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| 8 | BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS FOR THE BUREAU FOR PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION STATE OF CALIFORNIA | |
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| 11 | In the Matter of the Accusation Against: | Case No. 1001405 |
| 12 | DAVID'S ACADEMY OF BEAUTY | |
| 13 | 8652 East Whittier Boulevard Pico Rivera, CA 90660 | ACCUSATION |
| 14 | Institution Code: 1937111 | |
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| 16 | Respondent. | |
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| 18 | Complainant alleges: | |
| 19 | <u>PARTIES</u> | |
| 20 | 1. Joanne Wenzel ("Complainant") brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity | |
| 21 | as the Bureau Chief of the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education, Department of Consumer | |
| 22 | Affairs. | |
| 23 | 2. On or about April 21, 2012, the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education issued | |
| 24 | Approval to Operate Institution Number 1937111 to David's Academy of Beauty ("Respondent"). | |
| 25 | On or about September 30, 2016, the approval to operate expired. The approval to operate was in | |
| 26 | full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein. | |
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(DAVID'S ACADEMY OF BEAUTY) ACCUSATION

JURISDICTION

- 3. This Accusation is brought before the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs ("Director") for the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Education Code unless otherwise indicated.
- 4. Section 118, subdivision (b), of the Business and Professions Code provides that the expiration of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued or reinstated.
 - 5. Section 94932 of the Education Code states:

"The bureau shall determine an institution's compliance with the requirements of this chapter. The bureau shall have the power to require reports that institutions shall file with the bureau in addition to the annual report, to send staff to an institution's sites, and to require documents and responses from an institution to monitor compliance. When the bureau has reason to believe that an institution may be out of compliance, it shall conduct an investigation of the institution. If the bureau determines, after completing an investigation, that an institution has violated any applicable law or regulation, the bureau shall take appropriate action pursuant to this article."

- 6. Section 94937 of the Education Code states:
- "(a) As a consequence of an investigation, and upon a finding that an institution has committed a violation, the bureau may place an institution on probation or may suspend or revoke an institution's approval to operate for:
 - "(1) Obtaining an approval to operate by fraud.
- "(2) A material violation or repeated violations of this chapter or regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter that have resulted in harm to students. For purposes of this paragraph, "material violation" includes, but is not limited to, misrepresentation, fraud in the inducement of a contract, and false or misleading claims or advertising, upon which a student reasonably relied in executing an enrollment agreement and that resulted in harm to the student.

 (b) The institution shall notify the bureau of the substantive change on a form provided by the bureau.

9. Section 94906 states:

- (a) An enrollment agreement shall be written in language that is easily understood. If English is not the student's primary language, and the student is unable to understand the terms and conditions of the enrollment agreement, the student shall have the right to obtain a clear explanation of the terms and conditions and all cancellation and refund policies in his or her primary language.
- (b) If the recruitment leading to enrollment was conducted in a language other than English, the enrollment agreement, disclosures, and statements shall be in that language.

REGULATORY PROVISIONS

- 10. California Code of Regulations, Title 5, section 71720, subdivision (b)(1), states:
- (b) Instructors in an Educational Program Not Leading to a Degree.
- (1) An institution shall employ instructors who possess the academic, experiential and professional qualifications to teach, including a minimum of three years of experience, education and training in current practices of the subject area they are teaching. If an instructor does not possess the required three years of experience, education and training in the subject area they are teaching, the institution shall document the qualifications the instructor possesses that are equivalent to the minimum qualifications.
 - 11. California Code of Regulations, Title 5, section 71650, subdivision (d), states:
- (d) An institution that has been granted an approval to operate by means of accreditation shall notify the Bureau of the substantive change within 30 days of that change on the Change in Educational Objectives form, by providing the information required by (c)(1) and (c)(10), and shall attach certification from the institution's accreditation agency demonstrating that the substantive change was made in accordance with the institution's accreditation standards, and complies with the Act and this Division.
- 12. California Code of Regulations, Title 5, section 71745, subdivisions (a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3) and (a)(5), state:

- (3) graduate's place of employment and position, date employment began, date employment ended, if applicable, actual salary, hours per week, and the date employment was verified;
- (4) for each employer from which employment or salary information was obtained, the employer name(s) address and general phone number, the contact person at the employer and the contact's phone number and email address, and all written communication with employer verifying student's employment or salary;
- (5) for students who become self-employed, all documentation necessary to demonstrate self-employment;
 - (6) a description of all attempts to contact each student or employer;
- (7) any and all documentation used to provide data regarding license examinations and examination results;
- (8) for each student determined to be unavailable for graduation or unavailable for employment, the identity of the student, the type of unavailability, the dates of unavailability, and the documentation of the unavailability; and
- (9) the name, email address, phone number, and position or title of the institution's representative who was primarily responsible for obtaining the students' completion, placement, licensing, and salary and wage data, the date that the information was gathered, and copies of notes, letters or emails through which the information was requested and gathered.

