

# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST SECTION  
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING  
AND SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF :  
DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :  
 : FINAL DECISION AND ORDER  
WILLIAM R. STEBER, LMFT, : LS0705011MFT  
RESPONDENT. :

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Division of Enforcement Case # 06 MFT 002

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

William R. Steber, LMFT  
733 Clermont St.  
Antigo, WI 54409

Division of Enforcement  
Department of Regulation and Licensing  
1400 East Washington Avenue  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

Marriage and Family Therapist Section  
Of the Marriage and Family Therapy,  
Professional Counseling and  
Social Work Examining Board  
Department of Regulation & Licensing  
1400 East Washington Avenue  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

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 Marriage and Family Therapist Section. The Section has reviewed the attached Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. William R. Steber, LMFT, (DOB 04/30/1956) is duly licensed as a marriage and family therapist in the state of Wisconsin (license # 124-642). This license was first granted on March 16, 2004.
2. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapist Section is 733 Clermont Street, Antigo, WI 54409.
3. In or about July, 2005, Respondent was working for Green Lake Department of Health and Human Services

("Green Lake DHHS") as a therapist.

4. On or about July 25, 2005, Green Lake DHHS received an anonymous letter indicating that Respondent had been reprimanded at his previous place of employment for: (1) not having client records up to date, (2) having unsigned prescriptions for treatment that needed a physician's signature, and (3) providing services to two clients without charging them.

5. Green Lake DHHS confirmed these allegations with Respondent's former employer, then confronted Respondent as to why he had not revealed this employment or the reprimand when he applied for his position at Green Lake DHHS.

6. Respondent stated that he had worked only 2-3 hours per week for his previous employer, and was dissatisfied with the clinical supervision he had received. He said that all client records were up to date when he left, and he met with two clients on his own time because he felt that they needed closure and did not think it was fair to charge them for this. He said that when he turned in his resignation his employer was angry and reprimanded him in retribution for quitting.

7. Respondent's supervisor at Green Lake DHHS then reviewed Respondent's case notes, and discovered that as of August of 2005, "few, if any," notes were done on clients Respondent had seen that year.

8. Respondent resigned from Green Lake DHHS in September of 2005. His current employer states that he has been thorough and conscientious in keeping files up to date.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapist Section has jurisdiction to act in this matter, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §457.26, and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation and Order, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

2. The conduct described in paragraphs 4 - 7 above constitutes a violation of Wisconsin Administrative Code § MSPW 20.02(18) and subjects Respondent to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.262)(f).

#### ORDER

IT IS ORDERED:

1. William R. Steber, LMFT, is REPRIMANDED
2. The license of William R. Steber, LMFT, to practice marriage and family therapy in the State of Wisconsin is LIMITED as follows:
  - (a) Respondent shall practice only under the direct supervision of a licensed marriage and family therapist or other licensed mental health care professional approved by the Section or its designee.
  - (c) Respondent shall provide a copy of this Final Decision and Order and all other subsequent orders immediately to supervisory personnel at all settings where Respondent works as a marriage and family therapist or other care giver, or provides health care, currently or in the future.
  - (d) It is Respondent's responsibility to arrange for written reports from supervisors to be provided to the Department Monitor on a quarterly basis, as directed by the Department Monitor. These reports shall assess Respondent's work performance, and shall include the number of hours of active practice worked during that quarter.
  - (e) Respondent shall report to the Section any change of employment status, residence, address or telephone number within five (5) days of the date of a change.
  - (f) After two years, Respondent may petition the Section to end this limitation. If the Section, in its discretion, continues the limitation beyond two years, Respondent may request a hearing on the continuation of the limitation under Wis. Admin. Code ch. RL 2. The hearing shall be held in a timely manner with the evidentiary portion of the hearing being completed within 60 days of receipt of Respondent's request, unless waived by

Respondent. Requesting a hearing does not stay the continuation of the limitation during the pendency of the hearing process.

3. Respondent shall, within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, pay costs of this proceeding in the amount of Six Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$ 650.00). Payment shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing, and mailed to:

Department Monitor  
Division of Enforcement  
Department of Regulation and Licensing  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935  
Telephone (608) 267-3817  
Fax (608) 266-2264

4. Violation of any of the terms of this Order may be construed as conduct imperiling public health, safety and welfare and may result in a summary suspension of Respondent's license. The Section in its discretion may in the alternative impose additional conditions and limitations or other additional discipline for a violation of any of the terms of this Order. In the event Respondent fails to pay costs as ordered, the Respondent's license (#124-642) SHALL BE SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of this Order.

5. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

Marriage and Family Therapist Section

By: Bruce Kuehl  
A Member of the Section

5/1/07  
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST SECTION  
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING  
AND SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF	:	
DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST	:	
	:	STIPULATION
WILLIAM R. STEBER, LMFT,	:	LS# _____
RESPONDENT.	:	

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Division of Enforcement Case # 06 MFT 002

Respondent William R. Steber, LMFT, personally on his own behalf; and Jeanette Lytle, attorney for the Department of Regulation and Licensing, Division of Enforcement, stipulate:

1. This Stipulation is entered into as a result of a pending investigation of Respondent's licensure by the Division of Enforcement (case # 06 MFT 002). Respondent consents to the resolution of this investigation by stipulation.

2. Respondent understands that by signing this Stipulation he voluntarily and knowingly waives his rights, including: the right to a hearing on the allegations against him, at which time the state has the burden of proving those allegations by a preponderance of the evidence; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to call witnesses on his behalf and to compel their attendance by subpoena; the right to testify himself; the right to file objections to any proposed decision and to present briefs or oral arguments to the officials who are to render the final decision; the right to petition for rehearing; and all other applicable rights afforded to him under the United States Constitution, the Wisconsin Constitution, the Wisconsin Statutes, the Wisconsin Administrative Code, and any other provisions of state or federal law.

3. Respondent has been provided an opportunity to obtain the advice of legal counsel prior to signing this stipulation.

4. Respondent agrees to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Marriage and Family Therapist Section. The parties to the Stipulation consent to the entry of the attached Final Decision and Order without further notice, pleading, appearance or consent of the parties. Respondent waives all rights to any appeal of the Section's order, if adopted in the form as attached.

5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Section, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall be returned to the Division of Enforcement for further proceedings. In the event that this Stipulation is not accepted by the Section, the parties agree not to contend that the Section has been prejudiced or biased in any manner by consideration of this attempted resolution.

6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Enforcement and any member of the Marriage and Family Section ever assigned as an advisor in this investigation may appear before the Section in open or closed session, without the presence of the Respondent or his attorney, for purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that any member of the Section may have in connection with the Section's deliberations on the Stipulation. Additionally, any such advisor may vote on whether the Section should accept this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

7. Respondent is informed that should the Section adopt this Stipulation, the Section's final decision and order is a public record and will be published in accordance with standard Department procedure.

8. The Division of Enforcement joins Respondent in recommending the Section adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

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William R. Steber, LMFT  
733 Clermont St.  
Antigo, WI 54409

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Date

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Jeanette Lytle, Attorney  
Division of Enforcement  
Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

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Date