

**SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY GOVERNING BOARD  
OFFICE OF LICENSED ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS  
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**In The Matter Of:**

**Docket #09-2014**

**Corrian E. Farnsworth, SLP**  
**(Adjudicatory/Disciplinary Proceeding)**

**DECISION AND ORDER**

By the Board: Maureen W. Heckman, SLP, Chair, Robyn Kingsley, SLP, and Deborah Snow-Major, SLP

Also present: Tina M. Kelley, Administrator to the Board

Appearances: None

On September 4, 2014, the New Hampshire Speech-Language Pathology Governing Board ("Board") held a hearing in the matter of Corrian E. Farnsworth, SLP ("Ms. Farnsworth") pursuant to the Board's "Notice of Hearing". The hearing was held in accordance with RSA 328-F:23, RSA 328-F: 24, RSA 541-A, Ahp 200 and Spe 200. Ms. Farnsworth failed to appear.

**Background Information**

The New Hampshire Speech-Language Pathology Governing Board ("Board") first granted Corrian E. Farnsworth, SLP a license to practice as a Speech-Language Pathologist in the State of New Hampshire on January 6, 2012. Ms. Farnsworth holds license number 1398. Ms. Farnsworth has had no lapse in her license since the initial date of licensure.

On December 23, 2013 the Office of Licensed Allied Health Professionals received Ms. Farnsworth's application for renewal of her license. On page 3 of the renewal application form Ms. Farnsworth listed continuing education taken between January 1, 2012 and December 31, 2013 totaling 33 continuing education hours. On the renewal form Ms. Farnsworth reported both her home physical address and home mailing address as: 18 W. Wyoming Ave #7, Melrose, MA 02176.

On December 24, 2013 the Office of Licensed Allied Health Professionals renewed Ms. Farnsworth's license to practice as a Speech-Language Pathologist in the State of New Hampshire. The renewed license was sent to the address provided on the renewal application form.

On or about January 30, 2014 the Speech-Language Pathology Governing Board sent Ms. Farnsworth a letter informing her that the continuing education she claimed on her renewal application form was being audited. The material was sent to the home mailing address provided on Ms. Farnsworth's application for renewal and was due back in the Board's office no later than February 28, 2014.

On March 19, 2014 the Office of Licensed Allied Health Professionals sent Ms. Farnsworth a second letter requesting submission of the continuing education material required under Spe 402.09. The material was sent to the home mailing address provided on Ms. Farnsworth's renewal application form and was due in the Board's office no later than April 1, 2014.

On April 2, 2014 the Board's office received, via electronic submission, a change of home mailing address submitted by Ms. Farnsworth. Ms. Farnsworth indicated that her home physical address was 18 W. Wyoming Avenue #7, Melrose, MA 02176 and that her mailing address was 3417 N. Midland Drive #108, Midland TX 79707.

On May 7, 2014 the Board's office sent Ms. Farnsworth a third letter requesting she submit the continuing education material. This letter informed Ms. Farnsworth that the material was due in the Board's office no later than May 16, 2014. This letter was sent to the 18 West Wyoming Avenue Unit #7 Melrose, MA address. The address Ms. Farnsworth indicated was her home physical address. The Board's office has not received the certified mail, regular mail, nor the copy of the certificate of service. After review of the file it was determined that the letter was

sent to the physical address Ms. Farnsworth's provided on April 2, 2014 and not the mailing address.

On May 27, 2014 the Office of Licensed Allied Health Professionals sent Ms. Farnsworth a fifth letter requesting submission of the continuing education documents required under Spe 402.09. This letter was sent by both certified and regular mail to the 341 N. Midland Drive #108, Midland TX address. Ms. Farnsworth was required to submit the documentation no later than June 9, 2014.

On June 17, 2014 the Board's office received, via electronic submission, a change of home mailing address submitted by Ms. Farnsworth. Ms. Farnsworth indicated that her home physical address was 18 W. Wyoming Ave #7, Melrose MA 02176 and that her home mailing address was 1401 E. Century Ave, Odessa TX 79762.

On June 19, 2014 the Board's office received the certified copy of the May 27, 2014 letter marked by the post office as "Return to Sender – Unclaimed – Unable to Forward".

On July 21, 2014 the Board's office received, via electronic submission, a change of home mailing address submitted by Ms. Farnsworth. Ms. Farnsworth indicated her physical address was 1908 E. Innsbruck Way, Salt Lake City UT 84121 and that her mailing address was the same.

Based on the Ms. Farnsworth's failure to respond to the Board's requests to submit evidence of continuing education completed between January 1, 2012 and December 31, 2013 the Board issued a Notice of Hearing. The Notice of Hearing was sent on August 8, 2014 to the home address Ms. Farnsworth provided on July 21, 2014 via electronic submission.

An adjudicatory hearing commenced on September 4, 2014, the specific issues to be determined included:

- A. Whether or not Ms. Farnsworth engaged in professional misconduct by not submitting documentation of completion of the continuing education she earned between January 1, 2012 and December 31, 2013, in violation of RSA 328-F:23, II (a); RSA 328-F:23, II (j); and/or Spe 404.01(i); and/or
- B. Whether Ms. Farnsworth completed the continuing education she reported on her “2013 Renewal Application Form” as required by Spe 402.09(b).
- C. If any of the above allegations are proven, whether and to what extent Respondent should be subjected to one or more of the disciplinary sanctions authorized by RSA 328-F:23, IV.

