

Dated: October 10, 2001.

Asa Hutchinson,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 01-26189 Filed 10-17-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-09-M

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Drug Enforcement Administration

Kiran Bhatt, M.D., Revocation of Registration

On May 21, 2001, the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), issued an Order to Show Cause (OTSC) by certified mail to Kiran Bhatt, M.D., notifying her of an opportunity to show cause as why the DEA should not revoke her DEA Certificate of Registration, BB2541628, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 824(a)(3), and to deny any pending applications for renewal of her registration, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 823(f), on the grounds that Dr. Bhatt was not authorized by the State of California to handle controlled substances. The order also notified Dr. Bhatt that should not request for hearing be filed within 30 days, her right to a hearing would be deemed waived.

The OTSC was sent to Dr. Bhatt at her DEA registered premises to Palo Alto, California. A postal delivery receipt was signed May (day illegible), 2001, on behalf of Dr. Bhatt, indicating the OTSC was received. To date, no response has been received from Dr. Bhatt nor anyone purporting to represent her.

Therefore, the Administrator, finding that (1) 30 days having passed since the receipt of the Order to Show Cause, and (2) no request for a hearing having been received, concludes that Dr. Bhatt is deemed to have waived her right to a hearing. Following a complete review of the investigative file in this matter, the Administrator now enters his final order without a hearing pursuant to 21 CFR 1301.43(d) and (e), and 1301.46 (2001).

The Administrator finds as follows. Dr. Bhatt currently possesses DEA Certificate of Registration BB254168, issued to her in California. By Decision and Order dated December 15, 1998, Medical Board of California, Division of Medical Quality, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California adopted the Proposed Decision of the Administrative Law Judge revoking Dr. Bhatt's physician and Surgeon's Certificate. The Proposed Decision found, *inter alia*, that Dr. Bhatt's ability to practice medicine safely is impaired because she is mentally ill, and further that Dr. Bhatt refuses to seek or to receive psychiatric care. The Proposed

Decision further found Dr. Bhatt's condition such that without treatment, she poses a substantial risk to the safety and welfare of her patients. The investigative file contains no evidence that Dr. Bhatt's medical license has been reinstated or otherwise renewed.

Therefore, the Administrator concludes that Dr. Bhatt is not currently licensed or authorized to handle controlled substances in California.

The DEA does not have the authority pursuant to the Controlled Substances Act to issue or maintain a registration if the applicant or registrant is without state authority to handle controlled substances in the state in which he or she practices. See 21 U.S.C. 823(f), and 824(a)(3). This prerequisite has been consistently upheld in prior DEA cases. See Graham Travers Schuler, M.D., 65 FR 50,570 (2000); Romeo J. Perez, M.D., 62 FR 16,193 (1997); Demetris A. Green, M.D., 61 FR 60,728 (1996); Dominick A. Ricci, M.D., 58 FR 51,104 (1993).

In the instant case, the Administrator finds the Government has presented evidence demonstrating that Dr. Bhatt is not authorized to practice medicine in California, and therefore, the Administrator infers that Dr. Bhatt is also not authorized to handle controlled substances in California, the State in which she holds her DEA Certificate of Registration.

Accordingly, the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration, pursuant to the authority vested in him by 21 U.S.C. 823 and 824 and 28 CFR 0.100(b) and 0.104, hereby orders that the DEA Certificate of Registration BB2541628, previously issued to Kiran Bhatt, M.D., be, and it hereby is, revoked. The Administrator hereby further orders that any pending applications for renewal or modification of said registration be, and hereby are, denied. This order is effective November 19, 2001.

Dated: October 10, 2001.

Asa Hutchinson,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 01-26187 Filed 10-17-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Drug Enforcement Administration

Iliana M. Cabeza, D.D.S.; Revocation of Registration

On June 26, 2000, the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), issued an Order to Show Cause (OTSC) by certified mail to Iliana M. Cabeza, D.D.S.,

(Respondent) notifying her of an opportunity to show cause as to why the DEA should not revoke her DEA Certificate of Registration AC2230338, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 824(a)(2), and (4), and deny any pending applications for renewal of this registration, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 823(f), for the reasons that Respondent entered a plea of guilty to Conspiracy to Possess with Intent to Distribute Cocaine, a Schedule II substance; and that the Florida Department of Health ordered the immediate suspension of the Respondent's state license to practice dentistry. By letter dated August 1, 2000, Respondent, through counsel, requested a hearing in this matter.

