

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services Access to the Public Records of the Reports of Decisions

This Reports of Decisions document was retrieved from the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services website. These records are open to public view under Wisconsin's Open Records law, sections 19.31-19.39 Wisconsin Statutes.

Please read this agreement prior to viewing the Decision:

- The Reports of Decisions is designed to contain copies of all orders issued by credentialing authorities within the Department of Safety and Professional Services from November, 1998 to the present. In addition, many but not all orders for the time period between 1977 and November, 1998 are posted. Not all orders issued by a credentialing authority constitute a formal disciplinary action.
- Reports of Decisions contains information as it exists at a specific point in time in the Department of Safety and Professional Services data base. Because this data base changes constantly, the Department is not responsible for subsequent entries that update, correct or delete data. The Department is not responsible for notifying prior requesters of updates, modifications, corrections or deletions. All users have the responsibility to determine whether information obtained from this site is still accurate, current and complete.
- There may be discrepancies between the online copies and the original document. Original documents should be consulted as the definitive representation of the order's content. Copies of original orders may be obtained by mailing requests to the Department of Safety and Professional Services, PO Box 8935, Madison, WI 53708-8935. The Department charges copying fees. *All requests must cite the case number, the date of the order, and respondent's name* as it appears on the order.
- Reported decisions may have an appeal pending, and discipline may be stayed during the appeal. Information about the current status of a credential issued by the Department of Safety and Professional Services is shown on the Department's Web Site under "License Lookup."

The status of an appeal may be found on court access websites at:

<http://ccap.courts.state.wi.us/InternetCourtAccess> and <http://www.courts.state.wi.us/wscga>

- Records not open to public inspection by statute are not contained on this website.

By viewing this document, you have read the above and agree to the use of the Reports of Decisions subject to the above terms, and that you understand the limitations of this on-line database.

Correcting information on the DSPS website: An individual who believes that information on the website is inaccurate may contact DSPS@wisconsin.gov

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE PSYCHOLOGY EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY :
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :
 : FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
AMBER EBERT, PSYD, :
RESPONDENT. :

0005242

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 16 PSY 015

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

Amber Ebert, PsyD
110 4th Avenue
P. O. Box 250
Shell Lake, WI 54871

Wisconsin Psychology Examining Board
P.O. Box 8366
Madison, WI 53708-8366

Division of Legal Services and Compliance
Department of Safety and Professional Services
P.O. Box 7190
Madison, WI 53707-7190

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final disposition of this matter, subject to the approval of the Psychology Examining Board (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, Conclusions of Law and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Amber Ebert, PsyD, (dob October 7, 1979) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a psychologist, having license number 2862-57, first granted on March 11, 2010, and current through September 30, 2017. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 110 4th Avenue, Post Office Box 250, Shell Lake, Wisconsin 54871.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a psychologist at a health clinic (Clinic) located in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

3. Respondent treated Patient A at the Clinic for approximately four (4) years.
4. Respondent and Patient A exchanged numerous emails. Patient A often professed love for Respondent and made inappropriate romantic remarks. These exchanges escalated in the months leading up to May, 2016.
5. Respondent allowed Patient A to give her massages during or after Patient A's treatment sessions in Respondent's office. Respondent would lock the door.
6. On May 6, 2016, Respondent terminated therapy with Patient A.
7. A May 24, 2016 email exchange between Respondent to Patient A indicated that Respondent had asked Patient A to delete recordings he had made of some of their sessions.
8. On May 30, 2016, Respondent emailed Patient A and stated "Please just know that I feel like a terrible person. I never wanted to cause you pain and the fact that I got drawn in really makes me questions myself on a lot of levels...Nothing like this has ever happened before and will not happen again."
9. On June 6, 2016, Respondent told her supervisor at the Clinic that Patient A was blackmailing her. Respondent stated that Patient A was in love with Respondent and Respondent admitted to having telephone and email contact with Patient A after therapy was terminated.
10. Respondent stated that Patient A wanted to continue to have contact with Respondent and told her he audio- and video-taped some of their sessions as evidence of their inappropriate behavior during therapy.
11. Respondent's supervisor discovered multiple email conversations between Respondent and Patient A over the course of eight to nine months that showed poor judgment and boundary violations.
12. Respondent had multiple opportunities to get supervision and Respondent's clinical documentation did not reflect any of the concerns or information she provided in her discussion with her supervisor.
13. In resolution of this matter, Respondent consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Psychology Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 455.09(1), and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

2. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Amber Ebert, PsyD, engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § Psy 5.01(17), by failing to avoid prohibited dual relationships.

