

# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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

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IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY :  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :  
 : FINAL DECISION AND ORDER  
ANGELIKA FRANZISKA HAAS, L.C.S.W., : LS0803051SOC  
RESPONDENT. :

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[Division of Enforcement Case # 02 SOC 001]

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

Angelika Franziska Haas, L.C.S.W.  
707 W. Prospect Avenue  
Appleton, WI 54914

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

Social Worker Section  
Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling  
and Social Work Examining Board  
Department of Regulation and 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 Social Worker Section. The Section has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Section adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following:

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Angelika Franziska Haas, L.C.S.W., Respondent, date of birth July 8, 1954, is licensed by the Social Worker Section as a clinical social worker in the state of Wisconsin pursuant to credential number 3727, which was first granted June 30, 1995. (Prior to a statutory change effective 11/01/02, Respondent's credential was a certificate as an independent clinical social worker.)

2. Respondent received a Master of Science degree in psychology from Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin on August 17, 1983, and was granted her credential pursuant to the grand-parenting provisions of Wis. Admin. Code § SFC 3.10 (1995) and was not required to take and pass the examination otherwise required for the credential.

3. Respondent's last address reported to the Department of Regulation and Licensing is 707 W. Prospect Avenue, Appleton, WI 54914.

4. During the events of this matter, Respondent was employed as a psychotherapist at Family Services of Northeast Wisconsin, Inc., in Menasha, Wisconsin.

#### Ms. A's Prior Treatment in Green Bay (1999-2001)

5. On April 16, 1999, Ms. A, an adult, began receiving psychotherapy from a psychotherapist at Family Services

in Green Bay. She was initially diagnosed: Axis I: Acute Stress Disorder (DSM-IV 308.03) and Major Depression (DSM-IV 296.03); Axis II: Dependent Personality Disorder (DSM-IV 301.6). A psychiatrist evaluated Ms. A on May 26 and diagnosed Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Dysthymia and prescribed an antidepressant. The psychiatrist continued to follow Ms. A's treatment.

6. On October 8, 1999, Ms. A transferred to a different psychotherapist at that office. She was hospitalized at Rogers Memorial Hospital from November 23 to December 1, 1999 because of suicidal ideation. Ms. A had 45 psychotherapy sessions with that therapist. Over the 18 months of therapy, Ms. A disclosed:

- a. Past and present sexual abuse by her father and another family member.
- b. Disassociation by Ms. A during abuse and at other times.
- c. Suicidal ideation and self abuse (cutting, hair pulling, bingeing and purging).

7. On April 25, 2001, the psychotherapist told Ms. A that she would be taking a leave for the summer and would be referring Ms. A to another therapist. In reaction, Ms. A cancelled appointments previously scheduled with the psychotherapist on April 26 and May 2. On May 10, the psychotherapist left a telephone message for Ms. A asking Ms. A to call her and providing Ms. A with a referral to Respondent, who was located at Family Services' Menasha office.

#### Ms. A's Treatment by Respondent (2001)

8. Prior to Ms. A's first session with Respondent, the referring psychotherapist called Respondent. The psychotherapist says she suggested that Respondent obtain the extensive treatment records from the Green Bay office. However, Respondent does not recall that recommendation and did not request or obtain the records. The psychotherapist also provided background information about Ms. A, including: her abuse history, symptoms, issues with trust, present treatment goals and that she was prescribed an antidepressant.

9. Ms. A completed a "Life History Questionnaire" prior to her first session with Respondent in which Ms. A provided a summary of her background which included, among other things, the reasons for seeking psychotherapy (PTSD; sexual abuse by father/other male relatives/others; shame; dealing with after effects/flashbacks, etc.) Ms. A noted in the Medical and Physical section of the questionnaire, that she was currently taking Effexor®, an antidepressant, and listed the name of the prescribing psychiatrist.

10. During the initial session on May 23, Ms. A provided Respondent with a description of the type of sexual abuse she had experienced and the perpetrators. Respondent noted that Ms. A has nightmares of sacrificing animals and of lots of faces she did not know. Respondent asked Ms. A if "she had conscious awareness about ritualistic abuse" and noted that Ms. A could not answer with certainty. Respondent provided psychotherapy to Ms. A on May 30, June 29, July 13, and August 1.

