

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

ORDER 0001700

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Ruth Dean Larsen, R.N. (hereinafter referred to us as respondent) is duly licensed as a registered nurse in the State of Wisconsin (license number 32547); said license was issued on February 15, 1967.

2. At all times relevant to this complaint, respondent was working as a registered nurse at Caravilla Nursing Home in Janesville, Wisconsin.

3. On an exact date unknown to complainant, but beginning in approximately October 1980 and continuing on through April 8, 1981, respondent diverted the following controlled substances from the unit dose carts at Caravilla Nursing Home. These substances were available as PRN drugs for patients assigned to respondent's care.

- a. Lomotil (dipheoxylate hydrochloride) (Schedule 5)
- b. Empirin with codeine (acetylsalicylic acid/codeine phosphate) (Schedule 3)
- c. Dalmane (flurazapan hydrochloride) (Schedule 4)
- d. Tylenol with codeine (acetaminophen/codeine phosphate) (Schedule 3)

4. Respondent diverted and ingested these substances on a regular basis while working at Caravilla Nursing Home. Although the exact amount of substances diverted is unknown, respondent diverted a total of approximately 2,000 tablets of Tylenol with codeine and Dalmane.

5. Beginning in April, 1981, Respondent completed a 30 day inpatient treatment program at Kettle Moraine Hospital; she subsequently attended 10 weeks of counseling through Rock County Courthouse.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes grounds for the imposition of disciplinary action against respondent's license under Wis. Stats. sec. 441.07(1)(c) and (d) and Wis. Adm. Code secs. N 11.03(3)(a) and (b) and N 11.04(1).

Therefore, it is hereby ORDERED:

- a. The license of Ms. Larsen to practice nursing in the State of Wisconsin is suspended for a period of one year. This suspension is stayed pending the successful completion of the period of license limitation outlined in paragraph b, below. The period of license limitation shall commence upon any action on the part of Ms. Larsen under color of her Wisconsin licensure.

b. The license of Ms. Larsen is limited for a period of two years as follows:

- 1) Ms. Larsen must remain free of unprescribed controlled substances during the period of limitation.
- 2) Ms. Larsen must participate in a program of witnessed random monitoring, on a weekly basis, for controlled substances in her blood and/or urine.

Ms. Larsen will be responsible for obtaining the monitoring facility and reporting system acceptable to the Board, and is responsible for all costs incurred in conjunction with the monitoring and reporting required.

To be an acceptable program, the monitoring facility must agree to provide random, monitored gathering of specimens for evaluation. It must further agree to file an immediate report with the Bureau of Nursing if Ms. Larsen fails to appear upon request, or if a drug screen proves positive, or if Ms. Larsen refuses to give a specimen for analysis upon the request of the monitoring facility.

- 3) Ms. Larsen agrees to notify the Board fifteen (15) days in advance of her returning to employment in a nursing capacity. This notice must include the details of the monitoring system Ms. Larsen proposes to satisfy the requirements of paragraph (b) 2, above.
- 4) Ms. Larsen must arrange for written quarterly reports to the Bureau of Nursing from her employer evaluating her work performance.
- 5) Violation of any of the terms of limitation may result in summary suspension of licensure, imposition of the stayed portion of the discipline imposed in this action, and/or the imposition of additional discipline.
- 6) Ms. Larsen may petition the Board at any time during the limitation period to revise or eliminate any of the above conditions.

BOARD OF NURSING

By:

Marjorie Sundquist RN
A Member of the Board

Date

9/23/82

SMG:ket
749-355

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF

RUTH DEAN LARSEN, R.N.,
RESPONDENT.

