

# OHIO STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

77 South High Street, Room 1702; Columbus, OH 43215-6126

-Equal Opportunity Employer and Service Provider-

FAX: 614/752-4836

TEL: 614/466-4143 E-MAIL: exec@bop.state.oh.us

TTY/TDD: Use the Ohio Relay Service: 1-800/750-0750 www.pharmacy.ohio.gov

#### SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

(Docket No. D-060310-063)

In The Matter Of:

# KAREN GAIL AMBERG HALL, R.Ph.

453 Wetmore Road Columbus, Ohio 43214

(R.Ph. No. 03-3-11810)

This Settlement Agreement is entered into by and between Karen Gail Amburg Hall, hereinafter referred to as Karen Hall, and the Ohio State Board of Pharmacy, a state agency charged with enforcing the Pharmacy Practice Act and Dangerous Drug Distribution Act, Chapter 4729. of the Ohio Revised Code.

Karen Hall voluntarily enters into this Agreement being fully informed of her rights afforded under Chapter 119. of the Ohio Revised Code, including the right to representation by counsel, the right to a formal adjudication hearing on the issues contained herein, and the right to appeal. Karen Hall acknowledges that by entering into this agreement she has waived her rights under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

Whereas, the Board is empowered by Section 4729.16 of the Ohio Revised Code to suspend, revoke, place on probation, refuse to grant or renew an identification card or enforce a monetary penalty on the license holder for violation of any of the enumerated grounds therein.

Whereas, Karen Hall is licensed to practice pharmacy in the State of Ohio.

Whereas, on or about March 10, 2006, pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Ohio Revised Code, Karen Hall was notified of the allegations or charges against her, her right to a hearing, her rights in such hearing, and her right to submit contentions in writing. Karen Hall requested a hearing; it was scheduled, continued, and then held on September 12, 2006, before the Ohio State Board of Pharmacy.

Karen Hall neither admits nor denies the allegations stated in the Notice of Opportunity for Hearing letter dated March 10, 2006; however, the Board has evidence sufficient to sustain the allegations and hereby adjudicates the same.

Wherefore, in consideration of the foregoing and mutual promises hereinafter set forth, and in lieu of pursuing the formal appeal under Chapter 119. of the Ohio Revised Code at this time, Karen Hall knowingly and voluntarily agrees with the State Board of Pharmacy to the following:

- (1) Ms. Hall's psychiatrist should submit his evaluation to the Board indicating his evaluation, treatment plan, and opinion as to Ms. Hall's fitness to practice pharmacy safely;
- (2) Ms. Hall's neurologist should submit his evaluation to the Board indicating his evaluation, treatment plan, and opinion as to Ms. Hall's fitness to practice pharmacy safely;
- (3) Once items (1) and (2) above have been presented to the Board, and if the opinions are satisfactory in that each has performed his evaluation, formulated a treatment plan, and has expressed his opinion that Ms. Hall is fit to practice pharmacy, the Board will re-issue Ms. Hall's license to practice pharmacy under the following terms:
- (4) Ms. Hall shall contact the Board prior to accepting any new position as a pharmacist;
- (5) Ms. Hall shall provide her employer(s) and her treating physicians with a copy of the consent agreement;
- (6) Each treating physician must agree to report to the Board if Ms. Hall fails to follow his treatment plan against the professional judgment of the physician;
- (7) Each physician must agree to report to the Board if it appears that Ms. Hall's condition has deteriorated to a point that it is unsafe for her to practice pharmacy.

Karen Hall acknowledges that she has had an opportunity to ask questions concerning the terms of this agreement and that all questions asked have been answered in a satisfactory manner. Any action initiated by the Board based on alleged violation of this Agreement shall comply with the Administrative Procedure Act, Chapter 119. of the Ohio Revised Code.

Karen Hall waives any and all claims or causes of action she may have against the State of Ohio or the Board, and members, officers, employees, and/or agents of either, arising out of matters which are the subject of this Agreement. Karen Hall, by and through her attorney, agrees to dismiss her appeal currently pending in the Franklin County Common Pleas Court and waives any further rights of appeal pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Ohio Revised Code.

In the event the Board, in its discretion, does not adopt this Agreement as its Adjudication, this settlement offer is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value and shall not be relied upon or introduced in any disciplinary action or appeal by either party. Karen Hall agrees that should the Board reject this Agreement and if this case proceeds to hearing, she will assert no claim that the Board was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this Agreement or of any information relating thereto.