11. An August 1, 2001 Treatment Plan included the diagnoses Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Dependent Personality Disorder and treatment goals of "function more complete on a daily basis, decrease symptoms, process past abuse, increase self-esteem and connect the intellectual with feelings." There were additional sessions on August 9, 10 and 13. Ms. A says that during the August sessions, they discussed God and Satan and that Respondent told her she must make a decision to choose life rather than listening to the evil inside her that was focusing on death.

12. The last treatment session was on August 13, 2001. Although Respondent kept thorough session notes of all other sessions, there is no note of the August 13 session. Respondent believes it must have been lost.

a. Ms. A says that near the end of the session, Respondent gave her the option of either agreeing to an inpatient psychiatric hospitalization or allowing Respondent to do a process of inviting God into Ms. A's life and demanding that the evil and Satan leave. Ms. A did not want to be hospitalized and agreed to the latter. Respondent says that Ms. A said prayer was helpful to her in alleviating suicidal impulses and suggested they pray together. Respondent says she prayed with Ms. A because Respondent thought it was a safe and effective clinical option to the inpatient hospitalization, which Ms. A had declined.

b. Respondent sat on the couch next to Ms. A, placed one of her hands on Ms. A's forehead and with her other hand, held both of Ms. A's hands on Respondent's lap. Respondent says she held Ms. A's hands at Ms. A's request and touched her forehead briefly when Ms. A said she was feeling increased pressure at that spot.

c. Respondent recited things about God, inviting Him into Ms. A's life as her Savior and had Ms. A repeat Respondent's statements. Respondent demanded that Satan "be gone" to "rid the evil inside" Ms. A. Respondent also spoke in a language which Ms. A did not understand. Respondent says that Ms. A suggested the words used in

the prayer and other statements and Respondent was merely repeating those words.

13. Following the session, Ms. A says she felt violated, confused, hurt, tense and distant from her surroundings. She says that Respondent's actions of touching Ms. A's forehead and holding her hands triggered flashbacks and memories relating to her sexual abuse. Ms. A did not tell Respondent these things. The following day, Respondent called Ms. A as a safety measure. Ms. A told Respondent she felt worse and was "still having the evil voices." Respondent told her that the therapeutic process would correct that.

14. Ms. A was confused and upset and canceled the appointment she had scheduled with Respondent later in the week. Respondent called Ms. A and encouraged her to continue biweekly therapy. Ms. A said she was not returning to therapy because she was no longer hearing evil voices and was not suicidal. Respondent told Ms. A she would discharge her because she could not be responsible for a client who was not in treatment. Respondent completed a Client Case Closing form on August 21, discharging Ms. A as a client as of that date. The form contained: (1) the unchanged diagnoses of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Dependent Personality Disorder, (2) Reason for discharge: "Has worked through crises; not willing face difficulties" and Aftercare plans: "Returning to former therapist."

15. On August 21, Ms. A met with her psychiatrist in Green Bay for a scheduled medication check. Ms. A told the psychiatrist she had concerns about her last session with Respondent. She also related experiencing increased symptoms, memories and flashbacks of abuse, increased dissociation and loss of time, lack of sleep, nightmares when she did sleep, eating binges and purging. On August 23, Ms. A called her psychiatrist and said she felt suicide was her only option. After telling the psychiatrist she had a loaded gun and planned to shoot herself, Ms. A was immediately admitted to Bellin Psychiatric Center and remained hospitalized until August 28.

16. Ms. A complained to her prior psychotherapist about Respondent's behavior. Family Services investigated and decided that Respondent's conduct was outside the agency's standard of care and her employment with Family Services should be terminated. Respondent resigned effective December 3, 2001.

17. This is the only complaint against Respondent investigated by the Division in the 12 years Respondent has been credentialed by the Section.