On August 14, 2000, Administrative Law Judge Gail A. Randall issued an order for Prehearing Statements. On August 31, 2000, the Government filed a motion seeking summary disposition, arguing that Respondent is no longer authorized to handle controlled substances in the State of Florida, where Respondent's DEA Certificate of Registration states she conducts her business. The Government attached to its motion a copy of an Order of Emergency Suspension of License, issued by the Florida Department of Health; a copy of Respondent's DEA Certificate of Registration with an expiration date of August 31, 2002; and a sworn statement from the Chief of the Registration Unit of DEA, certifying the Certificate's authenticity.

By an Order dated September 1, 2000, Judge Randall stayed the proceedings pending the resolution of the Government's motion, and she allowed the Respondent until September 12, 2000, to respond to the Government's motion. The Respondent did not file a response by this deadline. Rather, on October 13, 2000, the Respondent filed an Unopposed Motion for Enlargement of Time, asserting that the parties were attempting to resolve the matter. Although the motion was untimely filed, Judge Randall accepted it, and by order dated October 17, 2000, she allowed Respondent until November 20, 2000, to respond to the Government's Motion for Summary Disposition. As of this date, the investigative file contains no response from Respondent nor anyone purporting to represent her.

The Administrator has considered the record in its entirety, and pursuant to 21 CFR 1316.67, hereby issues his final order based upon findings of fact and conclusions of law as hereinafter set forth. The Administrator adopts in full the Opinion and Recommended Decision of the Administrative Law Judge.

The DEA does not have the statutory authority pursuant to the Controlled Substances Act to issue or to maintain a registration if the applicant or registrant is without state authority to handle controlled substances in the state in which he or she practices. See 21 U.S.C. 802(21), 823(f), and 824(a)(3). This prerequisite has been consistently upheld in prior DEA cases. See *Graham Travers Schuler, M.D.*, 65 FR 50570 (2000); *Romeo J. Perez, M.D.*, 62 FR 16193 (1997); *Demetris A. Green, M.D.*, 61 FR 60728 (1996); *Dominick A. Ricci, M.D.*, 58 FR 51104 (1993).

In the instant case, the Administrator finds the Government has presented evidence demonstrating that the Respondent is not authorized to practice dentistry in Florida, and therefore, the Administrator infers that Respondent is also not authorized to handle controlled substances in Florida, where she practices, according to the address listed on her DEA Certificate of Registration. The Administrator finds that Judge Randall allowed Respondent ample time to refute the Government's evidence, and that Respondent has submitted no evidence or assertions to the contrary. Thus, there is no genuine issue of material fact concerning Respondent's lack of authorization to practice dentistry in Florida or to handle controlled substances in that state.

The Administrator concurs with Judge Randall's finding that it is well settled that when there is no question of material fact involved, there is no need for a plenary, administrative hearing. Congress did not intend for administrative agencies to perform meaningless tasks. See *Michael G. Dolin, M.D.*, 65 FR 5661 (2000); *Jesús R. Juarez, M.D.*, 62 FR 14945 (1997); see also *Philip E. Kirk, M.D.*, 48 FR 32887 (1983), *aff'd sub nom. Kirk v. Mullen*, 749 F.2d 297 (6th Cir. 1984).

Accordingly, the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration, pursuant to the authority vested in him by 21 U.S.C. 823 and 824 and 28 CFR 0.100(b) and 0.104, hereby orders the DEA Certificate of Registration AC2230338, issued to *Iliana M. Cabeza, D.D.S.*, be, and it hereby is, revoked; and that any pending applications for the renewal or modification of said Certificate be denied. This order is effective November 19, 2001.

Dated: October 10, 2001.

