



BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Matthew G. Bevin
Governor

312 Whittington Parkway, Suite 101
Louisville, Kentucky 40222
Phone: (502) 429-7280
Fax: (502) 429-7282
<http://dentistry.ky.gov>

William L. Brown
Interim Executive Director

February 20, 2017

Dr. Christopher Steward
212 Broadway St.
Cave City, KY. 42127

**Re: Order and Notice of Immediate, Temporary Suspension of
Kentucky License to Practice Dentistry**

Dear Dr. Steward:

The Kentucky Board of Dentistry recently considered information within its possession through its Law Enforcement Committee regarding your competency to practice dentistry under the Kentucky Dental Practices Act.

The Law Enforcement Committee, by and through its statutory authority, has made the following preliminary findings of fact, which have been supplemented with additional investigative information and documentation:

- 1) In the matter of USA v. Christopher Steward, USDC Western District of Kentucky, Bowling Green Division, Criminal Action No.: 1:16-CR-00014-GNS, you were charged with engaging in criminal activity principally involving the improper writing of prescriptions for controlled substances which were filled by third parties and returned to you [Counts I – VI], and health care fraud [Count VII]. You initially plead guilty to such charges but later withdrew such plea asserting that you lack competency to stand trial and requesting a psychiatric evaluation to determine your competency which remains pending;
- 2) In your motion filed by counsel for Psychiatric Evaluation it is stated "There is unquestionably reasonable cause to believe Mr. Steward is suffering from multiple

- illnesses. He has been diagnosed by multiple doctors. This Court should, therefore, order a hearing to determine Defendant's competence, or lack thereof, to stand trial."
- 3) Based upon your claim of incompetency to stand trial, the LEC finds that you constitute an immediate danger to the health, welfare, and safety of your patients and the general public in violation of KRS 313, authorizing the Board, by and through the LEC to immediately suspend your license as authorized by KRS 313.085, KRS 313.090, KRS 313.100 and KRS 313.130; and
 - 4) Pursuant to KRS 313.085 and KRS 313.130, the Law Enforcement Committee of the Kentucky Board of Dentistry (hereinafter the "LEC"), by majority vote, has the authority to issue an emergency order for the immediate temporary suspension of your license against disciplinary action or an investigation is pending if the order is necessary to protect the public;

With the above in mind, the LEC made the following conclusions of law by invoking KRS 131.085.

With due regard for the totality of the circumstances, the Board, by and through a majority vote of the LEC, hereby orders that your license to practice dentistry in Kentucky be immediately and temporarily suspended for the reasons set forth above as necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public for alleged violations of KRS 313.080(2)(a), (c), (d), and (e) and KRS 313.130 pending completion of a psychiatric evaluation establishing your competency to practice dentistry.

These violations involved your claim of incompetency to stand trial on the above-referenced charges.

This Immediate, Temporary Suspension shall become effective upon service by personal delivery or by mail to your last known address on record with the Board, but not later than the time of personal service to you of this letter. You may not practice dentistry as that term is defined in KRS 313.010(11) effective upon delivery of this Notice of Immediate Temporary Suspension, unless you hold a current license in good standing issued by the Board.

Since you are immediately, temporarily suspended, you shall make appropriate professional arrangements to refer your dental patients to provide a referral, by placing an appropriate written notice in your dental office, if any, or window visible to the public, and by staffing your dental office, if any, for a reasonable time starting immediately, so that an office staff person is available to make continued referrals in person.

You may appeal this action of the Board under KRS 313.085, or as otherwise allowed, by filing a written request with the Board within thirty (30) days after receipt of this Order, at the address on this letterhead, by notifying the Board through its staff that you desire a due process hearing, which will be conducted under KRS 13B.125. A request for a hearing does not stay the effectiveness of the Order. If a hearing is requested, then the only issue in such a hearing under KRS 13V.125 is whether "there is substantial evidence of a violation of law which constitutes an immediate danger to the public health, safety, or welfare."

The Board requires that you review this Order, sign and date below, and provide a copy to the representative of the Board, or mail/fax a copy to the Board at the address on this letterhead.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Kentucky Board of Dentistry.

Sincerely,



Dr. Jason Ford

Chair

Law Enforcement Committee
Kentucky Board of Dentistry

I hereby acknowledge receipt of a copy of the above document Order and Notice of Immediate, Temporary, Suspension of Kentucky License and will abide by its terms until further order of the Board.

DR. CHRISTOPHER STEWARD

Date: _____