

# HEALTH OCCUPATIONS PROGRAM HEALTH REGULATION DIVISION

## A Determination in the Matter of Alex Curtis Stinnett Licensed Body Art Technician 312182

#### **Authority:**

- 1. The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has authority to discipline body art technicians for violations of law under Minnesota Statute, section 146B.08, subdivision 3.
- 1. Pursuant to Minnesota Statute, section 146B.08, subdivision 4, the types of discipline MDH may impose include refusal to grant a license, suspension of a license, or any reasonable lesser action.
- 2. Pursuant to Minnesota Statute, section 146B.08, subdivision 4(5), MDH may also impose, for each violation, a civil penalty not exceeding \$10,000 that deprives the licensee of any economic advantage gained by the violation and reimburses MDH for costs of the investigation.
- 3. Pursuant to Minnesota Statute, section 146B.08, subdivision 3(1), a technician may be disciplined on proof that he or she intentionally submitted false or misleading information to the commissioner.
- 4. Pursuant to Minnesota Statute, section 146B.08, subdivision 3(2), a technician may be disciplined on proof that he or she failed, within 30 days, to provide information in response to a written request by the commissioner.
- 5. Pursuant to Minnesota Statute, section 146B.08, subdivision 3(5), a technician may be disciplined on proof that he or she aided or abetted another person in violating any provision of this chapter.
- 6. Pursuant to Minnesota Statute, section 146B.08, subdivision 3(7), a technician may be disciplined for not cooperating with the commissioner in an investigation conducted according to subdivision 1.
- 7. Pursuant to Minnesota Statute, section 13.41, disciplinary actions are public data.

#### **Findings of Fact:**

- Alex Curtis Stinnett (hereinafter "Technician") was issued temporary Minnesota Body Art
  Technician-Tattoo license 312182 on September 22, 2017. Technician obtained her full license on
  April 2, 2018. Technician's temporary application listed her supervisor as Minnesota Body Art
  Technician, Shawn Phelps, owner and operator of three tattoo establishments in Minneapolis
  (hereinafter "Operator") including Brass Knuckle Tattoo and High Brow Studio. Technician currently
  works as a body art technician at Schmitty's Tattoo LLC.
- 2. From September 22, 2017, until recently, Technician was working at High Brow Studio701 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 207, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- 3. On June 22, 2018, MDH sent Technician a letter regarding the supervision she received and how it was conducted. Technician failed to respond.
- 4. On November 6, 2018, MDH sent Technician a second letter regarding the aforementioned

investigation. Technician failed to respond.

5. Operator provided documentation implicating Technician in providing false information to MDH in order to obtain her full body art technician license.

#### Conclusion:

Technician violated Minnesota Statute, section 146B.08, subdivisions 3(2) and 3(7) when she did not respond to a written request for information regarding an investigation being conducted by MDH. Further, she violated section 146B.08, subdivision 3(1), when she intentionally submitted false information to the commissioner in her application for the full body art technician license.

### **Determination:**

1. Technician's Minnesota body art technician license is hereby suspended. The suspension of Technician's license will be lifted upon receipt of Technician's response to allegations of unsupervised practice at High Brow Studio. The suspension is effective on the date this determination is issued. Technician may request to have her license reinstated if she responds to the Department's request for information. To do so, Technician must submit a written response to:

Director of the Health Occupations Program Minnesota Department of Health PO Box 64882 Saint Paul, MN 55164-0882

- 2. Technician is assessed a civil penalty in the amount of \$200, which reimburses MDH for costs of the investigation and proceedings resulting in disciplinary action.
  - a. Technician will make payment by check to "State of Minnesota, Treasure," and mailed to Health Occupations Program, PO Box 64882, Saint Paul, MN 55164-0882. Payment is due by the last day of each month; however, technician may prepay at any time.
  - b. The penalty may be referred to the Minnesota Department of Revenue, or any other source for collection, if Technician misses a payment by 14 calendar days after the established deadline
- 3. Technician's ability to supervise temporary technicians is prohibited for a period of two years from the effective date of this Determination.
  - a. Technician may request to have the prohibition removed so she can supervise temporary technicians two years after the date this Determination is effective. To do so, Technician must submit a written response for the removal to:

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