Asa Hutchinson,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 01-26184 Filed 10-17-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Drug Enforcement Administration

Muttaiya Darmarajah, M.D.; Revocation of Registration

On May 29, 2001, the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), issued an Order to Show Cause (OTSC) by certified mail to Muttaiya Darmarajah, M.D., notifying him of an opportunity to show cause as to why the DEA should not revoke his DEA Certificate of Registration, AD3082702, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 824(a)(3), and to deny any pending applications for renewal of such registration, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 823(f), on the grounds that Dr. Darmarajah was not authorized by the State of Florida to handle controlled substances. The order also notified Dr. Darmarajah that should no request for hearing be filed within 30 days, his right to a hearing would be deemed waived.

The OTSC was sent to Dr. Darmarajah at his DEA registered premises in Panama City, Florida. A postal delivery receipt was signed June 11, 2001, on behalf of Dr. Darmarajah, indicating the OTSC was received. To date, no response has been received from Dr. Darmarajah nor anyone purporting to represent him.

Therefore, the Administrator, finding that (1) 30 days having passed since the receipt of the Order to Show Cause, and (2) no request for a hearing having been received, concludes that Dr. Darmarajah is deemed to have waived his right to a hearing. Following a complete review of the investigative file in this matter, the Administrator now enters his final order without a hearing pursuant to 21 CFR 1301.43(d) and (e), and 1301.46.

The Administrator finds as follows. Dr. Darmarajah currently possesses DEA Certificate of Registration AD3082702, issued to him in Florida. By Final Order of the Board of Medicine, State of Florida, dated September 5, 2000, Dr. Darmarajah's license to practice medicine in the State of Florida was revoked. The revocation was based upon a State of Florida Department of Health Administrative Complaint alleging that Dr. Darmarajah pleaded guilty on or about May 14, 1998 in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida to knowingly and willfully charging the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services and Medicare for false and fraudulent claims for reimbursement of health care services, in violation of 18 U.S.C. 287, and also of filing a false and fraudulent tax

return, in violation of 26 U.S.C. 7201. As a result, Dr. Darmarajah was sentenced to 15 months in Federal prison and \$929,599.43 in restitution. The investigative file contains no evidence that Dr. Darmarajah's medical license has been reinstated or otherwise renewed.

Therefore, the Administrator concludes that Dr. Darmarajah is not currently licensed or authorized to handle controlled substances in Florida.

The DEA does not have the statutory authority pursuant to the Controlled Substances Act to issue or to maintain a registration if the applicant or registrant is without state authority to handle controlled substances in the state in which he or she practices. See 21 U.S.C. 823(f), and 824(a)(3). This prerequisite has been consistently upheld in prior DEA cases. See *Graham Travers Schuler, M.D.*, 65 FR 50570 (2000); *Romeo J. Perez, M.D.*, 62 FR 16193 (1997); *Demetris A. Green, M.D.*, 61 FR 60728 (1996); *Dominick A. Ricci, M.D.*, 58 FR 51104 (1993).

In the instant case, the Administrator finds the Government has presented evidence demonstrating that Dr. Darmarajah is not authorized to practice medicine in Florida, and therefore, the Administrator infers that Dr. Darmarajah is also not authorized to handle controlled substances in Florida, the State in which he holds his DEA Certificate of Registration.

Accordingly, the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration, pursuant to the authority vested in him by 21 U.S.C. 823 and 824 and 28 CFR 0.100(b) and 0.104, hereby orders that the DEA Certificate of Registration AD3082702, previously issued to Muttaiya Darmarajah, M.D., be, and it hereby is, revoked. The Administrator hereby further orders that any pending applications for renewal or modification of said registration be, and hereby are, denied. This order is effective November 19, 2001.

Dated: October 10, 2001.

Asa Hutchinson,
Administrator.

Certificate of Service

This is to certify that the undersigned, on October 10, 2001, placed a copy of the Final Order referenced in the enclosed letter in the interoffice mail addressed to Robert Walker, Esq., Office of Chief Counsel, Drug Enforcement Administration, Washington, D.C. 20537; and caused a copy to be mailed, postage prepaid, registered return receipt to Muttaiya Darmarajah, M.D., 2638 East 40th Street, Panama City, Florida 32405.