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**BEFORE THE MINNESOTA  
BOARD OF DENTISTRY**

In the Matter of  
Connie Sutton, LDA  
License No. A6962

**ORDER FOR  
TEMPORARY SUSPENSION**

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The Minnesota Board of Dentistry (“Board”) is authorized pursuant to Minnesota Statutes chapter 150A, and sections 214.10 and 214.103 (2014) to license, regulate, and discipline persons who apply for, petition, or hold licenses to practice licensed dental assisting in the State of Minnesota, and to take disciplinary action where appropriate. The Board is further authorized pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 214.077 to temporarily suspend a licensed dental assistant’s license, if the Board has probable cause to believe continued practice by the licensed dental assistant presents an imminent risk of harm.

1. The Board has received credible information that between November 12, 2014, and October 14, 2015, while working as a licensed dental assistant (“LDA”), Connie Sutton (“Respondent”) used the Drug Enforcement Agency (“DEA”) number of her former employer, a dentist licensed in Minnesota, to write prescriptions for narcotics for herself, family members, friends, and other individuals without the knowledge or consent of the employer dentist. In total, Respondent wrote thirty-four (34) prescriptions for Oxycodone/Acetaminophen, a schedule II controlled substance, totaling 865 tablets. Respondent filled the prescriptions that she wrote for herself and her family members. Respondent was terminated from the aforementioned job. Subsequently, Respondent took a position as a LDA at a different dental office. She was terminated from that position on February 15, 2015, because she presented to work on multiple occasions showing indicia of impairment and failed to report for her scheduled shifts.

Additionally, Respondent provided false information to the Minnesota Board of Dentistry in her September 3, 2014, licensed dental assistant license renewal.

2. After a preliminary inquiry, the Board finds there is probable cause that Respondent has violated Minnesota Statutes Section 150A.08, subdivision 1(1), (5), (6), (8), (13), and (14) and Minnesota Rules 3100.6200 (A), (H), and (I) and that Respondent's continued practice would present an imminent risk of harm.

3. Based on the above facts; the Board finds that a temporary suspension of Respondent's license is warranted pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 214.077.

Accordingly, the Board issues the following:

#### **ORDER**

1. Respondent's license to practice as a licensed dental assistant in the State of Minnesota is **TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED IMMEDIATELY** pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 214.077. **During the period of suspension, Respondent shall not in any manner practice as a licensed dental assistant in the State of Minnesota.**

2. The temporary suspension of Respondent's license shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until the Board issues a final order in this matter.

10. You may review the laws that apply to this process on the internet by going to [www.revisor.mn.gov](http://www.revisor.mn.gov). The laws that govern the Contested Case Proceeding are contained in Minnesota Statutes sections 14.57 to 14.62 and in Minnesota Rules 1400.5010 to 1400.8400. The laws regulating the profession of licensed dental assisting are contained in Minnesota Statutes chapter 150A. You may also find helpful information by going to the Office of Administrative Hearings' website at <http://mn.gov/oah/administrative-law/contestedcases>. If you have any other questions, you may contact the Complaint Committee's attorney.

Dated this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2016.

COMPLAINT COMMITTEE OF THE  
BOARD OF DENTISTRY

By: 

BRIDGETT ANDERSON  
Executive Director