

# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF  
DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

MAURI LYNN FOWLER, L.P.N.,  
RESPONDENT.

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER  
LS9905145NUR

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**98 NUR 123**

The parties to this action for the purposes of § 227.53, Wis. Stats., are:

*Mauri Lynn Fowler  
2429 W. Locust Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53206*

*Wisconsin Board of Nursing  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935*

*Department of Regulation and Licensing  
Division of Enforcement  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935*

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final decision of this matter, subject to the approval of the Board. The Board has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Board in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Mauri Lynn Fowler (dob: 09/01/52) is a licensed practical nurse licensed in the State of Wisconsin pursuant to license # 19341 . This license was first granted December 9, 1977.
2. Respondent was convicted in the Milwaukee County Circuit Court on March 30, 1992, in case F920893, of felony forgery based upon the theft of three checks from a patient at Zablocki VA Hospital.
3. Respondent was convicted in the Winnebago County Circuit Court on January 26, 1998, in case 97CM765 of misdemeanor theft, based upon the removal of jewelry from a home health care patient.
4. On June 22, 1999, a post employment offer drug test of Respondent at Beverly Enterprises, Inc. was positive for cocaine. Respondent denies drug abuse.
5. An evaluation of Respondent by the Milwaukee Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence on December 18, 1998, resulted in no finding of an AODA condition.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

6. The Wisconsin Board of Nursing has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to §441.07(1)(b) and (d) Wis. Stats. and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to §227.44(5), Wis. Stats.
7. The conduct described in paragraphs 2 and 3, above, violated N 7.04(1), (2) and (15) Wis. Adm. Code. Such conduct constitutes unprofessional conduct within the meaning of the Code and statutes.

## ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
2. Mauri Lynn Fowler is REPRIMANDED for her unprofessional conduct.
2. The license of Respondent to practice as a licensed practical nurse in the state of Wisconsin is LIMITED for a period of at least two years as follows:

## **MONITORING**

### **Sobriety**

- a. Respondent shall abstain from all personal use of controlled substances as defined in Sec. 161.01(4), Stats. except when necessitated by a legitimate medical condition and then only with the prior approval of the Supervising Health Care Provider.
- b. Respondent shall abstain from all personal use of alcohol.
- c. Respondent shall in addition refrain from the consumption of over-the-counter medications or other substances which may mask consumption of controlled substances or of alcohol, or which may create false positive screening results, or which may interfere with respondent's monitoring.

### **Department Monitor**

- d. The Department Monitor is the individual designated by the Board as its agent to coordinate compliance with the terms of this Order, including receiving and coordinating all reports and petitions, and requesting additional monitoring and surveillance. The Department Monitor may be reached as follows:

Department Monitor

Department of Regulation Division of Enforcement

P.O. Box 8935

Madison, WI 53708-8935

FAX (608) 266-2264

TEL. (608) 267-7139

### **Releases**

- e. Respondent shall provide and keep on file with all treatment facilities and personnel, laboratories and collections sites current releases which comply with state and federal laws authorizing release of all urine, blood and hair specimen screen results and medical and treatment records and reports to, and permitting all treating physicians and therapists to disclose and discuss the progress of respondent's monitoring with the Board or any member thereof, or with any employee of the Department of Regulation and Licensing acting under the authority of the Board. Copies of these releases shall be filed simultaneously with the Department Monitor.

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## **Drug and Alcohol Screens**

f. Respondent shall supply on at least a twice per month basis, random monitored urine, blood or hair specimens. The Supervising Health Care Provider (or designee) shall request the specimens from Respondent and these requests shall be random with respect to the hour of the day and the day of the week. In addition, the Board or its designee may at any time request a random monitored urine, blood or hair specimen from Respondent by directing the Department Monitor in the Department of Regulation and Licensing, Division of Enforcement to contact Respondent and request Respondent provide a specimen.

g. Respondent shall keep the Supervising Health Care Provider informed of Respondent's location and shall be available for contact by the Supervising Health Care Provider at all times.

h. All requested urine, blood or hair specimens shall be provided by Respondent within five (5) hours of the request for the specimen. All urine specimen collections shall be a split sample accomplished by dividing urine from a single void into two specimen bottles. The total volume of the split sample shall be at least 45 ml. of urine. All split sample urine specimens, blood specimens and hair specimens shall be collected, monitored and chain of custody maintained in conformity with the collection, monitoring and chain of custody procedures set forth in 49 CFR Part 40. Urine specimen collections shall be by direct observation if:

