

**BEFORE THE WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**  
**IN THE MATTER OF CRISTEL PERVOLA – LICENSE NO. 1297**

---

**ORDER**

---

On May 6, 2009, the West Virginia Board of Occupational Therapy (hereinafter “Board”), entered into a Consent Agreement with Christel Pervola, License No. 1297, placing her on probation for a period of five years, during which time her practice of occupational therapy in West Virginia would be subject to various conditions, in addition to all of the requirements and duties regularly required of licensees of the Board.

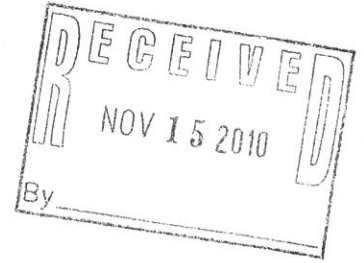
On March 5, 2012, the Board met to consider releasing licensee from the previously entered Consent Agreement and Order. After review and consideration of information provided by the Board investigator from a site visit in November 2011, and information and statements provided by the licensee’s current employer, the Board has agreed and voted to release licensee from the previously entered Consent Agreement and Order and to restore licensee to a full and unrestricted license, effective immediately.

ENTERED this 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2012.

WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY  
by: Kathy Quesenberry MSM, OTR/L  
Kathy Quesenberry, MSM, OTR/L  
President / Chairperson

BEFORE THE WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF  
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY,  
Complainant,



v.

CHRISTEL PERVOLA,  
Respondent.

---

**MODIFIED**  
CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

---

*Upon written request of Christel Pervola, Respondent, the West Virginia Board of Occupational Therapy, at its regular meeting on September 17, 2010, reviewed the conditions set forth in the original Consent Agreement and Order between the two parties as finalized May 6, 2009.*

*Having reviewed the conditions, the Board HEREBY adopts herein all terms of the original Consent Agreement and Order entered into on May 6, 2009, with modifications to only sections 2.b. and 2.c. of the Order as indicated below:*

ORDER

On the basis of the foregoing, the Board does hereby MODIFY the following sections and ORDER and DECREE that:

2. In addition to all of the requirements and duties regularly required of licensees of the Board, the Respondent, Christel Pervola, shall be subject to the following conditions during her probationary period:

a. At all times in which she is practicing occupational therapy, the Respondent will be under the direct supervision of a licensed occupational therapist for the first one (1) year of her probationary period. For purposes of this requirement, "direct supervision" has the same meaning as this term is defined in the Administrative Rules of the Board of Occupational Therapy, 13 CSR 1, §13-1-2.8, with the express provision that the Respondent shall be supervised in the same manner and to the same degree as a limited permit holder under that Rule. The supervising therapist or therapists must be approved by the Board and sign a supervisory statement to be filed with the Board. The supervising therapist(s) shall review all of the therapy records and documentation completed by the Respondent and, as

evidence of the review and collaboration, shall co-sign all of the Respondent's clinical documentation.

b. The Respondent herself may not supervise any other person in the provision of occupational therapy services for the first one (1) year of her probationary period.

This includes, but is not limited to, students, aides, assistants, limited permit holders, or other therapists.

c. During the five (5) year probationary period, the Respondent shall not work in areas where other therapists are not present. For purposes of this agreement, "other therapists" does not exclusively refer to occupational therapists. This includes, but is not limited to, home care services and early intervention.

d. The Respondent shall provide the Board with the name and address of her employer, as well as the name of her immediate supervisor. The Respondent has the duty to update this information, in writing, in the event of any change.

In recognition of this Modified Agreement and these terms, we hereby affix our signatures.

WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF  
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

By:

Kathy Quisenberry  
KATHY QUESENBERRY, CHAIRPERSON

Entered:

11/11/10

DATE

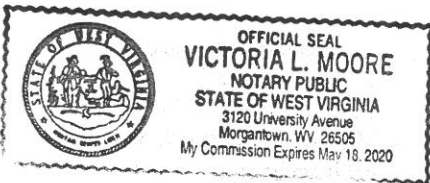
Reviewed and agreed to by:

Christel Pervola  
Christel Pervola, Respondent

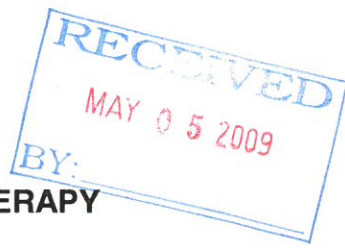
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 9 day of  
November, 2010.

My Commission expires:

May 15, 2020



Victoria L. Moore  
Notary Public



**BEFORE THE WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**

**WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF  
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY,  
Complainant,**

**v.**

**CHRISTEL PERVOLA,  
Respondent.**

---

**CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER**

---

After due investigation of two written complaints, the West Virginia Board of Occupational Therapy (hereinafter "Board") determined that there was probable cause to believe that Christel Pervola (hereinafter "Respondent") has exhibited unprofessional and unethical conduct in the practice of occupational therapy, in violation of the provisions of W. Va. Code § 30-28-1 *et seq.* and the Rules of the Board, 13 C.S.R. § 1 *et seq.* The Respondent was provided with written notice of the allegations against her pursuant to the rules of the Board and the laws of this State.

