

**SBDE NOS. 2015-01898, 2016-00468, 2016-00651**

**IN THE MATTER OF** § **BEFORE THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
§  
**ROBERT S. KENT, DDS** § **OF THE TEXAS STATE BOARD OF**  
§  
**TEXAS DENTAL LICENSE 10420** § **DENTAL EXAMINERS**

**ORDER OF TEMPORARY SUSPENSION**

On the 25<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016, an Executive Committee of the State Board of Dental Examiners (Executive Committee) met in an emergency meeting to hear evidence and information in the above-styled case pursuant to section 263.004 of the Texas Occupations Code.

The Executive Committee heard evidence and information that the continued practice of dentistry by Robert S. Kent, D.D.S., License No. 10420, would constitute a clear, imminent or continuing threat to a person's physical health or well-being.

The Executive Committee finds, based on the evidence and information presented and the factual and legal bases stated in the Petition for Temporary Suspension attached and incorporated herein, that the continued practice of dentistry by Robert S. Kent, D.D.S., would constitute a clear, imminent or continuing threat to a person's physical health and well-being.

IT IS, THEREFORE ORDERED that the license issued to Robert S. Kent, D.D.S., is hereby temporarily suspended pursuant to section 263.004 of the Texas Occupations Code. This Order is final and effective as of the date of signing.

This matter shall be set for a hearing before the State Office of Administrative Hearings not later than the 30<sup>th</sup> day after the date the license is suspended by the Order. At that time, the State Board of Dental Examiners will present evidence to show that the license of Robert S. Kent, D.D.S. should remain suspended.

STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

SIGNED this 25<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016.



Rudy G. Ramos, Jr., D.D.S.  
Presiding Officer  
Texas State Board of Dental Examiners

**SBDE NO. 2015-01898**

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<b>ROBERT S. KENT, D.D.S.</b>	<b>§</b>	<b>OF THE TEXAS STATE BOARD OF</b>
	<b>§</b>	
<b>TEXAS DENTAL LICENSE NO. 10420</b>	<b>§</b>	<b>DENTAL EXAMINERS</b>
	<b>§</b>	

**PETITION FOR TEMPORARY SUSPENSION**

Now comes the Staff of the State Board of Dental Examiners (SBDE) and files this Petition for Temporary Suspension (Petition) against Robert S. Kent, DDS (Respondent), Texas Dental License No. 10420, based on alleged violations of the Dental Practice Act (the Act), Tex. Occ. Code §§ 251.001 *et seq.* and SBDE Rules, 22 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 101.1 *et seq.*

In support of this Petition and based upon reasonable information and belief, Staff states the following:

**JURISDICTION**

1. The SBDE has authority and jurisdiction over Respondent's dental license pursuant to Tex. Occ. Code §§ 251.001 *et seq.* and 22 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 101.1 *et seq.*
2. Respondent's dental license was in full force and effect at all dates and times material and relevant to this Petition.
3. Section 263.004 of the Act requires the SBDE or an executive committee of the SBDE to temporarily suspend a person's license if it determines that the continued practice of dentistry by the person would constitute a clear, imminent, or continuing threat to the person or another person's physical health or well-being.

## FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

SBDE Staff has received information and based on that information believes that Respondent has engaged in conduct in violation of the Act and SBDE Rules. SBDE Staff further believes that this conduct shows that this petition and the relief requested are necessary to protect the health and public interest of the citizens of the State of Texas. Based on such information and belief, SBDE Staff alleges the following:

1. Respondent is addicted to or habitually intemperate in the use of alcoholic beverages or drugs and is physically or mentally incapable of practicing in a manner that is safe for the person's dental patients.
2. Specifically, on or about October 29, 2015, Board Staff referred Respondent to Professional Recovery Network (PRN), a peer assistance program subject to Chapter 467 of the Texas Health and Safety Code, for evaluation. On or about December 15, 2015, Respondent submitted to a hair test and tested positive for cocaine and Tramadol, a schedule IV controlled substance.
3. On or about January 4, 2016, Respondent entered a PRN approved 96-hour inpatient program. Respondent submitted to another hair test on that date and tested positive for cocaine and Tramadol, a schedule IV controlled substance. An evaluator diagnosed Respondent with severe cocaine use disorder and a history of severe opiate use disorder with a recent relapse on cocaine, alcohol, Tramadol, and benzodiazepines. The evaluator also expressed concern over Respondent's numerous health problems, including issues negatively affecting his vision.
4. The evaluator concluded that Respondent is unfit to practice dentistry with skill and safety until his health is properly addressed and stabilized, he completes a long term residential treatment program for chemical dependency, and agrees to sign a minimum five-year monitoring contract with PRN. To this date, Respondent has not complied with the evaluator's recommendations.

## LEGAL AUTHORITY

1. The conduct described above constitutes a violation of Tex. Occ. Code § 263.002(a)(3), (7), (11); and 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 108.9(4)(B), (7), (11).
2. Section 263.004 of the Act authorizes the SBDE to temporarily suspend a person's license.

## PRAYER

Staff requests that the Executive Committee of the SBDE determine that Respondent has engaged in conduct that shows that the continued practice of dentistry by Respondent would constitute a clear, imminent, or continuing threat to a person's health or well-being. Staff further requests that the Executive Committee enter an *Order of Temporary Suspension* suspending Texas Dental License No. 10420, pursuant to Section 263.004 of the Texas Occupations Code.

Filed this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

TEXAS STATE BOARD OF  
DENTAL EXAMINERS



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