



Effective April 10, 2014

*Protecting, maintaining and improving the health of all Minnesotans*

March 7, 2014

Linda S. Grong

RE: MDH File Number: AUC13008

Dear Ms. Grong:

Based on the facts and law in this matter as described in the enclosed Staff Determination, the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has determine you failed to complete your program through the Health Professionals Services Program in violation of section 148.5195, subdivision 3, clause (4). In lieu of suspension or revocation, your audiology license is retired effective February 21, 2014. Therefore, you are prohibited from engaging in the practice of audiology; using the title "audiologist," "A," or "AUD" alone or in combination with any other words or phrases to form an occupational title; and representing to the public you are a licensed by MDH.

This decision will be made final and effective 30 days from the date it is received by you. During that 30-day period, you 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 include specific grounds for challenging the Department's decision. If you wish to request a hearing, please send a written hearing request, within 30 days of your receipt of this letter, to:

Anne Kukowski, MS, JD  
Assistant Director, 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 Ms. Kukowski at (651)201-3839. If you have any questions about this matter, please contact Catherine Dittberner Lloyd at (651)201-3706.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darcy Miner".

Darcy Miner, Director  
Compliance Monitoring Division

Enclosure

cc: Anne Kukowski, Assistant Director, Health Occupations Program

**HEALTH OCCUPATIONS PROGRAM  
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

**A Determination In the Matter of  
Linda S. Grong  
Audiologist**

**AUTHORITY**

1. The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has the authority to discipline Audiologists for violations of Minnesota Statutes, section 148.5195. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 148.5195, subdivision 4, the types of discipline MDH may impose include suspension of the right to practice audiology and any lesser reasonable action upon proof the practitioner violated sections 148.511 to 148.5198.
2. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 148.5195, subdivision 3, clause (4), MDH may take disciplinary action against an audiologist for violating sections 148.511 to 148.5198.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Linda S. Grong (hereinafter "Practitioner") has been registered/licensed as an audiologist since 1991. Practitioner owns and operates an audiology clinic, with offices in three Minnesota locations.
2. On February 23, 2013, MDH referred Practitioner to the Health Professionals Services Program (HPSP).
3. By memorandum dated April 23, 2013, HPSP notified MDH that Practitioner signed a Participation Agreement and agreed to a Monitoring Plan.
4. By memorandum dated December 4, 2013, HPSP notified MDH that Practitioner was unsatisfactorily discharged from HPSP on December 4, 2013 and referred the matter to MDH.
5. By letter received February 10, 2014, Practitioner voluntarily relinquished her audiology license effective February 21, 2014 in lieu of suspension.

**CONCLUSION**

Practitioner violated provisions of Minnesota Statutes, sections 148.511 to 148.5195 when she failed to complete her program at HPSP which constitutes a violation of section 148.5195, subdivision 3, clause (4).

## **DETERMINATION**

1. Practitioner's audiology license is hereby expired effective February 21, 2014 in lieu of suspension or revocation of the right to practice audiology in Minnesota.
  
2. Effective February 21, 2014, Practitioner is prohibited from:
  - a. Engaging in the practice of audiology;
  - b. Using the title "audiologist," "A," or "AUD" alone or in combination of any other word or words to form an occupational title; and
  - c. Representing to the public that Practitioner is licensed by MDH.