

**CONSENT AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
SHEILA C. PUENTE
AND
OHIO BOARD OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY**

This CONSENT AGREEMENT is entered into by and between Sheila C. Puente (hereinafter "Ms. Puente"), and the OHIO BOARD OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY (hereinafter "Board"), the state agency charged with enforcing Chapter 4753 of the Ohio Revised Code and all rules promulgated thereunder.

Ms. Puente voluntarily enters into This CONSENT AGREEMENT being fully informed of her rights under Chapter 119 of the Ohio Revised Code, including the right to representation by counsel and the right to a formal adjudication hearing on the issues which are the subject of This CONSENT AGREEMENT.

This CONSENT AGREEMENT contains the entire agreement between the parties, There being no other agreement of any kind, verbal or otherwise, which varies the terms of This CONSENT AGREEMENT.

This CONSENT AGREEMENT is entered into on the basis of the following STIPULATIONS, ADMISSIONS AND UNDERSTANDINGS:

1. The Board is empowered by Chapter 4753 of the Ohio Revised Code and the rules promulgated thereunder to discipline a Speech-Language Pathologist or Audiologist for violations of that chapter and rules.
2. The Board enters into This CONSENT AGREEMENT in lieu of further formal proceedings. The Board expressly reserves the right to institute additional formal proceedings based upon any Other violations of Chapter 4753 of the Ohio Revised Code and all rules promulgated thereunder.
3. Ms. Puente admits the following events:
 - a) She submitted, under signature dated May 8, 2006, an application for licensure in Audiology by the Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.
 - b) She answered "Yes" to question number 15B on the licensure application, "Have you ever been convicted of a felony?"
 - c) She entered a plea of guilty to possession of heroin; violation of 2925.11(A) (C) (6) (A), F-5, on June 16, 2003.
 - d) She was restored to all rights of citizenship that my have been deprived by reason of conviction, under section 29.61.01, of the Ohio Revised Code, on February 9, 2006.

4. Ohio Revised Code Section 4753.10(N) authorizes the Board to reprimand, place on Probation, suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue or renew a license if the holder has been convicted of or pled guilty or nolo contendere to a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude.
5. Ms. Puente wishes to settle this matter in lieu of a hearing pursuant to Ohio Revised Code, Chapter 119.

Wherefore, in consideration of the foregoing and mutual promises hereinafter set forth, and in lieu of any further formal proceeding at this time, Ms. Puente knowingly and voluntarily agrees with the Board to the following terms and conditions:

- A. The Board shall issue Ms. Puente an Audiology license under the following probationary conditions, which probationary conditions shall be in effect for twenty-four (24) months from the effective date of this agreement.
 - 1) She will henceforth comply with Chapter 4753 of the Ohio Revised Code and all other federal and state statutes and rules governing the practice of Audiology in the state of Ohio.
 - 2) Upon the Board's request she will provide drug screen results, with the understanding that any screen result that is "positive" for any illegal chemical substance shall constitute a breach of This CONSENT AGREEMENT. She will bear the costs of any such drug screens. Drug screening tests shall occur within twenty-four (24) hours of the Board's request.
 - 3) She will submit results of a current Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification (BCI) background check, undertaken at her own expense, thirty (30) days prior to the end of the probationary period. It is clearly understood that any offenses on the BCI report submitted to The State of Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology in addition to those in paragraph 3 (c) herein shall constitute a breach of this CONSENT AGREEMENT.
- B. If, in the discretion of the Board Ms. Puente appears to have breached any terms or conditions of this CONSENT AGREEMENT, the Board reserves the right to institute formal disciplinary proceedings against her. Any action initiated by the Board based on an alleged violation of this CONSENT AGREEMENT shall comply with the Administrative Procedures Act, Chapter 119 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- C. In exchange for the agreements of Ms. Puente set forth in this CONSENT AGREEMENT, the BOARD agrees not to proceed further with any disciplinary action against Ms. Puente for the matters enumerated under STIPULATIONS, ADMISSIONS AND UNDERSTANDINGS.

