

**STATE OF VERMONT
SECRETARY OF STATE
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS**

IN RE:	)	
Sarah Balch	)	Docket No. 2018-87
Application Tracking No. LI-279913	)	

STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

STIPULATION

NOW COME the State of Vermont, by and through Prosecuting Attorney Elizabeth A. St. James, and the Applicant, Sarah Balch, represented by Paul Brierre, Esq., who stipulate and agree as follows

Board Authority

1. The Vermont Board of Dental Examiners (the "Board") has authority to deny an applicant's license if it finds that the applicant has engaged in unprofessional conduct in any jurisdiction. 3 V.S.A. § 129(a); 26 V.S.A. § 584; the Administrative Rules of the Board of Dental Examiners; and the Rules of the Office of Professional Regulation.

Basis for Denial

Basis for Denial One: 3 V.S.A. § 129a(a)(10) Conviction of a crime related to the practice of the profession or conviction of a felony, whether or not related to the practice of the profession.

2. Sarah Balch (the "Applicant") of Lyme, New Hampshire, submitted an application (the "Application") for licensure as a Registered Traditional Dental Assistant on May 14, 2018. The application was considered complete on July 30, 2018.
3. On the Application, Applicant answered "YES" to the question "Have you ever been convicted of a crime other than a minor traffic violation?"
4. On the Application, Applicant disclosed that on August 27, 2015, she plead guilty in the State of New Hampshire to the crime of Conspiracy to Commit Burglary, a felony, in Grafton Superior Court, Case Number 215-2014-CR-00283.
5. As part of her sentence, Applicant was placed on probation for two (2) years and required to undergo an evaluation by a Licensed Drug and Alcohol Counselor and complete any recommended follow-up treatment or counseling.

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6. Applicant's conviction for Conspiracy to Commit Burglary is a felony and is therefore per se unprofessional conduct.

Basis for Denial Two: 3 V.S.A. § 129a(a)(1) Fraudulent or deceptive procurement or use of a license.

7. Despite disclosing her New Hampshire felony conviction, Applicant failed to disclose that she was also convicted of Buying, Receiving, Selling, Possessing, or Concealing Stolen Property \$900 or Less, a misdemeanor, in Vermont Superior Court, Windsor Criminal Division, Docket Number 152-2-14 Wrcr, on September 23, 2014.
8. Despite disclosing her New Hampshire felony conviction, Applicant failed to disclose that she was also convicted of False Report, a misdemeanor, in New Hampshire in 2011.

Understandings

9. Applicant admits the facts as outlined above are true and the Board may find that the Applicant engaged in unprofessional conduct and that the order below is necessary to protect the public.
10. Applicant understands that the Board must review and accept the terms of the Consent Order. If the Board rejects any portion, the entire Stipulation and Consent Order shall be null and void.
11. Applicant specifically waives any claims that any disclosures made to the full Board during its review of this agreement have prejudiced Applicant's rights to a fair and impartial hearing in future hearings if this agreement is not accepted by the Board.
12. Applicant has read and reviewed this entire document and agrees that it contains the entire agreement between the parties.
13. Applicant is not under the influence of any drugs or alcohol at the time of signature of this Stipulation and Consent Order.
14. Applicant voluntarily enters into this agreement after the opportunity to consult with legal counsel and is not being coerced by anyone into signing this Stipulation and Consent Order.
15. Applicant voluntarily waives the right to a contested hearing before the Board and waives any right to appeal from this Stipulation and Consent Order.
16. Applicant agrees that the Order set forth below may be entered by the Board.

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ORDER

Based on the Stipulation above, it is **ORDERED AND ADJUDGED** as follows:

- A. The Board hereby grants Applicant registration as a traditional dental assistant.
- B. The Board hereby **REPRIMANDS** Applicant's registration when it is issued.
- C. Notwithstanding any provision above, Applicant must continue to meet all requirements of the Board of Dental Examiners for maintaining a license, license renewal and license reinstatement.
- D. This Stipulation and Consent Order is a matter of public record and may be reported to other licensing authorities as provided in 3 V.S.A. §129(a).
- E. This Stipulation and Consent Order will remain part of Applicant's licensing file and may be used for purposes of determining sanctions in any future disciplinary matter.

AGREED TO:

STATE OF VERMONT
SECRETARY OF STATE

Dated: 10/9/18

By: Elizabeth A. St. James
Elizabeth A. St. James
Prosecuting Attorney

SARAH BALCH
APPLICANT

Dated: 10/9/18

By: Sarah Balch
Sarah Balch

APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY:

PAUL BRIERRE, ESQ.
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

Dated: 10/9/18

By: Paul Brierre
Paul Brierre, Esq.

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APPROVED AND SO ORDERED:

VERMONT BOARD OF DENTAL
EXAMINERS

Dated: Oct 10, 2018

By: _____

[Signature]
Chairperson

Date of Entry: 10-11-18

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