Now, in lieu of a hearing, the parties have reached an agreement for the resolution of this case matter and the parties agree to entry of the following Order in disposition of this case matter.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

The Board adopts the following findings in this matter:

1. That the Board is a State entity created by W. Va. Code § 30-28-1 *et seq.* and is empowered to regulate the practice of occupational therapy.
2. That the Respondent, Christel Pervola, is a licensee of the Board, possessing License No. 1297, and is therefore subject to the license requirements of said Board.
3. That the Board is empowered to investigate allegations of unprofessional or unethical conduct and to suspend, restrict, revoke or refuse to issue a license to practice occupational therapy under the authority granted to it by W. Va. Code § 30-28-1 *et seq.*
4. That Respondent was, at all times material hereto, employed as an occupational therapist with Monongalia County Health Department, Home Care Services and Interim Healthcare.
5. That in November 2008 the Board received two complaints against the Respondent, alleging that the Respondent had fraudulently billed for services not rendered to home care patients, forged signatures of the patients or patient's guardians, and falsified treatment notes for those fraudulently billed service dates.
6. That Respondent's employment with Monongalia County Health Department, Home Care Services and Interim Healthcare was terminated pending results of investigation.
7. That in February of 2008, the Board conducted an investigation, during which time the complainants, the Respondent and other relevant parties were interviewed and various documents relevant to the complaints were obtained.

8. That the Board's assigned complaint investigator did review all the information obtained during the investigation and based upon that review, did make a recommendation to the Board for a finding of probable cause.

9. That the Respondent's actions constitute multiple violations of W. Va. Code § 30-28-1 *et seq.* and 13 C.S.R. § 1 *et seq.* and may be grounds for disciplinary action by the Board.

10. That the Board, by vote at its March 13, 2009 meeting, made a finding of probable cause for violations of W. Va. Code § 30-28-1 *et seq.* and 13 C.S.R. 1-1 *et seq.*

11. That the Board, by letter dated March 23, 2009, issued a complaint to Respondent stating violations of W. Va. Code § 30-28-1 *et seq.* and 13 C.S.R. 1-1 *et seq.*

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. That the Board has jurisdiction to take disciplinary action against Respondent.

2. That based upon the allegations of unprofessional or unethical conduct set out above in the *Findings of Fact* section, the Board is authorized to suspend, revoke or otherwise restrict the license of the Respondent to practice occupational therapy, pursuant to W. Va. Code § 30-28-13(a)(1), (3), and (4).



**CONSENT OF LICENSEE**

I, Christel Pervola, by affixing my signature hereto, acknowledge the following:

1. That I have had the opportunity to consult with counsel and execute this Consent Agreement voluntarily, freely, without compulsion or duress and mindful that it has legal consequences.

2. That no person or entity has made any promise or given any inducement whatsoever to encourage me to make this settlement other than as set forth herein.

3. That I acknowledge that I am aware that I may pursue this matter through appropriate administrative and/or court proceedings, and I am aware of my legal rights regarding this matter, but intelligently, knowingly and voluntarily waive such rights.

4. That I waive any defenses including, but not limited to, laches, statute of limitations, and estoppel, that I may have otherwise claimed as a condition of this agreement.

5. That I admit that my actions were unprofessional and unethical and a violation of the statutory Act and Rules of the Board.

The Respondent, Christel Pervola, by affixing her signature hereon, agrees to the following:

**ORDER**

On the basis of the foregoing, the Board does hereby ORDER and DECREE that:

1. The Respondent may continue to practice occupational therapy in West Virginia on a probationary basis for a period of five (5) years, effective upon the signature date of this agreement hereto.

2. In addition to all of the requirements and duties regularly required of licensees of the Board, the Respondent, Christel Pervola, shall be subject to the following conditions during her probationary period:

a. At all times in which she is practicing occupational therapy, the Respondent will be under the direct supervision of a licensed occupational therapist for the first one (1) year of her probationary period. For purposes of this requirement, "direct supervision" has the same meaning as this term is defined in the Administrative Rules of the Board of Occupational Therapy, 13 CSR 1, §13-1-2.8, with the express provision that the Respondent shall be supervised in the same manner and to the same degree as a limited permit holder under that Rule. The supervising therapist or therapists must be approved by the Board and sign a supervisory statement to be filed with the Board. The supervising therapist(s) shall review all of the therapy records and documentation completed by the Respondent and, as evidence of the review and collaboration, shall co-sign all of the Respondent's clinical documentation.

b. The Respondent herself may not supervise any other person in the provision of occupational therapy services. This includes, but is not limited to, students, aides, assistants, limited permit holders, or other therapists.

c. During the five (5) year probationary period, the Respondent shall not work in areas where other therapists are not present. This includes, but is not limited to, home care services and early intervention.

d. The Respondent shall provide the Board with the name and address of her employer, as well as the name of her immediate supervisor. The Respondent has the duty to update this information, in writing, in the event of any change.

3. The Board will periodically review her compliance with these conditions. Members of the Board, or an investigator appointed by the Board, may periodically inquire with her employer and may investigate any and all aspects of her professional practice to evaluate her compliance with this Order and the Rules of the Board.

4. The Board retains the authority and discretion to review this decision and order at any time and, upon a determination of probable cause to believe that the Respondent has not complied with one or more of the terms stated herein, or that the Respondent has demonstrated other unprofessional conduct as defined by the Rules of the Board, the Board may suspend the Respondent's license without a hearing in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public. A hearing would be scheduled as soon as possible thereafter.

5. The Board is bound by agreement and by law to report the results of all disciplinary actions, including the instant matter, for posting in the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank.

6. That this document is a public record as defined in W. Va. Code § 29B-1-2(4).

7. This *Consent Agreement and Order* constitutes the entire agreement between the parties.

In recognition of this Agreement and these terms, we hereby affix our signatures.

WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF  
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

By: *Kathy Quesenberry*  
KATHY QUESENBERY, CHAIRPERSON

Entered: 5/6/09  
DATE

Reviewed and agreed to by:

*Christel Pervola*  
Christel Pervola, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 17 day of  
April, 2009.

My Commission expires: June 27, 2016

*Cynthia K. Holmes*  
Notary Public

