

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF)
TIFFANY THERESA MARIE) CONSENT ORDER OF
EASTER-COLEY, RDH) CONDITIONAL LICENSURE

THIS MATTER is before the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners (Board) as authorized by G.S. § 90-41.1(b) for consideration of a Consent Order in lieu of a formal administrative hearing. A settlement conference was held in this matter on May 16, 2018. Petitioner represented herself, and Douglas J. Brocker represented the Investigative Panel. In lieu of a formal evidentiary hearing and pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-41.1(b), the parties freely and voluntarily consent to the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and to entry of the Consent Order of Conditional Licensure.

Based upon the consent of the parties, the Board makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Dental Board is a body duly organized under the laws of North Carolina and proceeds in this matter pursuant to the authority granted to it in Chapter 90 of the North Carolina General Statutes, including the Dental Hygiene Act and the Rules and Regulations of the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners.

2. On February 16, 2017, Tiffany Theresa Marie Easter-Coley, RDH initially applied for Dental Hygiene Licensure (2017 application). Ms. Easter-Coley graduated from dental hygiene school on May 13, 2017.

3. The Board held a settlement conference in May 2017 based primarily on several criminal charges reported in her application.
4. After a settlement conference in May 2017, the Hearing Panel denied Ms. Easter-Coley's application and advised her of the right to a formal hearing, which she did not request, and alternatively advised her of the right to submit a new application.
5. The Hearing Panel set forth several prerequisites that Ms. Easter-Coley had to meet before reapplying for a license: (1) obtain a substance abuse assessment through the North Carolina Caring Dental Professionals Program (NCCDP); (2) perform 100 hours of community service; and (3) submit at least ten (10) character letters.
6. Ms. Easter-Coley submitted a new application on February 12, 2018 and provided evidence that she met those three prerequisites to reapply.
7. In her 2018 application, Ms. Easter-Coley revised some of her explanations regarding the prior criminal charges.
8. The Board held a settlement conference concerning her 2018 application on May 16, 2018.
9. Ms. Easter-Coley acknowledged at the 2018 settlement conference that her prior written explanations concerning at least one of the criminal charges on her 2017 application and her statements at the previous 2017 settlement conference were not truthful.
10. Ms. Easter-Coley also acknowledged that she smoked marijuana in October 2017, in between the 2017 and 2018 settlement conferences.
11. At the settlement conference, the Board considered the assessment Ms. Easter-Coley obtained through NCCDP. The assessment was consistent in

recommending that Ms. Easter-Coley be monitored for future compliance, given the results of the assessment, and her prior criminal charges, among other factors.

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board enters the following:

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Ms. Easter-Coley has demonstrated sufficient good character to justify allowing her a conditional license to practice dental hygiene in North Carolina.
2. Ms. Easter-Coley's license must be subject to certain conditions to protect the public, including regular inspection by the Board, disclosure to future employers, and monitoring by NCCDP.

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Board enters the following:

ORDER

1. The application of Tiffany Theresa Marie Easter-Coley for licensure as a dental hygienist in North Carolina is hereby provisionally granted on condition that she complies with the following terms and conditions for five years from the date of this Order:

- a. Within fifteen (15) days of signing this Order, Ms. Easter-Coley shall enter into Participation Agreement with NCCDP, which shall determine the appropriate length of the Agreement. Ms. Easter-Coley shall sign and maintain continuously a release with NCCDP permitting it to submit monthly reports to the Board regarding her progress in the program. Ms. Easter-Coley shall continue participation in the NCCDP,

remain in the program, and fully comply with all terms of her Participation Agreement with NCCDP during the full length of the Agreement;

b. Ms. Easter-Coley shall violate no provision of the Dental Hygiene Practice Act, the Board's rules and regulations or the laws of any state or of the United States;

c. Ms. Easter-Coley shall permit the Board or its authorized agent(s) to inspect and observe her work place, conduct random patient chart reviews, and interview her employer and coworkers at any time during regular office hours;

d. Ms. Easter-Coley shall pay the cost of the investigation of this matter in the amount of \$330.00 within 30 days after entry of this Order;

e. Ms. Easter-Coley shall notify the Board in writing before beginning any new employment as a dental hygienist, including the address and phone number of the dental practice of office, and shall keep the Board informed of her current residential address; and

f. Ms. Easter-Coley shall provide each employer, prior to beginning employment in a dental office, with a copy of this Consent Order and shall provide evidence of compliance to the Board upon request.

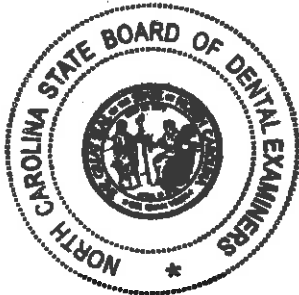
2. If Ms. Easter-Coley fails to comply with any provision of this Consent Order or breaches any term or condition thereof, including those in paragraph one (1), the Board shall promptly schedule a public Show Cause Hearing to allow her an opportunity to show cause as to why her dental hygiene license should not be indefinitely suspended. If after the Show Cause Hearing, the Board is satisfied that Ms.

Easter-Coley failed to comply or breached any term or condition of this Order, the Board shall suspend her conditional license and also may enter such other discipline or conditions as the evidence warrants for proven violations of the Dental Hygiene Practice Act, or of the Board's Rules occurring after entry of this Order.

3. The Board recognizes that the conditions, limitations, or requirements set forth in this Consent Order may present Ms. Easter-Coley with certain practical difficulties. The Board concludes that each one is necessary to ensure public protection and it does not intend to modify or eliminate any of the conditions, limitations, or requirements set forth herein based on such potential difficulties.

This the 28th day of SEPTEMBER 2018.

THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE
BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS



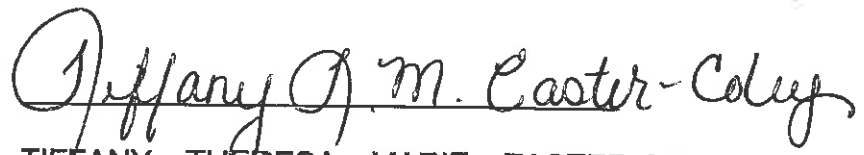
By: _____

Casie S. Goode
Casie S. Goode
Director of Investigations

STATEMENT OF CONSENT

I, TIFFANY THERESA MARIE EASTER-COLEY, do hereby certify that I have read the foregoing Consent Order in its entirety. I assent to its terms and conditions set out herein. I freely and voluntarily admit that there is a factual basis for the findings of fact herein, that the findings of fact support the conclusions of law, that I will not contest the findings of fact, the conclusions of law, or the disciplinary order of conditional licensure in any future proceedings before or involving the Dental Board, including if future disciplinary proceedings or action is warranted in this matter. I knowingly waive any right to appeal or otherwise later challenge this Consent Order once entered. I understand that the Board will report the contents of this Consent Order to the National Practitioner Data Bank and that this Consent Order will become part of the Board's permanent public record. I further acknowledge that this required reporting may have adverse consequences in other contexts and any potential effects will not be the basis for a reconsideration of this Consent Order. I have had the opportunity to consult with an attorney prior to signing this Consent Order.

This the 21st day of July, 2018.


TIFFANY THERESA MARIE EASTER-COLEY

R.D.H.