- 1). The Respondent must provide an additional specimen because Respondent's initial specimen was outside of the normal temperature range (32.5 - 37.7 C/90.5 - 99.8 F) and respondent refuses to have an oral body temperature measurement or respondent does provide an oral body temperature measurement and the reading varies by more than 1 C/1.8 F from the temperature of the urine specimen;
- 2). Respondent's last provided specimen was determined by the laboratory to have a specific gravity of less than 1.003 and creatinine concentration below 0.2 g/l;
- 3). The collection site person observes Respondent acting in such a manner to provide reason to believe that Respondent may have attempted or may attempt to substitute or adulterate the specimen. The collection site person, if he or she believes that the initial urine specimen may have been adulterated or a substitution made, shall direct Respondent to provide an additional observed urine specimen;
- 4). The last provided specimen resulted in a positive or suspected positive test result for the presence of controlled substances; or
- 5). The Board (or any member of the Board), the Department Monitor, or Respondent's Supervising Health Care Provider directs that the urine specimen collection be by direct observation.

If either of the above conditions (1) or (3) requires collection of an additional observed urine specimen, the collection of the subsequent specimen shall be accomplished within the required five (5) hours of the request for the initial specimen; the collection of the initial specimen shall not satisfy the requirement that the urine specimen be collected within five (5) hours of the request for the initial specimen.

i. The drug screen program in which Respondent is enrolled shall at all times utilize a United States Department of Health and Human Services certified laboratory for the analysis of all specimens collected from Respondent.

j. The drug screen program in which Respondent is enrolled shall utilize only those urine, blood and hair specimen collection sites for collection of Respondent's urine, blood or hair specimens as comply with the United States Department of Transportation collection and chain of custody procedures set forth in 49 CFR Part 40.

kj The Supervising Health Care Provider, treatment facility, laboratory and collection site shall maintain a complete and fully documented chain of custody for each urine, blood or hair specimen collected from Respondent.

l. Every urine specimen collected from Respondent shall be analyzed at the time of collection for tampering by measurement of the temperature of the specimen and the oral temperature of Respondent. Every urine specimen collected from Respondent shall be further analyzed at the laboratory for tampering by measuring the creatinine concentration and the specific gravity of the specimen. The laboratory may at its discretion or at the direction of a Supervising Health Care Provider or the Board or any member thereof conduct additional tests to evaluate the urine specimen for tampering including, but not limited to, pH, color and odor.

m. Every urine, blood or hair specimen collected from Respondent shall be analyzed for alcohol, amphetamine, cocaine, opiates, phencyclidine, marijuana, methadone, propoxyphene, methaqualone,

barbiturates, benzodiazepines or the metabolites thereof. The Board or its designated agent may at any time direct that screens for additional substances and their metabolites be conducted by scientific methods and instruments appropriate to detect the presence of these substances. The laboratory shall conduct confirmatory tests of positive or suspected positive test results by appropriate scientific methods and instruments including, but not limited to, gas chromatography and mass spectrometry.

n. All urine, blood or hair specimens remaining after testing shall be maintained in a manner necessary to preserve the integrity of the specimens for at least seven (7) days; and all positive or suspected positive urine, blood or hair specimens remaining after testing shall be so maintained for a period of at least one (1) year. The Supervising Health Care Provider or the Board or any member thereof may direct that the urine, blood or hair specimens be maintained for a longer period of time.

o. For the purpose of further actions affecting Respondent's license under this Order, it shall be presumed that all confirmed positive reports are valid. Respondent shall have the burden of proof to establish that the positive report was erroneous and that the respondent's specimen sample did not contain alcohol or controlled substances or their metabolites.

p. If any urine, blood or hair specimen is positive or suspected positive for any controlled substances or alcohol, Respondent shall promptly submit to additional tests or examinations as the Supervising Health Care Provider shall determine to be appropriate to clarify or confirm the positive or suspected positive urine, blood or hair specimen test results.

