



OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AUDIOLOGIST ORDERED TO CEASE AND DESIST PRACTICE

Thousand Oaks audiologist is accused of murder

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Audiologist Bryn Spejcher was ordered by a Ventura County Superior Court judge to cease and desist practicing audiology after the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology, and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board filed a request pursuant to California Penal Code section 23. This provision of the law allows for the discipline of an individual licensed pursuant to Business and Professions Code during a criminal proceeding, “if the crime charged is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a licensee.”

The 27-year-old medical professional, who worked as an audiologist for UCLA Health, is charged with the murder of 26-year-old Chad O’Melia, who police said she was dating for a short time. The order was executed on Thursday, July 12, 2018, in Ventura County Superior Court. The cease and desist from practice of audiology order was imposed as a condition of bail or release on her own recognizance for the remainder of the criminal matter.

“Protection of the public is the board’s highest priority,” said board Executive Officer Paul Sanchez. “After being notified of Spejcher’s arrest, the board began its investigation of this matter and will take additional administrative disciplinary action as necessary.”

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Southern California Audiologist Ordered to Cease and Desist Practice

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Read the restricting order here: http://www.speechandhearing.ca.gov/public_speech/au-3215_2018_07_12.or.pdf.

Consumers who believe they have received unprofessional services from an audiologist, speech-language pathologist or hearing aid dispenser can file a complaint with the board by visiting its website and clicking on the "CONSUMER" tab, then the "Complaint Process" link. Complaints can also be filed here: dca.ca.gov/webapps/gencomplaint.php.

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS: *The Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) promotes and protects the interests of California consumers while ensuring a competent and fair marketplace. DCA helps consumers learn how to protect themselves from unscrupulous and unqualified individuals. The department also protects professionals (licensees) from unfair competition by unlicensed practitioners. Consumers can file complaints against licensees by contacting DCA at (800) 952-5210. Consumers can also file a complaint online at dca.ca.gov.*

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