

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

In The Matter Of:

STEPHEN SHEPHERD, D.D.S.)
(License No. 4533))

CONSENT ORDER

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. Respondent, Dr. Stephen Shepherd, consents to the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and agrees to the Order of Discipline contained herein.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners is a body duly organized under the laws of North Carolina and is the proper party to bring this proceeding under the authority granted it in Chapter 90 of the North Carolina General Statutes (the Dental Practice Act) and the Rules and Regulations of the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners.

2. Respondent is licensed to practice dentistry in North Carolina and is the holder of License No. 4533 originally issued by the Board on July 10, 1978 and duly renewed through the current year.

3. The Respondent was at all times relevant hereto licensed to practice dentistry in North Carolina and is subject to the Dental Practice Act and the rules promulgated thereunder.

4. The Respondent voluntarily agreed to waive his right to a formal hearing herein.

5. Respondent suffers from Parkinson's Disease, Type I diabetes and diabetic retinopathy. As a result of these ailments, Respondent suffers from tremors and other side effects rendering him physically unable to practice dentistry.

6. Respondent has sold his dental office and is on total disability with no possibility of resuming the active practice of dentistry.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board is authorized under G.S. §90-41(a)(7) to suspend the license a licensee who:

"(7) Is mentally, emotionally, or physically unfit to practice dentistry or. . . ."

2. Respondent is physically unfit to practice dentistry within the meaning of G.S. 90-41(a)(7).

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and the consent of the parties hereto, IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

1. License number 4533 issued to Respondent for the practice of dentistry in North Carolina is hereby revoked. Respondent may not petition the Board for reinstatement.

2. Respondent shall surrender his license and current renewal certificate to the Board office immediately.

This the 9 day of November, 2009.

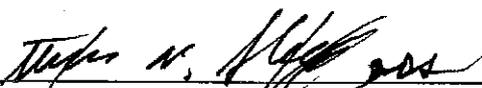
THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE
BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

BY: Terry W. Friddle
Terry W. Friddle
Deputy Operations Officer

STATEMENT OF CONSENT

I, STEPHEN SHEPHERD, D.D.S., do hereby certify that I have read the foregoing Consent Order in its entirety and that I do freely and voluntarily admit, exclusively for the purposes of this disciplinary proceeding and any other disciplinary or licensure proceedings before this Board, that there is a factual basis for the allegations set forth therein, that these factual allegations are legally sufficient to support findings and conclusions that I am physically unfit to practice dentistry within the meaning of G.S. §90-41(a)(7). I hereby express my understanding that the Board will report the contents of this Consent Order to the National Practitioner Data Bank and that this Consent Order shall become a part of the permanent public record of the Board.

This the 28th day of OCT., 2009.



STEPHEN SHEPHERD, D.D.S.