STIPULATION

It is hereby stipulated between Ruth Dean Larsen, R.N., personally and on her own behalf, and Steven M. Gloe, Attorney for the Department of Regulation & Licensing, Division of Enforcement, as follows that:

1. This Stipulation shall be submitted to the Board of Nursing to form the basis for the Final Decision and Order in this matter.
2. If the terms of the Stipulation are not acceptable to the Board, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of the Stipulation, and the matter shall be returned to the Division of Enforcement for further action.
3. If the Board accepts the terms of the Stipulation, the parties consent to the entry of the attached Final Decision and Order without further notice, pleading, appearance or consent of the parties.
4. In settlement of this matter, Respondent admits the allegation to the Complaint filed in this action.
5. Respondent further submits that beginning in April, 1981 she completed a 30 day inpatient treatment program at Kettle Moraine Hospital, and subsequently attended 10 weeks of counseling through Rock County Courthouse.
6. The Division of Enforcement recommends that the Board of Nursing impose the following discipline:
 - a. The license of Ms. Larsen to practice nursing in the State of Wisconsin be suspended for a period of one year. This suspension would be stayed pending the successful completion of the period of license limitation outlined in paragraph b, below. The period of license limitation would commence upon any action on the part of Ms. Larsen under color of her Wisconsin licensure.
 - b. The license of Ms. Larsen be limited for a period of two years as follows:
 - 1) Ms. Larsen must remain free of unprescribed controlled substances during the period of limitation.

- 2) Ms. Larsen must participate in a program of random supervised monitoring, on a weekly basis, for controlled substances in her blood and/or urine.

Ms. Larsen understands that she will be responsible for obtaining the monitoring facility and reporting system acceptable to the Board, and that she would be responsible for all costs incurred in conjunction with the monitoring and reporting required.

To be an acceptable program, the monitoring facility must agree to provide random, monitored gathering of specimens for evaluation. They must further agree to file an immediate report with the Bureau of Nursing if Ms. Larsen fails to appear upon request, or if a drug screen proves positive, or if Ms. Larsen refuses to give a specimen for analysis upon the request of the monitoring facility.

- 3) Ms. Larsen agrees to notify the Board fifteen (15) days in advance of her returning to employment in a nursing capacity.
- 4) Ms. Larsen must then arrange for written quarterly reports to the Bureau of Nursing from her employer evaluating her work performance.
- 5) Ms. Larsen may petition the Board at any time during the limitation period to revise or eliminate any of the above conditions.
- 6). Ms. Larsen understands that violation of any of the terms of limitation may result in summary suspension of her license, imposition of the stayed portion of the discipline imposed in this action, and/or the imposition of additional discipline.

8/20/82
Date

Ruth Dean Larsen R.N.
Ruth Dean Larsen, R.N.

8/26/82
Date

Steven M. Gloe
Steven M. Gloe, Attorney
Division of Enforcement

SMG:ket
916-354



State of Wisconsin \

DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING

Lee Sherman Dreyfus
Governor

Sue Ann Kaestner
Secretary

October 4, 1982

1400 E. WASHINGTON AVENUE
P.O. Box 8936
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53708
608 266-2112

Ruth Dean Larsen
1814 Peterson Avenue
Janesville, WI 53545

RE: In the Matter of the Disciplinary Proceedings
Against Ruth Dean Larsen

Dear Ms. Larsen:

On September 23, 1982, the Wisconsin Board of Nursing adopted the attached Final Decision and Order as stipulated by the parties in the above matter. This action suspends your license for a period of one year. The suspension is stayed pending the successful completion of two years of license limitation.

The following schedule applies to your limited license:

1. If you decide to return to employment as an RN, you must notify the Board fifteen days in advance of your employment and return the license renewal card so it can be marked "Limited License".
2. You must at the same time inform the Board of Nursing of the facility which will be doing the monitoring for controlled substances in blood and urine. This facility must be approved by the Bureau of Nursing.
3. You must arrange to have written quarterly reports, evaluating your work performance, forwarded to the Bureau of Nursing from your employer.


If you have questions regarding the above, please contact Ms. Katie Kyndely, R.N., Nursing Education Consultant, at 608-266-0072.

Sincerely,

BUREAU OF NURSING

Paula R. Possin
Director

PRP/KK/ms
Encl.

cc:  Steven Gloe, Attorney, Division of Enforcement