18. At the suggestion of the Division of Enforcement and subsequent to signing the attached Stipulation, Respondent has taken and completed the following continuing education programs offered by the University of Wisconsin – Madison, Professional Development and Applied Studies:

- a. March 3, 2008, "Ethics, Boundaries, & Burnout: Body, Mind, and Spirit in Mental Health Practice," 6 hours.
- b. March 4, 2008, "Mental Health: 2008 Updates for Busy Clinicians," 6 hours.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Social Worker Section of the Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling and Social Work Examining Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26(2) and has authority to enter into this stipulated resolution pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

2. Respondent's praying with Ms. A on August 13, 2001, in the circumstances set out above, was unprofessional conduct and is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. 457.26(2)(f).

#### ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Angelika Franziska Haas, L.C.S.W., Respondent, is hereby REPRIMANDED for the above conduct.  
2. Respondent shall take and complete 6 hours of continuing education approved by the Section on each of the following subjects:

- a. Professional-client boundaries.
- b. Treatment of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

3. The program set out in Finding of Fact 18.a is approved and Respondent having completed that program has satisfied the requirement of 6 hours of continuing education in professional-client boundaries.

4. The program set out in Finding of Fact 18.b is approved and Respondent having completed that program has satisfied the requirement of 6 hours of continuing education in treatment of post traumatic stress disorder.

5. Respondent is prohibited from applying any of these hours of continuing education toward satisfaction of the continuing education required to be completed from March 1, 2007 through February 28, 2009 by Wis. Adm. Code § MPSW

8.02.

6. Respondent shall, within 180 days of the date of this Order, pay to the Department of Regulation and Licensing the costs of this proceeding in the amount of \$500.00 pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.22(2).

7. All payments, required by this Order shall be mailed or delivered to:

Department Monitor  
Department of Regulation and Licensing  
Division of Enforcement  
1400 East Washington Ave.  
P.O. Box 8935  
Fax (608) 266-2264  
Telephone (608) 267-3817  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

8. In the event Respondent fails to pay costs as ordered, Respondent's license SHALL BE SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of this Order.

9. This Order is effective on the date it is signed.

Social Worker Section  
Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy,  
Professional Counseling and Social Work Examining Board

By: Mary Jo Walsh  
A Member of the Section

3/5/08  
Date

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

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IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY :  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :  
 : STIPULATION  
ANGELIKA FRANZISKA HAAS, L.C.S.W., : LS \_\_\_\_\_ SOC  
RESPONDENT. :

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[Division of Enforcement Case # 02 SOC 001]

It is hereby stipulated and agreed, by and between Angelika Franziska Haas, L.C.S.W., Respondent; Charles D. Koehler of Herrling, Clark, Hartzheim & Siddall, Ltd., attorneys for Respondent; and John R. Zwieg, attorney for the Complainant, Department of Regulation and Licensing, Division of Enforcement, as follows:

1. This Stipulation is entered into as a result of a pending investigation of Respondent's licensure by the Division of Enforcement (file 02 SOC 001). Respondent consents to the resolution of this investigation by stipulation and without the issuance of a formal complaint

2. Respondent understands that by signing this Stipulation, she voluntarily and knowingly waives her rights, including: the right to a hearing on the allegations against her, 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 her; the right to call witnesses on her behalf and to compel their attendance by subpoena; the right to testify herself; 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 her 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 obtained advice of legal counsel prior to signing this Stipulation.

4. Respondent denies the allegations of unprofessional conduct in this matter, but acknowledges that there are facts from which the Section could find that unprofessional conduct occurred and consents to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Section to bring closure to this matter. 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 the 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 Section ever assigned as a case advisor in this investigation may appear before the Section in open or closed session, without the presence of Respondent or her 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 case 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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Angelika Franziska Haas, L.C.S.W.  
Respondent  
707 W. Prospect Avenue  
Appleton, WI 54914

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Date

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Charles D. Koehler  
Herrling, Clark, Hartzheim  
& Siddall, Ltd.  
Attorneys for Respondent  
800 N. Lynndale Drive  
Appleton, WI 54914

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Date

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John R. Zwieg  
Attorney for Complainant  
Division of Enforcement  
Department of Regulation and Licensing  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

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Date