- D. This CONSENT AGREEMENT shall not in any way or manner limit or affect the authority of the BOARD to proceed against Ms. Puente by initiating a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing or by other appropriate means on the basis of any act, conduct, or admission of Ms. Puente justifying disciplinary action, which occurred before or after the date of this CONSENT AGREEMENT and not directly related to the specific facts and circumstances hereinabove set forth as the STIPULATIONS, ADMISSIONS AND UNDERSTANDINGS.
- E. By her signature on this agreement, Ms. Puente agrees that in the event the BOARD, in its discretion, does not approve this CONSENT AGREEMENT, 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.
- F. Ms. Puente agrees that should the BOARD reject this CONSENT 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 CONSENT AGREEMENT or of any information relating thereto.
- G. Ms. Puente waives any and all claims or causes of action she may have against the State of Ohio, the BOARD, and members, officers, employees and/or agents of either, arising out of matters which are the subject of this CONSENT AGREEMENT.
- H. Ms. Puente hereby releases the Board, its members, officers, employees, representatives and/or agents jointly and severally from any and all liability arising from the matters which are the subject of this CONSENT AGREEMENT.
- I. Ms. Puente waives all Ms. Puente rights under Chapter 119 of the Ohio Revised Code, as they relate to matters which are the subject of this CONSENT AGREEMENT.
- J. Ms. Puente agrees that any breach of this CONSENT AGREEMENT shall be deemed to be a violation of a lawful order given by the Board, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 4753.10(M).
- K. This CONSENT AGREEMENT shall be reflected in the Minutes of a regularly scheduled BOARD Meeting, and as a Formal Action recorded on the license history of Ms. Puente, License #SP-A.00675, originally issued on April 8, 1988.
- L. This CONSENT AGREEMENT shall be considered a public record as that term is used in Section 149.43 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- M. For purposes of this CONSENT AGREEMENT, formal notification consists of written notice to the following: (1) Ohio licensees receiving any newsletter issued by the BOARD; (2) individuals/organizations who have requested formal notification of BOARD actions; and (3) the Healthcare Integrity Protection Data Bank (HIPDB), and/or any reporting required by the federal legislation creating HIPDB or any similar state or federal legislation. Further, Ms. Puente agrees to cooperate with the BOARD in providing any information required for the BOARD to complete such a mandated report within the required time period(s).

- N. Ms. Puente agrees that the BOARD may release her social security number to organizations that are legally required to request it for tracking or monitoring purposes. Ms. Puente acknowledges that by signing this CONSENT AGREEMENT she knowingly and voluntarily waives any expectation of privacy or constitutional privacy interests that she may have in maintaining the confidentiality of her social security number as regards such entities. Ms. Puente understands and does not contest that the BOARD is required to collect and report her social security number pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Section 1320a-7e(b), 5 U.S.C. Section 552a, and 45 C.F.R. pt 61 for compliance with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank (HIPDB).
- O. This CONSENT AGREEMENT is not an adjudication order within the meaning of Section 119.01(D) of the Ohio Revised Code.
- P. If Ms. Puente, violates the terms and conditions of this CONSENT AGREEMENT in any respect, the BOARD, after giving notice and the opportunity to be heard, may institute whatever disciplinary action it deems appropriate as provided by Chapter 4753 of the Ohio Revised Code. Any administrative action initiated by the BOARD based on an alleged, found or admitted violation of this CONSENT AGREEMENT shall comply with the Administrative Procedures Act, Chapter 119 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- Q. Upon consent of Ms. Puente and the BOARD, the terms and conditions of this CONSENT AGREEMENT may be modified or terminated in writing.
- R. This CONSENT AGREEMENT shall take effect upon the last date of signature by the parties and their representatives as indicated below.



 Sheila C. Puente

 Patrick N. Mangino, Au.D., Chair
 Ohio Board of Speech-Language
 Pathology and Audiology

Date: Aug. 4th, 2006

Date: _____

I choose no representative

 Attorney

 Dominic Chieffo
 Assistant Attorney General

Date: 8-4-2006

Date: _____

- N. Ms. Puente agrees that the BOARD may release her social security number to organizations that are legally required to request it for tracking or monitoring purposes. Ms. Puente acknowledges that by signing this CONSENT AGREEMENT she knowingly and voluntarily waives any expectation of privacy or constitutional privacy interests that she may have in maintaining the confidentiality of her social security number as regards such entities. Ms. Puente understands and does not contest that the BOARD is required to collect and report her social security number pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Section 1320a-7e(b), 5 U.S.C. Section 552a, and 45 C.F.R. pt 61 for compliance with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank (HIPDB).
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Sheila C. Puente



Patrick N. Mangino, Au.D., Chair
Ohio Board of Speech-Language
Pathology and Audiology

Date: _____

Date: 8/9/06

Attorney

Dominic Chieffo
Assistant Attorney General

Date: _____

Date: _____