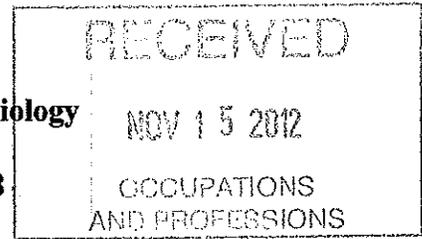


Commonwealth of Kentucky  
Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology  
Agency Case No. 2012-004  
Administrative Action No. 12-KBSL-0348



Commonwealth of Kentucky,  
Board of Speech Language Pathology and Audiology

**Complainant**

v.

**Final Order**

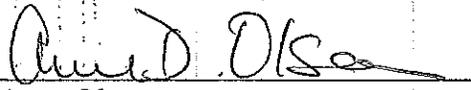
Jill C. Ritter  
(License No. 2865)

**Respondent**

\*\*\*\*\*

The Board, having voted on November 13, 2012 at its regular meeting, adopts and incorporates the attached Settlement Agreement as a Final Order of the Board.

Be it so ORDERED, this 4 date of December 2012.

  
Anne Olson  
Board Chair

**Certificate of Service**

A copy of this document was mailed to the following individuals on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2012. The original was filed with the Board.

Michael West  
Assistant Attorney General  
700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 118  
Frankfort, KY 40601

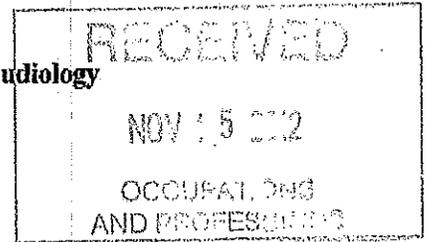
Stephen Wolnitzek  
Wolnitzek & Rowekamp, PSC  
502 Greenup Street  
Covington, KY 41001  
*Attorney for the Respondent*

Administrative Hearings Branch  
Office of the Attorney General  
1024 Capital Center Drive, Suite 200  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-8204  
*Hearing Officer*

  
Marcia Egbert, Board Administrator  
Kentucky Board of Speech Language  
Pathology and Audiology

Commonwealth of Kentucky  
Kentucky Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology  
Post Office Box 1360  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-1360

Agency Case No. 12-004  
Administrative Action No. 12-KBSL-0348



Commonwealth of Kentucky,  
Board of Speech Language Pathology and Audiology

Complainant

### Settlement Agreement

Jill C. Ritter  
(License No. 2865)

Respondent

\* \* \* \* \*

Whereas, the Kentucky Board of Speech Language Pathology and Audiology ("Board") having been notified that Jill C. Ritter, ("Respondent") has acted in violation of KRS Chapter 334A, and the Board having authorized to be filed a Notice of Administrative Hearing and Order, and;

Whereas, the parties mutually desire to settle the issues in an expeditious manner, without the need for a formal hearing on any Notice of Administrative Hearing and Order;

It is hereby stipulated and agreed between the undersigned parties this matter shall be settled and resolved upon the following terms:

#### Findings

The Respondent fully admits the following violations:

- 1) Violation of KRS 334A.030(2) and thereby KRS 334A.180(1)(c) and (f) by practicing speech language pathology without a license from January 31, 2012 to March 15, 2012.

### **Voluntary Waiver of Rights**

The Respondent has had the opportunity at all times to seek the advice from competent counsel of choice. No coercion has been exerted upon the Respondent, nor have any promises been made other than those reflected in this Settlement Agreement. The Respondent has freely and voluntarily entered into this Settlement Agreement, motivated only by a desire to resolve the issues addressed herein. The Respondent has executed this Settlement Agreement only after a careful reading of it and a full understanding of all of its terms. The Respondent waives the right to challenge any agreed-upon term or condition of this Settlement Agreement notwithstanding any other statutory provision of KRS Chapter 334A, and the Respondent expressly agrees those agreed-upon terms and conditions contained therein are exclusively a matter of private right.

The Respondent is fully aware of the rights to contest charges in a formal hearing. These rights include: representation by an attorney at the Respondent's own expense, the right to a public hearing on any charges contained in the Notice of Administrative Hearing and Order, the right to confront and cross-examine witnesses called to testify against the Respondent, the right to present evidence on the Respondent's behalf, the right to compulsory process to secure the attendance of such witnesses, the right to testify on the Respondent's own behalf, the right to receive written findings of fact and conclusions of law supporting the decision on the merits of the Formal Complaint, the right to obtain judicial review of the Board's decision, and the right to appeal any final order of the Board to the Franklin Circuit Court as otherwise allowed by KRS 334A.080(2). All of these rights are being voluntarily waived by the Respondent in exchange for the Board's acceptance of this Settlement Agreement.

### **Jurisdiction**

The Respondent acknowledges the Board has jurisdiction over the Respondent and the conduct which has precipitated this Settlement Agreement. The Respondent also acknowledges the Board has the legal power to take disciplinary action up to and including permanent revocation of the Respondent's license to practice in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

The Respondent acknowledges the Board will retain jurisdiction over this matter until all terms and conditions set forth in this Settlement Agreement have been met to the satisfaction of the Board.