This Settlement Agreement shall be considered a public record, as that term is used in Section 149.43 of the Ohio Revised Code, and shall become effective upon the date of the Board President's signature below.

	02/27/2007
Karen Gail Amburg Hall, R.Ph., Respondent/Appellant	Date of Signature
	02/27/2007
Elizabeth Y. Collis, Attorney for Respondent	Date of Signature
	03/05/2007
James E. Turner, President, Ohio State Board of Pharmacy	Date of Signature
	03/05/2007
Sally Ann Steuk, Ohio Assistant Attorney General	Date of Signature



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# **ORDER OF THE STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY**

(Docket No. D-060310-063)

In The Matter Of:

## KAREN GAIL AMBERG HALL, R.Ph.

453 Wetmore Road Columbus, Ohio 43214 (R.Ph. No. 03-3-11810)

## **INTRODUCTION**

THE MATTER OF KAREN GAIL AMBERG HALL CAME FOR HEARING ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2006, BEFORE THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE BOARD: JAMES E. TURNER, R.Ph. (presiding); GREGORY BRAYLOCK, R.Ph.; SUZANNE R. EASTMAN, R.Ph.; ELIZABETH I. GREGG, R.Ph.; NATHAN S. LIPSYC, R.Ph.; AND DOROTHY S. TEATER, PUBLIC MEMBER.

KAREN GAIL AMBERG HALL WAS NOT REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL. THE STATE OF OHIO WAS REPRESENTED BY SALLY ANN STEUK, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL.

#### SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE

#### State's Witness

1. Christopher K. Reed, Ohio State Board of Pharmacy

#### Respondent's Witness

1. Karen Hall, R.Ph., Respondent

#### State's Exhibits

1. Notice of Opportunity For Hearing letter [03-10-06]

#### 1A-1C. Procedurals

- 2. Copy of Renewal Application for Pharmacist License of Karen Gail Amberg Hall [07-22-05]
- 3. Columbus Airport Authority Incident Report [04-18-05]
- 4. Complaint, <u>State of Ohio vs. Karen Gail Amberg Hall</u>, Case No. 05-9125, Franklin County Municipal Court [04-19-05]; Sentence Entry and Conditions of Community Control/Probation [07-26-05]
- 5. Twelve-page letter from Karen Gail Amberg Hall [04-03-06]
- 6. Three-page facsimile letter, with attachments, from Karen Hall [05-02-06]
- 7. Two-page facsimile letter, with attachment, from Karen Hall [05-02-06]
- 8. Two-page facsimile letter from Karen Hall to the Ohio State Board of Pharmacy [09-02-06]
- 9. Two-page facsimile letter from Karen Hall to the Ohio State Board of Pharmacy [09-03-06]

### Respondent's Exhibits

- A. Thirteen-page letter from Karen Gail Amberg Hall to State Board of Pharmacy [03-10-06]
- B. Sealed Record
- C. Sealed Record
- D. Sealed Record
- E. Sealed Record
- F. Sealed Record
- G. Sealed Record
- H. Copy of Letter from Ed Salser [09-07-06]
- I. Sealed Record
- J. Letter from Social Security Administration to Karen Hall [05-08-03]
- K. Sealed Record

## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

After having heard the testimony, observed the demeanor of the witnesses, considered the evidence, and weighed the credibility of each, the State Board of Pharmacy finds the following to be fact:

