 9/25/16

HEALTH OCCUPATIONS PROGRAM
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

A Determination In the Matter of
Danielle Lorentz
Occupational Therapist, License Number 104116

AUTHORITY

1. The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has the authority to discipline occupational therapists for violations of Minnesota Statutes, section 148.6448. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 148.6448, subdivision 3, the types of discipline MDH may impose include, but are not limited to: issuing a conditional license, placing restrictions on licensure and any reasonable lesser action authorized by statute. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 13.41, disciplinary actions are public data.

2. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 148.6448, subdivision 1(6), MDH may issue a license with conditions or take disciplinary action against an occupational therapist for failure to perform occupational therapy with reasonable judgement, skill or safety due to use of alcohol or drugs or other physical or mental impairment.

3. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 148.6448, subdivision 1(23), MDH may issue a license with conditions or take disciplinary action against an occupational therapist for just cause related to the practice of occupational therapy.

4. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 148.6448, subdivision 6, MDH is authorized to contract with the Health Professional Services Program as authorized by sections 214.31 to 214.37.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On September 29, 2011, Danielle Lorentz (hereinafter "Practitioner") was licensed as an occupational therapist in the State of Minnesota by the Department of Health, under license number 104116. Practitioner has renewed her license biennially and has a current license to practice occupational therapy. Practitioner's license is due to expire on June 30, 2017.

2. On July 25, 2016, MDH received a memorandum from the Health Professionals Services Program (HPSP) notifying MDH that Practitioner had been unsatisfactorily discharged from HPSP when she:

a. Failed to cooperate with HPSP's recommendations and pursued employment as an occupational therapist against HPSP's recommendations;
b. Failed to adhere to [redacted] where she was [redacted].

3. On July 28, 2016, MDH referred Practitioner back to HPSP for voluntary enrollment. MDH notified Practitioner if she failed to contact HPSP by August 5, 2016, MDH would investigate the matter and might pursue a temporary suspension of her right to practice occupational therapy until completion of an investigation into her ability to safely practice.

4. On August 1, 2016, HPSP notified MDH that Practitioner re-enrolled into the program and entered into a participation agreement and monitoring plan.

CONCLUSION

Practitioner was unsatisfactorily discharged from HPSP for non-cooperation. This constitutes a violation of Minnesota Statutes, section 148.6448, subdivision 1(6) and 1(23). Practitioner should be restricted from practicing occupational therapy until she is able to safely practice.

DETERMINATION

1. Practitioner's occupational therapy license is conditioned as follows:

    a. Practitioner may not provide occupational therapy services until HPSP determines she is able to provide occupational therapy with reasonable judgment, skill, and safety.

    b. Practitioner must adhere to the HPSP participation agreement and monitoring plan. Failure to fully adhere to the participation agreement and monitoring plan will result in the Practitioner's occupational therapy license being temporarily suspended. The temporary suspension will remain in effect until such time as MDH completes an investigation surrounding practitioner's ability to safely and competently practice occupational therapy.

2. Practitioner may request reinstatement of a full and unrestricted license upon completion of the HPSP program. Practitioner's request must be in writing and mailed to: Investigation and Enforcement Unit, Health Occupations Program, MDH, PO Box 64882, Saint Paul, MN 55164-0882. Practitioner must include in her written request for reinstatement of an unconditional license verification from HPSP that she successfully completed a program and she is able to safely and competently practice occupational therapy.