

**SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY GOVERNING BOARD  
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION  
ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS  
Philbrook Building, 121 South Fruit Street  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301**

**In The Matter Of:**

**Docket #03-2016**

**Jill I. Lorenz  
(Application for Licensure)**

**DECISION AND ORDER**

By the Board: Maureen Heckman, SLP, Presiding Officer, Deborah Snow-Major, SLP, Robyn Kingsley, SLP, and Cassandra Chapman, SLP

Also present: Tina M. Kelley, Administrator to the Board,

Appearances: None

On June 22, 2016, the New Hampshire Speech-Language Pathology Governing Board (“Board”) issued an Order on Application Denial to Jill I. Lorenz (“Ms. Lorenz” or “Applicant”) for initial licensure. Ms. Lorenz petitioned the Board for a hearing on June 13, 2016 and the Board issued a “Notice of Hearing, Order to Show Cause” on June 22, 2016015.

On August 4, 2016, the hearing was held in accordance with RSA 328-F: 23 and 328-F:24; Aph 200 and Spe 200. Ms. Lorenz appeared before the Board *pro se*.

**Background Information**

On October 1, 2014 Ms. Lorenz requested an application for provisional licensure.

Between October 1, 2014 and October 6, 2014 the Board’s staff sent Ms. Lorenz an application packet. Included in the application packet was the “Speech-Language Pathology Clinical Fellowship Report and Rating Form”. Stapled to the front of the form was an orange strip of paper stating “**PLEASE NOTE:** Complete 2 originals of this form. 1<sup>st</sup> form submit to the Office of Licensed Allied Health Professionals within 4 weeks of completion of your supervisory period. 2<sup>nd</sup> form submit to ASHA if you wish to obtain your CCC’s. See Spe 308.05(a) 2.”.

On October 27, 2014 the Board received a supervision form from Ms. Lorenz. The Supervision form was completed by Ms. Lorenz and Hollie Ketterer. Ms. Ketterer signed the form agreeing to be Ms. Lorenz's supervisor.

The Petitioner was granted a provisional license, number P-0611, on November 10, 2014. The provisional license was sent to Ms. Lorenz's supervisor, Hollie Ketterer, SLP at Rehab Care, 49 Lyme Road, Hanover, New Hampshire 03755.

On April 21, 2016 Ms. Lorenz submitted a letter explaining why the Report and Rating Form was not submitted within the required four weeks, a copy of her ASHA certification, and a copy of the Clinical Fellowship Report and Rating Form. In the letter Ms. Lorenz wrote after her signature "MS, CCC-SLP".

On April 21, 2016, Jennifer Hackett, Executive Secretary ("Ms. Hackett") sent Ms. Lorenz an e-mail informing her that she submitted a copy but was required to submit the original.

On April 26, 2016 Ms. Lorenz acknowledged the e-mail sent by Ms. Hackett. Ms. Lorenz stated that she would provide it right away but that it would look different from the one original provided because it has been edited at ASHA's request.

On April 29, 2016 Ms. Lorenz submitted an original of the Report and Rating Form. The Form indicated that Ms. Lorenz's supervisory period ended on August 8, 2015. It was determined that this was 38 weeks after the completion of her Clinical Fellowship.

An adjudicatory hearing commenced on August 4, 2016, the specific issues to be determined included:

- A. Whether or not and to what extent Ms. Lorenz failed to submit the "Speech-Language Pathology Clinical Fellowship (SLPCF) Report and Rating Form" within 4 weeks of the completion of the experience. Which if proven would be a violation of RSA 328-F:23, II (j), Spe 308.03(a)(2), and Spe 404.01(i).
- B. Whether or not and to what extent Ms. Lorenz used the credentials Speech-Language Pathologist and or SLP in conjunction with her name after her clinical fellowship year was completed on August 8, 2015. Which if proven would be a violation of RSA 326-F:8, RSA 328-F:23, II (j), Spe 404.01(i), Spe 306.01(d), and Principle of Ethics III, Rule A.