- (1) Records of the State Board of Pharmacy indicate that Karen Gail Amberg Hall was originally licensed by the State of Ohio as a pharmacist on August 4, 1976, pursuant to examination, and is currently licensed to practice pharmacy in the State of Ohio.
- (2) Karen Gail Amberg Hall did, on or about July 22, 2005, knowingly make a false statement with purpose to secure the issuance of a license or registration, to wit: Karen Gail Amberg Hall indicated on her pharmacist license renewal application that she had not been charged with a crime when in fact Karen Gail Amberg Hall had been charged with Telecommunications Harassment in violation of Section 2917.21 of the Ohio Revised Code, a misdemeanor of the first degree. Karen Gail Amberg Hall pled guilty to the charge and was convicted just four days later, July 26, 2005. Franklin County Municipal Court, Case No. 05CRB009125. Such conduct is in violation of Section 2921.13 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- Karen Gail Amberg Hall is impaired physically or mentally to such a degree as to render her unfit to practice pharmacy within the meaning of Section 4729.16 (A)(3) of the Ohio Revised Code, to wit: it is reported that Karen Gail Amberg Hall has been diagnosed as paranoid schizophrenic; Karen Gail Amberg Hall was convicted of Telecommunications Harassment for having telephoned thirteen threatening phone calls within an hour to the Federal Aviation Administration's control tower at the Columbus airport, claiming to own the property where the airport is located, and threatening the lives of the personnel unless they "stopped interfering with [her] phone service." Additionally, Karen Gail Amberg Hall told others that she is the daughter of Jim Henson (creator of "The Muppets"), and that Karen Gail Amberg Hall's brother and sister had murdered him. Karen Gail Amberg Hall told Board agents that people keep breaking into her home to "plant" syringes there. During the interview with Board agents, Karen Gail Amberg Hall was unable to keep focused on any one topic, and when questioned about her continuing education requirements, Karen Gail Amberg Hall replied by asking the agents to leave her home.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- (2) The State Board of Pharmacy concludes that paragraph (2) of the Findings of Fact constitutes being guilty of dishonesty in the practice of pharmacy as provided in Division (A)(2) of Section 4729.16 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (3) The State Board of Pharmacy concludes that paragraph (3) of the Findings of Fact constitutes being impaired physically or mentally to such a degree as to render her unfit to practice pharmacy as provided in Division (A)(3) of Section 4729.16 of the Ohio Revised Code.

#### **DECISION OF THE BOARD**

Pursuant to Section 4729.16 of the Ohio Revised Code, and after consideration of the record as a whole, the State Board of Pharmacy hereby suspends indefinitely the pharmacist identification card, No. 03-3-11810, held by Karen Gail Amberg Hall and such suspension is effective as of the date of the mailing of this Order.

- (A) Karen Gail Amberg Hall, pursuant to Rule 4729-9-01(F) of the Ohio Administrative Code, may not be employed by or work in a facility licensed by the State Board of Pharmacy to possess or distribute dangerous drugs during such period of suspension.
- (B) Karen Gail Amberg Hall, pursuant to Section 4729.16(B) of the Ohio Revised Code, must return her identification card and license (wall certificate) to the office of the State Board of Pharmacy within ten days after receipt of this Order unless the Board office is already in possession of both. The identification card and wall certificate should be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested.

Further, the Board will only consider reinstatement of the license to practice pharmacy in Ohio if the following conditions have been met:

- (A) Karen Gail Amberg Hall must obtain an examination from both a psychiatrist and a neurologist, each licensed to practice in Ohio, regarding Ms. Hall's fitness to practice pharmacy.
- (B) The psychiatrist and neurologist must provide the examination results directly to the Board office.
- (C) Upon such time as the Board may consider reinstatement, Karen Gail Amberg Hall will be afforded a Chapter 119. hearing. At such time, the Board may consider reinstatement with or without restrictions and/or conditions as the Board deems appropriate under the circumstances.

THIS ORDER WAS APPROVED BY A VOTE OF THE STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY (Aye-5/Nay-0). MOTION CARRIED.

SO ORDERED.

It is hereby certified by this Board that the above language is a copy of the Order entered upon its journal in this case.

Section 119.12 of the Ohio Revised Code authorizes an appeal from this Order. An order that denied admission to an examination, or denied the issuance or renewal of a license or registration, or revoked or suspended a license, may be appealed to the court of common pleas in the Ohio county of your place of business or in your Ohio county of residence. Any other order may be appealed to the Court of Common Pleas of Franklin County, Ohio.

Such an appeal, setting forth the order appealed from and the grounds of the appeal, must be commenced by the <u>filing of a Notice of Appeal with both</u> the State Board of Pharmacy and the appropriate court <u>within fifteen (15) days after the mailing of this Order</u> and in accordance with the requirements of Section 119.12 of the Ohio Revised Code.

	BY ORDER OF THE STATE	BOARD OF PHARMACY
	ORDER MAILED & EFFECTIVE: _	OCTOBER 12, 2006
CERTIFIED MAIL/Return Receipt 7004 2510 0006 9804 6282		
	By:	
	William T. Winsley, M.S.,	R.Ph., Executive Director