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### **Required Reporting by Supervising Health Care Provider, and laboratories**

q. The Supervising Health Care Provider shall report immediately to the Department Monitor in the Department of Regulation and Licensing, Division of Enforcement by FAX or telephonic communication: any failure of Respondent to provide a urine, blood or hair specimen within five (5) hours from the time it was requested; or of any inability to locate Respondent to request a specimen. The laboratory shall immediately report all urine specimens suspected to have been tampered with and all urine, blood or hair specimens which are positive or suspected positive for controlled substances or alcohol to the Department Monitor, and to the Supervising Health Care Provider.

r. The laboratory shall within 48 hours of completion of each drug or alcohol analysis mail the report from **all** specimens requested of Respondent under this Order to the Department Monitor (regardless of whether the laboratory analysis of the specimen was positive or negative for controlled substances, their metabolites or alcohol). Each report shall state the date and time the specimen was requested; the date and time the specimen was collected; the results of the tests performed to detect tampering; and the results of the laboratory analysis for the presence of controlled substances and alcohol.

s. The Supervising Health Care Provider shall submit formal written reports to the Department Monitor in the Department of Regulation and Licensing, Division of Enforcement, P.O. Box 8935, Madison, Wisconsin 53708-8935 on a quarterly basis, as directed by the Department Monitor. These reports shall summarize the results of the urine, blood or hair specimen analyses. The Supervising Health Care Provider shall report immediately to the Department Monitor [Division of Enforcement, P.O. Box 8935, Madison, Wisconsin 53708-8935, FAX (608)266-2264, telephone no. (608)267-7139] any violation or suspected violation of the Board's Final Decision and Order.

### **Required reporting by Respondent**

t. Respondent is responsible for compliance with all of the terms and conditions of this Final Decision and Order. It is the responsibility of Respondent to promptly notify the Department Monitor, of any suspected violations of any of the terms and conditions of this Order, including any failures of the Supervising Health Care Provider, laboratory or collection sites to conform to the terms and conditions of this Order.

### **Facility approval**

u. If the Board determines that the Supervising Health Care Provider, laboratory or collection sites have failed to satisfy the terms and conditions of this Final Decision and Order, the Board may, at its sole discretion, direct that Respondent continue monitoring under the direction of another Supervising Health Care Provider, laboratory or collection site which will conform to the terms and conditions of this Final Decision and Order.

## PETITIONS FOR MODIFICATION OF TERMS

v. Respondent may petition the Board for modification of the terms of this limited license . Any such petition shall be accompanied by a written recommendation from respondent's Supervising Health Care Provider expressly supporting the specific modifications sought. Denial of the petition in whole or in part shall not be considered a denial of a license within the meaning of Sec. 227.01(3)(a), Stats. and Respondent shall not have a right to any further hearings or proceedings on any denial in whole or in part of the petition for modification of the limited license.

After two years of continuous active professional practice under this Order and without evidence of positive drug screens, or of misconduct, respondent may petition the Board for a termination of all limitations on the license, and restoration of an unlimited license. Such restoration shall be in the sole discretion of the Board, and denial of the petition in whole or in part shall not be considered a denial of a license within the meaning of Sec. 227.01(3)(a), Stats. and Respondent shall not have a right to any further hearings or proceedings on any denial in whole or in part of the petition for termination of the limitations and restoration of unlimited licensure.

## EXPENSES OF TREATMENT AND MONITORING

w. Respondent shall be responsible for all costs and expenses incurred in conjunction with the monitoring, screening, supervision and any other expenses associated with compliance with the terms of this Order.

## PRACTICE LIMITATIONS

x. No restrictions are placed upon Respondent nursing practice at this time. However, in the event Respondent's employer or health care supervisor recommends that restrictions be placed upon her the Board reserves the right to amend this provision of the Order accordingly..

y. Respondent shall practice only under the general supervision of a licensed professional nurse or other licensed health care professional approved by the Board or in a work setting pre-approved by the Board or its designated agent.

## **Reporting Required**

z. Respondent shall arrange for her employer to provide formal written reports to the Department Monitor in the Department of Regulation and Licensing, Division of Enforcement, P.O. Box 8935, Madison, Wisconsin 53708-8935 on a quarterly basis, as directed by the Department Monitor. These reports shall assess Respondent's work performance.

## **Change in Address or Work Status**

aa. Respondent shall report to the Board any change of employment status, residence, address or telephone number within five (5) days of the date of a change.

bb. Respondent shall furnish a copy of this Order to all present employers immediately upon issuance of this Order, and to any prospective employer when respondent applies for employment as a health care provider.

**Violation of any of the terms of this Order shall be construed as conduct imperiling public health, safety and welfare and may result in a summary suspension of Respondent's license; the Board in its discretion may in the alternative deny a stay of suspension of the license or impose additional conditions and limitations or other discipline.**

This Order shall become effective upon the date of its signing.

by:

Timothy D. Burns, CRNA

a member of the Board

May 14, 1999

Date