- C. Whether or not and to what extent Ms. Lorenz failed to read and understand the rules that apply to a person holding a provisional license Which if proven would be a violation of RSA 328-F:23, II (j), Spe 309.03(b) (2) and (3), Spe 404.01(i).
- C. Whether or not and to what extent Ms. Lorenz has not demonstrated to the Board “sufficient evidence of good professional character and reliability” as required by RSA 326-F:3, I(a).
- D. If any of the above allegations are proven, whether or not Ms. Lorenz should be granted a license to practice as a Speech-Language Pathologist in the State of New Hampshire and what, if any, conditions should be placed on that license.

At the hearing the Board reviewed numerous exhibits. The following exhibits included with the “Order on Application Denial” were entered into evidence:

**Board Exhibits:**

Exhibit #1 – SLP Clinical Fellowship Report and Rating Form

Exhibit #2 – State of NH Supervision Form

Exhibit #3 – Ms. Lorenz Provisional License

Exhibit #4 – A letter from Ms. Lorenz dated April 18, 2016 continuing an updated copy of Ms. Lorenz’s Clinical Fellowship Report and Rating Form

Exhibit #5 – An e-mail from Ms. Hackett to Ms. Lorenz dated April 21, 2016

Exhibit #6 – An e-mail from Ms. Lorenz to Ms. Hackett dated April 26, 2016

Exhibit #7 – A copy of Ms. Lorenz’s Clinical Fellowship Report and Rating Form

Ms. Lorenz presented her case to the Board and in doing so stated to the Board that she does not contest any of the allegations cited in the Order on Application Denial. She further stated to the Board that it was no her intent to mislead anyone when using the credentials “SLP” or “Speech-Language Pathologist”. She was having financial difficulties and that is what lead to her failure to submit her SLP Clinical Fellowship Report and Rating Form within the required 4 weeks.

**Applicable Laws:**

RSA 326-F:8:

- I. Individuals holding currently valid licenses issued under this chapter may use the title “speech-language pathologist” and write the designation “licensed speech-language pathologist” following his or her written name.

II. No person shall represent himself or herself or the services offered by using the letters "SLP" or the words "speech-language pathologist", "speech-language pathology", "speech pathologist", "speech pathology", "speech therapist", "speech therapy", "speech correctionist", "speech correction", "speech clinician", "language pathologist", "language pathology", "aphasiologist", "voice pathologist", "voice pathology", "language therapist", "language therapy", "communication disorders", or any similar words if the intent of such use is to imply that the person is licensed, unless licensed under this chapter.

III. Any person who states or implies by word or act that he or she is currently licensed to practice speech-language pathology at a time when she or he does not hold a currently valid license shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

RSA 328-F:23, II (j):

Misconduct sufficient to support disciplinary proceedings shall include:

Violation of any provision of this chapter, of any governing board's practice act or rule adopted pursuant to RSA 541-A, or of any state or federal law reasonably related to the licensee's authority to practice or ability to practice safely.

Spe 308.03 Eligibility of Provisional Licensees for Full Licensure.

(a) The board shall issue full initial licenses to provisional licensees if they have:

(1) Completed a post-graduate professional experience with the following characteristics:

a. A duration of:

1. At least 36 weeks if practicing speech-language pathology for 30 hours each week;
2. At least 48 weeks if practicing speech-language pathology for 25 to 29 hours each week;
3. At least 60 weeks if practicing speech-language pathology for 20 to 24 hours each week; or
4. At least 72 weeks if practicing speech-language pathology for 15 to 19 hours each week; and

b. Supervision of practice in accordance with Spe 309; and

(2) Documented completion of the post-graduate professional experience within 4 weeks of its completion by submitting an original of the report and rating form(s) utilized during the post-graduate professional experience.

(b) If the provisional licensee intends to receive his or her certificate of clinical competence following completion of the post-graduate professional experience, the provisional licensee shall submit to ASHA a second original of the completed report and rating form.

For all applicants, Spe 303.02(j) requires:

Also on part 2 of the form the applicant shall place his or her notarized signature, printed full name and the date of signing below the following preprinted statement:

"I acknowledge that knowingly making a false statement on this application form is a misdemeanor under RSA 641:2, I. I certify that the information I have provided on all parts of the application form and in the documents that I have personally submitted to support my application is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I also certify that I have read the statute and the rules of the Board and promise that, if I am licensed, I will abide by them."

Spe 309.03(b) (2) and (3):

- (2) Read and understand Spe 308 and Spe 309; and
- (3) Understand the use of the report and rating form.

