

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF PHARMACY

In Re:

WILLIAM JEREMY SPRINGTHORPE)	
(Registration No. 20828))	ORDER REINSTATING
)	REGISTRATION WITH
)	CONDITIONS

THIS MATTER was heard on January 20, 2015, by the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy (“Board”) located at 6015 Farrington Road, Suite 201, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, upon the request of William Jeremy Springthorpe (“Petitioner”) for reinstatement of his registration to practice as a pharmacy technician. Board members McLaughlin, Chesson, Day, and Mixon heard this matter. After hearing the testimony of witnesses, adjudging the credibility of the witnesses, and receiving evidence, the Board makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Petitioner formerly held North Carolina registration to practice as a pharmacy technician number 20828.
2. On September 4, 2014, Petitioner voluntary surrendered his technician registration.
3. In August 2014, Petitioner was discovered diverting controlled substances from one of his then-employers, Kroger Pharmacy in Apex, NC. Petitioner subsequently admitted to diverting small quantities of hydrocodone-containing products to self-medicate back pain. Evidence establishes that Petitioner diverted several hundred dosage units of hydrocodone-containing products over an eight-month period, from January 2014 to August 2014.

4. Petitioner was also employed as a pharmacy technician at UNC Health Care in Chapel Hill, NC at the time of diversion. Petitioner denied any diversion from UNC Health Care, and there is no evidence that he did divert controlled substances from UNC Health Care.
5. After surrendering his registration, Petitioner contacted the North Carolina Pharmacist Recovery Network (“NCPRN”). As NCPRN’s direction Petition was evaluated by both an addictionologist and a psychologist.
6. Both evaluations found that Petitioner met the criteria for a mild opioid use disorder that was in remission. Both evaluations concluded that Petitioner’s misuse of opioids was not a component of an ongoing substance use disorder. The evaluations concluded that he had no cognitive, affective, or behavioral incapacity that would prevent him from practicing as a pharmacy technician in a safe manner.
7. Petitioner entered into a one-year treatment and monitoring contract with NCPRN in November 2014. As part of that agreement, Petitioner has undergone random urine drug screenings (all negative for prohibited substance use) and treatment for his chronic back pain from a primary care physician (which has produced significant improvement).
8. NCPRN executive director Valanda Nelson testified that NCPRN supports Petitioner’s return to practice as a pharmacy technician.
9. As a result of his diversion, Petitioner was charged with one count of felony theft by employee. In September 2014, Petitioner entered into a deferred prosecution agreement/felony diversion program with the Wake County District Court. If

Petitioner complies with the terms of the deferred prosecution agreement, which include community service and restitution, the felony charge will be dismissed by the State of North Carolina. To date, Petitioner has made substantial progress on his community service requirement as well as made monthly restitution payments as required in the agreement. Petitioner must return to the Wake County District Court for review of compliance on March 9, 2015 and September 9, 2015.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Board, in its discretion, concludes that Petitioner can safely resume the practice as pharmacy technician under the conditions stated below.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Petitioner's pharmacy technician registration be **REINSTATED, SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:**

1. Petitioner shall complete an Application to Reinstate a Lapsed or Inactive Registration and pay the appropriate fee.
2. Petitioner shall successfully complete the terms of his NCPRN treatment and monitoring agreement.
3. Petitioner shall successfully complete the terms of his deferred prosecution agreement/felony diversion program. Failure to complete the terms of the agreement shall result in Petitioner's technician registration being revoked.
4. Petitioner shall violate no laws governing the practice of pharmacy or the distribution of drugs.
5. Petitioner shall violate no rules or regulations of the Board.

7. If Petitioner fails to comply with any term or condition of this Order, he shall be subject to additional disciplinary action by the Board.

This is the 20th day of January, 2015.

NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF PHARMACY

By:  _____
Jack W. Campbell IV
Executive Director

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on January __, 2015, I caused a copy of this Order Reinstating Registration With Conditions to be served on Petitioner by registered mail, return-receipt requested:

[REDACTED]



Jack W. Campbell IV
Executive Director

cc: Springthorpe Registration File
Valanda Nelson, North Carolina Pharmacist Recovery Network
1011 Pemberton Hill Road
Suite 202
Apex, NC 27502-4266