



Effective May 24, 2014

April 17, 2014

Protecting, maintaining and improving the health of all Minnesotans

Kenneth Robert Ford III

RE: MDH File Number: BAC12049

Dear Mr. Ford III:

Based on the facts and law in this matter as described in the enclosed Staff Determination, the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has determined that you provided body art services without a license, in violation of Minnesota Statutes, section 146B.08, subdivision 3(3), and Minnesota Statutes, section 146B.03, subdivision 1(a). Therefore, the Department is issuing you a reprimand and a civil penalty in the amount of \$731. This action is authorized pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 146B.08, subdivision 4.

You may either accept the discipline as stated herein or you may appeal. If you accept, please pay the assessed civil penalty by check made payable to "Treasurer, State of Minnesota." If you wish to appeal the discipline, you must provide a written statement as to which facts are in error and the grounds for your appeal. Your written statement must be received within 30 days from the date this letter is received by you. During that 30-day period, you also have the right to challenge this decision in a contested-case hearing, as provided under Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 14. Requests for a hearing should be made in writing and must include specific grounds for challenging the Department's decision.

You must provide a written statement of your decision to either accept or appeal the discipline outlined in the enclosed Determination, within 30 days of your receipt of this letter, to:

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

You may also deliver your request to 85 East Seventh Place, Suite 220, Saint Paul, MN; or fax it to Anne Kukowski at (651)201-3839. If you have any questions about this matter, please contact Chee Lee at (651)201-3728.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darcy Miner".

Darcy Miner, Director
Compliance Monitoring Division

Enclosure

cc: Anne Kukowski, Acting Director of the Health Occupations Program

**HEALTH OCCUPATIONS PROGRAM
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

**A Determination In the Matter of
Kenneth Robert Ford III
Body Art Technician**

AUTHORITY

1. The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has authority to discipline body art technicians for violations of law under Minnesota Statutes, section 146B.08, subdivision 3. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 146B.08, subdivision 4, the types of discipline MDH may impose include refusal to grant a license or any reasonable lesser action.
2. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 146B.08, subdivision 4(5), MDH may also impose a civil penalty not exceeding \$10,000 that deprives the licensee of any economic advantage gained by the violation and that reimburses MDH for costs of the investigation.
3. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 146B.08, subdivision 3(3), a violation of any provision in the body art statute is a ground for disciplinary action.
4. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 146B.03, subdivision 1, no individual may perform tattooing unless the individual holds a valid technician license issued by MDH.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On September 21, 2011, MDH received a full body art technician license application from Kenneth Ford III (hereinafter "Technician").
2. Technician was not issued a license as the application was incomplete.
3. On October 3, 2011, MDH sent an email advising Technician that his application was considered incomplete and could not be processed as he did not include, in his application, a log showing 2,080 hours of tattooing in the past five years. Subdivision 10 of Minnesota Statutes 146B.03, repealed in 2012, required evidence of 2,080 hours of tattooing to allow an individual to be "grandfathered" in.
4. On May 24, 2012, MDH sent a second notice to Technician advising him of his incomplete application.
5. On June 1, 2012, Technician faxed to MDH the necessary documents to process the application.
6. On July 5, 2012, Technician was issued a full body art technician license.

7. Technician's file was referred to the Investigation & Enforcement Unit because he listed his start date at Aloha Monkey Tattoo as May 2011 in the license application.
8. On February 25, 2014, MDH sent a Notice of Illegal Practice letter to Technician. MDH requested Technician's informed consent forms from January 1, 2011 to July 4, 2012.
9. On April 8, 2013, MDH received a letter from Technician and copies of his informed consent forms. Technician admitted to providing body art at Aloha Monkey from January 2012 to July 2012 without a technician license.
10. Based on information in the informed consent forms, Technician provided 120 tattoo procedures before he was issued a technician license. Technician performed 7 tattoo services in January 2012, 20 tattoo services in February 2012, 24 tattoo services in March 2012, 30 tattoo services in April 2012, 15 tattoo services in May 2012, 20 tattoo services in June 2012, and 4 tattoo services in July 2012.

CONCLUSION

1. Technician did not comply with the requirements under Minnesota Statutes, section 146B.08, subdivision 3 (3), because he practiced body art at Aloha Monkey before he was issued a technician's license on January 5, 2012, in violation of Minnesota Statutes, section 146B.03, subdivision 1 (a).

DETERMINATION

1. Technician is hereby reprimanded and assessed a civil penalty in the amount of \$731, which deprives Technician of the economic advantage gained by the violation and reimburses MDH for costs of the investigation.
 - Technician may pay the \$731 civil penalty in monthly installments of up to 6 months after the effective date of this action. If Technician chooses to make installments, he must notify MDH in writing about his intentions, including how many installments he intends to make, in what amount, and over which time period. Technician must send this information to: Health Occupations Program, PO Box 64882, Saint Paul, MN 55164-0882, within 30 days of receipt of this document.
 - Each payment will be made by check to "State of Minnesota, Treasurer," and mailed to Health Occupations Program, PO Box 64882, Saint Paul, MN 55164-0882, or any other address specified by MDH. Each payment is due by the last day of each month; however, technician may prepay at any time.
 - The penalty may be referred to the Minnesota Collection Enterprise (MCE), part of the Minnesota Department of Revenue, or any other source for collection, if Technician misses a monthly payment by 14 calendar days after the established deadline. When this Order for a penalty becomes public and MDH refers the matter to MCE, MCE is authorized by Minnesota Statutes, section 16D.17, to obtain a judgment against Technician without further notice or proceedings.