COST RECOVERY

- 15. Code section 94937, subdivision (c), authorizes the Bureau to seek reimbursement under Business and Professions Code section 125.3. Code section 94937, subdivision (d), provides that an institution shall not be required to pay more than one agency's investigation costs.
- 16. Business and Professions Code section 125.3 provides, in pertinent part, that the Bureau may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

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FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Employ Qualified Faculty)

- 17. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 94937, for violating California Code of Regulations, Title 5, section 71720, subdivision (b)(1). The circumstances are as follows:
- 18. On or about September 1, 2016, Respondent confirmed that Respondent's massage instructor, P.N., was no longer part of Respondent's faculty and that Respondent's massage program had zero students at that time. However, Respondent continued to advertise massage programs on its website and in its catalog without having qualified staff employed.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Notify Bureau of Change in Educational Objectives)

- 19. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 94937, for violating section 94896 and California Code of Regulations, Title 5, section 71650, subdivision (d). The circumstances are as follows:
- 20. On or about November 10, 2015, a Bureau investigator conducted a field investigation at Respondent's institution and confirmed through classroom observations and conversations with Respondent's staff that Respondent was enrolling Spanish and Chinese-speaking students with limited or no English proficiency and providing classroom instruction in Chinese. When the Bureau investigator asked whether Respondent had approval from its accreditor to teach in a language other than English, Respondent's staff stated they provided translation of classroom instruction in languages other than English only for assistance in understanding. Respondent's staff stated that they did not have approval from their accreditor to teach in any languages other than English.
- 21. On or about August 25, 2016, a Bureau investigator verified that Respondent had not notified the Bureau in writing within thirty days of the substantive change of enrolling students whose primary language was not English and providing instruction to them in a language other than English. Further, Respondent had not provided the Bureau with documentation showing that

Respondent had approval from its accreditor to provide instruction in a language other than English.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Maintain Sufficient Financial Resources)

- 22. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 94937, for violating California Code of Regulations, Title 5, section 71745, subdivisions (a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3) and (a)(5). The circumstances are as follows:
- 23. On or about May 24, 2016, the Bureau received a copy of Respondent's Financial Statement dated December 31, 2015. A Bureau investigator reviewed Respondent's Financial Statement and determined that Respondent failed the "Thirty Day Operating Expense Test." Respondent had only \$12,815.00 in cash or assets converted to cash in seven days, yet Respondent's monthly operating expenses amounted to \$64,470.33.

FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Maintain Student Records)

- 24. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 94937, for violating section 94902 and California Code of Regulations, Title 5, section 71920, subdivisions (a) and (b)(3). The circumstances are as follows:
- 25. On or about May 24, 2016, a Bureau investigator reviewed certain student files on site at Respondent institution and determined that copies of School Performance Fact Sheets were not maintained in all student files. Specifically, no School Performance Fact Sheets were contained in the files for students J.T.G., D.C., or J.R. In addition, student S.W. received a School Performance Fact Sheet for the Cosmetology Program, yet he was enrolled in the Massage Therapy Program as indicated in his Enrollment Agreement.

FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Provide Back-Up Documentation Supporting Annual Data Reported)

26. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 94937, for violating California Code of Regulations, Title 5, section 74112, subdivision (m). The circumstances are as follows:

27. Respondent did not provide documentation to the Bureau to substantiate the data reported in the School Performance Fact Sheets. The data reported in the School Performance Fact Sheets does not consistently contain the student's name, address, telephone number, email address, program completed, program start and completion dates, place of employment and position, salary, hours, and descriptions of all attempts to contact each student. In addition, Respondent's documents do not contain the name, email address, telephone number, and position or title of the institution's representative responsible for obtaining the information to substantiate the data reported in the School Performance Fact Sheets, the date that information was gathered, and copies of notes, letters, or emails through which the information was requested and gathered.

SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Maintain General Enrollment Requirements)

- 28. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 94937, for violating section 94902. The circumstances are as follows:
- 29. On or about May 24, 2016, a Bureau investigator reviewed certain student files on site at Respondent's institution and determined that the student file for S.W. did not contain a high school diploma or equivalency though it contained a document stating that the file contained foreign validated equivalent credentials, which could not be located.
- 30. Student A.M. provided the Bureau's investigator with a copy of her signed Enrollment Agreement dated February 15, 2016 for a total program cost of \$12,561.13. The Bureau's investigator received a copy of A.M.'s signed Enrollment Agreement dated February 15, 2016 from Respondent with the total charges changed to \$12,716.00, for a difference of \$154.87 between the two tuition amounts. Further, Respondent's copy of A.M.'s signed Enrollment Agreement showed certain charges changed and certain charges are illegible.
- 31. On or about May 24, 2016, a Bureau investigator reviewed certain student files on site at Respondent's institution and determined that copies of School Performance Fact Sheets were not maintained in all student files. Specifically, no School Performance Fact Sheets were contained in the files for students J.T.G., D.C., or J.R.

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(Failure to Provide Enrollment Agreement in Appropriate Language)

- 32. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 94937, for violating section 94906 The circumstances are as follows:
- 33. On or about November 10, 2015, a Bureau investigator conducted a field investigation at Respondent's institution and found that Respondent had enrolled students whose primary language was not English. The Bureau's investigator observed student surveys being conducted by a Bureau Compliance Inspector in the Massage Therapy class and observed students using their phones to translate the document and then providing the information to other students. The Bureau's investigator concluded that the majority of the class did not speak, read or understand English and therefore, were recruited in languages other than English. The Bureau investigator's review of Respondent's documents revealed that Respondent's Enrollment Agreement and required disclosures were provided in English only. Further, one of Respondent's administrators admitted to the Bureau's investigator that Respondent does not provide written translation for students who do not speak English as their primary language and that Respondent's staff participated in recruitment activities by translating the terms of the Enrollment Agreement and required disclosures to prospective students in languages other than English.

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PRAYER 1 2 WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs issue a 3 decision: 4 1. Revoking or suspending Approval to Operate Institution Code 1937111, issued to 5 David's Academy of Beauty; 6 2. Ordering Respondent to pay the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education the 7 reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and 8 9 Professions Code section 125.3; and, 3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper. 10 11 2/16/17 12 DATED: JOANNE WENZEL 13 Bureau Chief Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education 14 Department of Consumer Affairs State of California 15 Complainant 16 LA2016602578 17 52331845 2.doc 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28