At the hearing the Board reviewed numerous exhibits submitted with the Notice of Hearing. The following exhibits were entered into evidence:

**Board Exhibits:**

Exhibit #1 – 2013 Renewal Application Form

Exhibit #2 – January 30, 2014 letter

Exhibit #3 – March 19, 2014 letter

Exhibit #4 – Electronic submission of a change in home address received April 2, 2014

Exhibit #5 – May 7, 2014 letter

Exhibit #6 – May 27, 2014 letter and 2013 Continuing education Audit Information Form

Exhibit #7 – Electronic submission of a change in home address received June 17, 2014

Exhibit #8 – May 27, 2014 letter and 2013 Continuing education Audit Information Form

Exhibit #9 – Electronic submission of a change in home address received July 21, 2014

Ms. Farnsworth failed to appear before the Board and there were no witnesses present to give testimony. The hearing was held *in absentia*.

**Applicable Laws:**

RSA 328-F:23, II (a)

Knowingly or negligently providing inaccurate material information to the board or failing to provide complete and truthful material information upon inquiry by the board, including during the process of applying for a license, license renewal, and license reinstatement.

RSA 328-F:23, II(j):

(j) Violation of any provision of this chapter, of any governing board's practice act or rule adopted pursuant to RSA 541-A, or of any state or federal law reasonably related to the licensee's authority to practice or ability to practice safely.

Spe 402.09(b):

(b) Audited renewal applicants who reported on the renewal application form that they completed maintenance of continuing competence before December first of the renewal year shall:

- (1) Submit proof in the form of the required documentation; and
- (2) Shall do so no later than February 1 of the year following the renewal year.

Spe 404.01(i):

(i) Violation of:

- (1) Any provision of RSA 328-F;
- (2) Any provision of RSA 326-F;
- (3) Any rule adopted by the board; or
- (4) Any state or federal law reasonably related to the licensee's authority to practice or the licensee's ability to practice safely.

**Findings of Fact and Rulings of Law:**

In light of the exhibits, the Board made the following findings of fact and rulings of law:

- When an applicant for renewal completes the renewal application form the individual signs the form in accordance with Spe 402.04(g) below the preprinted statement which states in part that the applicant has certified that "I have read the statute and the rules of the Board and promise that, if I am licensed, I will abide by them."
- In accordance with Spe 402.09(a) and (b), the Board shall conduct a random audit of 10% of the renewed licensees and that the licensee shall submit documentation no later than February 1, 2014.
- Ms. Farnsworth engaged in professional misconduct by not responding to the Board's letters dated January 30, 2014, March 19, 2014, May 7, 2014, and May 27, 2014, which were requesting submission of the continuing education audit material, in violation RSA 328-F:23, II (j); and Spe 404.01(i).

- Ms. Farnsworth failed to provide the Board with evidence of completion of continuing education on her “2013 Renewal Application Form” in violation of Spe 402.09(b).
- It was evident to the Board by Ms. Farnsworth does not understand the requirements for licensure in the State of New Hampshire by her failure to respond to the Board’s numerous letters.
- On the 2013 renewal form Ms. Farnsworth signed the form under the statement “....I also certify that I have read the statute and the rules of the Board and promise that, if I am licensed, I will abide by them.”

Based upon the findings of fact and rulings of law, the Board voted to order the following:

THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED, that Ms. Farnsworth’s license is **SUSPENDED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that to have the suspension lifted, Ms. Farnsworth appear before the Board to provide documentation of the continuing education reported to have been completed on her “2013 Renewal Application Form” or provide a written explanation as to why the documentation cannot be provided.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that Ms. Farnsworth shall be fined \$250.00 to be paid to the Board’s office within 30 days of the date this final Decision and Order takes effect. The check shall be made payable to the Treasurer, State of New Hampshire.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that within fifteen (15) days of the effective date of this Decision and Order Ms. Farnsworth shall furnish a copy of this Decision and Order to any current employer for whom she performs services as a Speech-Language Pathologist and to any agency or authority which licenses, certifies or credentials Speech-Language Pathologists, with which Ms. Farnsworth is presently affiliated.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that Ms. Farnsworth furnish a copy of this Decision and Order to any employer and/or agency, or authority which licenses, certifies or credentials Speech-Language Pathologists one year from the effective date of this Decision and Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Ms. Farnsworth’s breach of any terms and conditions of this Decision and Order shall constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to RSA 328-F:23, II.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision and Order shall become a permanent part of Ms. Farnsworth’s file, which is maintained by the Board as a public document.

*Speech-Language Pathology Governing Board  
In the Matter of Corrian E. Farnsworth, SLP  
Decision and Order*

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision and Order shall take effect as a final Order of the Board on the date it is signed by an authorized representative of the Board.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Date: October 2, 2014

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Maureen Heckman, SLP, Chair  
Authorized Representative of the  
Speech-Language Pathology Governing Board