Spe 404.01(i):

Violation of:

- (3) Any rule adopted by the board;

Spe 406.01(d):

Individuals holding a currently valid provisional license under these rules shall use "CFY/NH Provisional" following his or her written name."

*Principle of Ethics III, Rule A:*

Individuals shall not misrepresent their credentials, competence, education, training, experience, or scholarly or research contributions.

**Findings of Fact and Rulings of Law:**

RSA 326-F:3 Eligibility for Initial Licensure states in part "I. To be eligible for initial licensure as a speech-language pathologist an applicant shall: (a) Demonstrate sufficient evidence of good professional character and reliability to satisfy the board that the applicant shall faithfully and conscientiously avoid professional misconduct and adhere to this chapter, RSA 328-F and the board's rules." In considering whether or not an individual will conscientiously

avoid professional misconduct the Board reviews and takes into consideration whether or not an individual has violated not only this State's laws and rules but whether or not there have been violations of other States laws and rules. The Board does not rely solely on misconduct described in RSA 328-F:23, II as the basis for denying an individual a license to practice but does consider those violations a relevant basis when cited in conjunction with RSA 326-F:3, I.(a).

In light of the evidence and Ms. Lorenz's testimony the Board made the following findings of fact and rulings of law:

- By her own admission the petitioner failed to submit the "Speech-Language Pathology Clinical Fellowship (SLPCF) Report and Rating Form" within 4 weeks of the completion of the experience in violation of RSA 328-F:23, II (j), Spe 308.03(a)(2), and Spe 404.01(i).
- By her own admission the petitioner used the credentials Speech-Language Pathologist and or SLP in conjunction with her name after her clinical fellowship year was completed on August 8, 2015 in violation of RSA 326-F:8, RSA 328-F:23, II (j), Spe 404.01(i), Spe 306.01(d), and Principle of Ethics III, Rule A.
- Ms. Lorenz failed to read and understand the rules that apply to a person holding a provisional license in violation of RSA 328-F:23, II (j), Spe 309.03(b) (2) and (3), Spe 404.01(i).

Based upon the findings of fact and rulings of law the Board finds sufficient evidence that Ms. Lorenz was in violation of the laws and rules by failing to submit the Clinical Fellowship Report and Rating Form within 4 weeks, using "SLP" and "Speech-Language Pathologist" in conjunction with her name without holding the appropriate license, and failed to read and understand the rules that apply to a person holding a provisional license. After considering all the evidence and taking into account Ms. Lorenz's admission, explanation, and apology the Board rules as follows:

THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED, that Ms. Lorenz be issued a license to practice Speech-Language Pathology in the State of New Hampshire.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that Ms. Lorenz be fined \$110 to be paid within 30 days of the date this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that Ms. Lorenz shall read the RSA 326-F Speech Language Pathology Practice Act, the Speech-Language Pathology Administrative Rules, and the American Speech-Language Hearing Association Code of Ethics. Once the documents have been read submit a signed statement saying "I certify that I have read the statute and the rules of the Board and promise that, if I am licensed, I will abide by them." This statement is due in the Board's office within 30 days of the date of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that within fifteen (15) days of the effective date of this Decision and Order Ms. Lorenz shall furnish a copy of this Decision and Order to any current employer for whom she performs services as a Speech-Language Pathologist and to any agency or authority which licenses, certifies or credentials Speech-Language Pathologists, with which Ms. Lorenz is presently affiliated.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that Ms. Lorenz furnish a copy of this Decision and Order to any employer for whom she performs services as a Speech-Language Pathologist and/or agency, or authority with which Ms. Lorenz is affiliated which licenses, certifies or credentials Speech-Language Pathologists for one year from the effective date of this Decision and Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Ms. Lorenz's breach of any terms and conditions of this Decision and Order shall constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to RSA 328-F:23, II.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision and Order shall become a permanent part of Ms. Lorenz's file, which is maintained by the Board as a public document.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision and Order shall take effect as a final Order of the Board on the date it is signed by an authorized representative of the Board.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Date: September 22, 2016

  
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Tina M. Kelley, Administrator  
Authorized Representative of the  
Speech-Language Pathology Governing Board