

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PRACTICE
SPECIAL MEETING
Monday, September 9, 2013
1:00 p.m. EST
CONFERENCE CALL
1-888-670-3525**

Participants in this public meeting were made aware that these proceedings were recorded and that an audio file of the meeting would be made available via the Board's website.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Anthony Hicks, OT, Chair
Tammy McKenzie, OT
James Spafford, Consumer Member
Carol Watson, OTA
Phillip Mullings, Consumer Member
Heidi Roeck-Simmons, OT

STAFF PRESENT

Allen Hall, Executive Director
Anna King, Program Operations Administrator
Deborah Boutwell, Regulatory Specialist II
Pat Gabriele, Regulatory Specialist II

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

Lynette Norr, Esquire

Call to Order – Special Meeting

Mr. Anthony Hicks, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 1:03 p.m. Board member Heidi Roeck-Simmons was recused due to a conflict of interest, and Board member Philip Mullings was recused due to failure to receive the agenda materials in time for the meeting. A quorum was established.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS

Application for Exemption from Disqualification

TAB 1 Rendall L. Mash, OTA 11653, file # 4285

Mr. Mash was present on the conference call.

Mr. Mash submitted an application for Exemption from Disqualification of employment for the OT Board's review due to history reflected in his Agency for HealthCare Administration (AHCA) Background Level II Screening which resulted in his disqualification from employment in AHCA facilities.

Mr. Mash's Background screening was obtained from the AHCA and a summary of such was reviewed by the Board.

Mr. Mash has been a Florida licensed OTA since 02/17/11 and failed to disclose a previous history on his original licensure application in 2011.

Mr. Mash obtained a copy of his complete background screening and provided personal statements and all available court documentation regarding the incidents summarized in the screening report. He also addressed his failure to disclose such incidents on his original application for licensure.

Mr. Mash's current AHCA Background Screening information validates he has incurred no further history of incidents since 2007. Mr. Mash submitted employer's recommendation letters and character reference letters from others establishing a record of professionalism as an occupational therapy assistant.

Pursuant to Section 435.07(3), Florida Statutes, Applicant must, demonstrate by clear and convincing evidence that Applicant should not be disqualified from employment, and set forth sufficient evidence of rehabilitation to demonstrate that Applicant will not present a danger if continued employment is allowed.

MOTION: After discussion, Mr. Hicks made a motion to **approve** Mr. Mash's exemption for disqualification from employment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Spafford and carried 4/0.

ADDENDUM Application for Exemption from Disqualification

Tab 2 Dennis Arthur O'Connor, OT 8424, file# 7099

Mr. O'Connor was present on the conference call.

Mr. O'Connor submitted an application for Exemption from Disqualification of employment for the OT Board's review due to history reflected in his AHCA Background Level II Screening which resulted in his disqualification from employment in AHCA facilities.

Mr. O'Connor's Background screening was obtained from the AHCA and a summary of such was reviewed by the Board.

Mr. O'Connor has been a Florida licensed OT since 05/01/98 and in a personal statement acknowledged items reflected in the screening report were not reported at the time of his original application.

Mr. O'Connor obtained a copy of his complete background screening and provided personal statements and all available court documentation regarding the incidents summarized in the screening report.

Mr. O'Connor's current AHCA Background Screening information validates he has incurred no further history of incidents since 1984. He submitted employer's recommendation letters and character reference letters from others establishing a record of professionalism as an occupational therapist.

MOTION: After discussion, Mr. Hicks made a motion to **approve** Mr. O'Connor's exemption for disqualification from employment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Spafford and carried 5/0.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 1:18. p.m.