BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF PHARMACY

In The Matter Of:

Reciprocity Application of
Michael Dean Blanton

ORDER DENYING
RECIPROCITY

THIS MATTER came before the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy ("Board") concerning the application of Michael Dean Blanton ("Petitioner") to reciprocate a South Carolina license to practice pharmacy. This matter was heard on October 19, 2010 by the Board located at 6015 Farrington Rd., Suite 201, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Board members Chater, Dennis, Marks, and Minton heard Petitioner's request. Having heard the evidence presented and assessed the credibility of the testifying witnesses, the Board makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Petitioner presently holds a license to practice pharmacy in South Carolina.

2. On July 6, 2010, Petitioner submitted a North Carolina Board of Pharmacy Reciprocity Data Questionnaire seeking to reciprocate his South Carolina license to practice pharmacy.

3. Question 7 on that questionnaire asks "Have you at any point in your licensure as a pharmacist been charged by any Board of Pharmacy or regulatory body on matters which could have produced an action on your license? Any and all actions taken against your license must be disclosed regardless or when the action was taken. This includes any pending actions."

Petitioner’s response to this question was “No.”
4. Petitioner’s signature on the questionnaire “affirm(ed) that I have answered the foregoing questions, and that my answers are true and correct. I understand that any false information given by me may subject me to refusal to be licensed, disciplinary action by the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy, and/or any license obtained shall be void and of no effect.”

5. On the same day, Petitioner completed a Reciprocity Candidate Questionnaire and submitted it to the Board. Question 4 on that document asked “Do you have PENDING, or have you EVER been subject to, disciplinary proceedings before any Board of Pharmacy or regulatory body? Any and all actions taken against your license must be disclosed regardless of when the action was taken. This includes any pending actions.” Petitioner’s response to this question was “No.”

6. Petitioner’s signature on this questionnaire “affirm(ed) that I have answered the foregoing questions and that my answers are true and correct. I understand that any false information given by me may subject me to disciplinary action by the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy.”

7. Petitioner’s answers to these questions were untruthful.

8. In 2001, Petitioner was charged by the South Carolina Board of Pharmacy with violations of the South Carolina Pharmacy Practice Act stemming from the dispensing of controlled substances to a patient without authorization.

9. Petitioner voluntarily entered into a consent order of discipline to resolve those charges. The consent order, among other things, placed Petitioner’s pharmacy license on probationary status for five (5) years, imposed a monetary fine, required Petitioner to take and pass the Multi-State Pharmacy Jurisprudence Exam, and required his participation in the South Carolina Recovering Professional Program.
10. In 2002, Petitioner sought and obtained a modification of his 2001 consent order of discipline. That modification terminated Petitioner’s required participation in the Recovering Professionals Program. This “limited modification of the March 13, 2001 order” left other conditions in place.

11. Petitioner testified that he understood the questions that were asked in the reciprocity questionnaires.

12. Petitioner further testified variously that he nonetheless answered as he did because he did not see his orders on the South Carolina Board of Pharmacy website; because he believed the orders to have been “dropped” or “expunged”; and because he relied on advice from an unnamed law enforcement official and a former employer.

13. The Board does not find Petitioner’s explanations credible. Moreover, Petitioner admitted to having made no attempt to contact either the South Carolina or North Carolina Boards of Pharmacy to resolve any possible confusion or misunderstanding that he may have had.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that Petitioner’s application to reciprocate his South Carolina license is DENIED.

This the 19th day of October, 2010.

NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF PHARMACY

By: Jack W. Campbell IV
   Executive Director
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on October 20, 2010, I caused a copy of this Order Denying Reciprocity to be served on Michael Den Blanton by certified mail, return receipt requested at the following address:

cc:  Blanton reciprocity file
     Lee Ann Bundrick, Executive Director, South Carolina Board of Pharmacy
     Kingstree Building
     110 Centerview Drive
     Suite 306
     Columbia, SC 29210

Jack W. Campbell IV
Executive Director