3. As a result of the above violations, Amber Ebert, PsyD, is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 455.09(1)(g).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. The license to practice psychology in the state of Wisconsin issued to Amber Ebert, PsyD, (license no. 2862-57) is SUSPENDED for 30 days from the date of this Order.

3. The license to practice psychology issued to Respondent Amber Ebert, PsyD (license number 2862-57) is LIMITED as follows:

- a. Within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order, Respondent shall successfully complete eight (8) hours of education on the topic of professional ethics and boundaries offered by a provider pre-approved by the Board's monitoring liaison, including taking and passing any exam offered for the courses.
- b. All education completed pursuant to this Order shall be taken in-person. Education, such as webinar, online, or self-study shall not be approved.
- c. Respondent shall submit proof of successful completion of the ordered education in the form of verification from the institution providing the education to the Department Monitor at the address stated below.
- d. None of the education completed pursuant to this requirement may be used to satisfy any continuing education requirements that have been or may be instituted by the Board or Department, and also may not be used in future attempts to upgrade a credential in Wisconsin.
- e. This limitation shall be removed from Respondent's license after satisfying the Board or its designee that Respondent has successfully completed all of the ordered education.

4. Within 120 days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$1182.39.

5. Request for approval of courses, proof of successful course completion and payment of costs (made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services) shall be sent by Respondent to the Department Monitor at the address below:

Department Monitor
Division of Legal Services and Compliance
Department of Safety and Professional Services
P.O. Box 7190, Madison, WI 53707-7190
Telephone (608) 267-3817; Fax (608) 266-2264
DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

6. In the event that Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's license (no. 2862-57) to practice psychology in the state of Wisconsin may, in the discretion of the Board or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of the Order. The Board may, in addition and/or in the alternative refer any violation of this Order to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further investigation and action.

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

WISCONSIN PSYCHOLOGY EXAMINING BOARD

by: 
A Member of the Board

3-29-2017
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE PSYCHOLOGY EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

AMBER EBERT, PSYD,
RESPONDENT.

:
:
:
:
:

STIPULATION

0005242

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 16 PSY 015

Respondent Amber Ebert, PsyD, and the Division of Legal Services and Compliance, Department of Safety and Professional Services stipulate as follows:

1. This Stipulation is entered into as a result of a pending investigation by the Division of Legal Services and Compliance. Respondent consents to the resolution of this investigation by Stipulation.

2. Respondent understands that by signing this Stipulation, Respondent voluntarily and knowingly waives the following rights:

- the right to a hearing on the allegations against Respondent, 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 Respondent;
- the right to call witnesses on Respondent's behalf and to compel their attendance by subpoena;
- the right to testify on Respondent's own behalf;
- 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 Respondent under the United States Constitution, the Wisconsin Constitution, the Wisconsin Statutes, the Wisconsin Administrative Code, and other provisions of state or federal law.

3. Respondent is aware of Respondent's right to seek legal representation and has been provided an opportunity to obtain legal counsel before signing this Stipulation.

4. Respondent agrees to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Wisconsin Psychology Examining Board (Board). 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 Board's order, if adopted in the form as attached.


5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Board, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the Division

of Legal Services and Compliance for further proceedings. In the event that the Stipulation is not accepted by the Board, the parties agree not to contend that the Board 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 Legal Services and Compliance and any member of the Board ever assigned as an advisor in this investigation may appear before the Board in open or closed session, without the presence of Respondent, for purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that any member of the Board may have in connection with deliberations on the Stipulation. Additionally, any such advisor may vote on whether the Board should accept this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

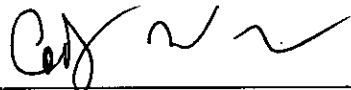
7. Respondent is informed that should the Board adopt this Stipulation, the Board's Final Decision and Order is a public record and will be published in accordance with standard Department procedure.

8. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondent in recommending the Board adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.



Amber Ebert, PsyD, Respondent
110 4th Avenue
P. O. Box 250
Shell Lake, WI 54871
License no. 2862-57

3-17-17
Date



Cody Wagner, Prosecuting Attorney
Department of Safety and Professional Services
Division of Legal Services and Compliance
P.O. Box 7190
Madison, WI 53707-7190

3/20/17
Date