### **Publication of Settlement Agreement**

The Respondent acknowledges, once adopted by the Board, this Settlement Agreement is considered a public document, available for inspection at any time by any member of the public under the Kentucky Open Records Act. Further, the Respondent understands the Board is free to make any use it deems appropriate of the contents of this Settlement Agreement, which shall include the Board's ability to share the content of this Settlement Agreement with any governmental or professional Board or organization, publication of a summary in the Board's newsletter, reporting under federal law, and availability via the Board's website.

### **Effect Upon Licensure Status Fine, Audit, and Other Requirements**

The parties agree to the following as the agreed-upon disciplinary action:

- 1) The Respondent shall pay to the Board the amount of \$500.00 as a fine, which amount shall be paid by certified/cashier's check or money order with the submission of this executed Settlement Agreement, made payable to "Kentucky State Treasurer," and with the Respondent's name and license number written on the payment, and;

- 2) The Respondent acknowledges and accepts that the Board will notify First Steps of the lapse in her licensure from January 31, 2012 to March 15, 2012
- 3) The Respondent shall be subject to an audit of her continuing education for two renewal periods. The Respondent shall provide proof of satisfactory completion of qualifying continuing education with her application for renewal for her next two renewals.
- 4) The Respondent shall notify in writing and by certified mail all individuals and entities to whom she provided speech language pathology services during the period of January 31, 2012 to March 15, 2012. Such that it is received within 3 months of the execution of this Settlement Agreement by the Board Chair, the Respondent shall submit to the Board a copy of each return receipt and a copy of the letter that was mailed to each individual and entity. If a return receipt has not been received for all individuals and entities, a note shall be included asserting as much and listing the individuals and entities for whom a return receipt has not been obtained. The Respondent acknowledges that, irrespective of numerical 2 above, she has an independent obligation to notify First Steps of her lapse.

The Respondent expressly understands failure to comply with and complete all terms of this Settlement Agreement constitutes misconduct and acknowledges that such misconduct constitutes a violation of KRS 334A.

#### **Duty to Cooperate with the Board**

The Respondent agrees to permit and cooperate with the Board, its members, agents, and employees, to monitor the Respondent's compliance with the terms and conditions of this Settlement Agreement.

#### **Release of Liability**

In consideration of execution of this Settlement Agreement, the Respondent, the Respondent's executors, administrators, successors and assigns, hereby releases and forever discharges the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Kentucky Board of Speech Language Pathology and Audiology, and the Kentucky Attorney General and each of their members, agents, and

employees in their individual and representative capacities, from any and all manner of actions, causes of action, suits, debts, judgments, executions, claims and demands whatsoever, known and unknown, in law or equity, the Respondent ever had, now has, may have or claim to have against any or all of the persons or entities named in this paragraph arising out of or by reason of this investigation, this disciplinary action, this Settlement Agreement, or its administration.

#### **Acceptance by the Board**

It is hereby agreed between the parties this Settlement Agreement shall be presented to the Kentucky Board of Speech Language Pathology and Audiology at the next regularly-scheduled meeting of the Board.

The Respondent understands the Board is free to accept or reject this Settlement Agreement, and if rejected by the Board, a formal disciplinary hearing against the Respondent may be scheduled thereafter with the Hearing Officer and counsel. The Respondent hereby agrees to waive any right the Respondent might have to challenge the impartiality of the Board, based solely upon the presentation of this Settlement Agreement, to hear the disciplinary charges if, after review by the Board, this Settlement Agreement is rejected.

If the Settlement Agreement is not accepted by the Board, it shall be regarded as null and void. Admissions by the Respondent in the Settlement Agreement will not be regarded as evidence against the Respondent at the subsequent disciplinary hearing. The Respondent will be free to defend and no inferences against the Respondent will be made from the Respondent's willingness to have entered into this Settlement Agreement.

The Settlement Agreement will not be submitted for Board consideration until after it has been agreed to and executed by the Respondent. The Settlement Agreement shall not become

effective until it has been approved by a majority of the Board and endorsed by a representative member of the Board.

#### **Complete Agreement**

This Settlement Agreement consists of six (6) pages and a seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) signature page and embodies the entire agreement between the Board and the Respondent. This Settlement Agreement shall constitute a binding contract between the Respondent and the Board, subject only to approval by the Board as set forth above. The Respondent shall not, and shall not attempt to, rescind, revoke, modify, or withdraw this Settlement Agreement prior to or during its presentation to the Board. It may not be altered, amended or modified without the express written consent of both parties.

**Have Seen, Understood, and Approved:**

**Kentucky Board of Speech Language Pathology  
and Audiology**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jill Ritter  
94 Stonyridge Drive  
Cold Spring, KY 41076  
*Respondent*

Date: 10/30/12

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael West  
Assistant Attorney General  
Office of the Attorney General  
Capitol Building, Room 118  
700 Capitol Avenue  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-3449  
*Counsel for the Board*

Date: 11/14/12

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen D. Wolnitzek  
Wolnitzek & Rowekamp, P.S.C.  
502 Greenup Street  
Covington, KY 41011  
*Attorney for the Respondent*