

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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# FILE COPY

BEFORE THE STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF

RONALD A. WEGNER, R.N.,

:  
:  
:  
:  
:  
FINAL DECISION  
AND ORDER

-----  
ORDER 0001741

The parties to this proceeding for the purposes of Wis. Stats sec. 227.16 are:

Ronald A. Wegner  
P.O. Box 26496  
Wauwatosa, WI 53226

State of Wisconsin Board of Nursing  
1400 East Washington Avenue  
P.O. Box 8936  
Madison, WI 53708

Department of Regulation and Licensing  
Division of Enforcement  
1400 East Washington Avenue  
Madison, WI 53708

A party aggrieved by this decision may petition the board for rehearing within twenty (20) days after service of this decision pursuant to Wis. Stats. sec. 227.12. The party to be named as respondent in the petition is Ronald A. Wegner.

A party aggrieved by this decision may also petition for judicial review by filing the petition in the office of the clerk of the circuit court for the county where the judicial review proceedings will be held and serving the board and other parties with a copy of the petition for judicial review within thirty (30) days after service of this decision pursuant to Wis. Stats. sec. 227.16. The party to be named as respondent in the petition is the State of Wisconsin, Board of Nursing.

The parties to this matter have agreed to the terms of the attached Stipulation as the final disposition of this matter, subject to the approval of the Board. The Board has reviewed the Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Board makes the following:

## FINDINGS OF FACT

1. At all times relevant hereto, Mr. Wegner was duly licensed in the State of Wisconsin as a registered nurse.

2. Between December 2, 1979 and January 17, 1980, Mr. Wegner diverted forty-nine 2cc dosages of Sublimaze from his employer, Hartford Memorial Hospital (Hartford, Wisconsin). Mr. Wegner was employed at Hartford Memorial as a nurse anesthetist.

3. Sublimaze (fentanyl) is a Schedule II narcotic analgesic.

4. Mr. Wegner falsified entries on the narcotics sheets for the amounts patients received to cover his diversion of the drug. No patient charts were falsified.

5. Mr. Wegner self-administered the Sublimaze he diverted for the relief of personal problems; he self-administered the drug while off-duty.

6. On or about July 14, 1980, respondent's employment at Hartford Memorial was terminated, because respondent had violated one of the conditions of employment which were imposed by his employer in January, 1980. Mr. Wegner had obtained and administered a narcotic (Sublimaze) to patients during the performance of operative procedures, rather than having the drug obtained and administered by a circulating nurse.

7. On August 6, 1980, Mr. Wegner entered the inpatient phase for impaired nurses at DePaul Rehabilitation Hospital of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Mr. Wegner completed the inpatient phase, and has continued with treatment at DePaul as an outpatient since September 1980.

8. Mr. Wegner is currently employed as a nurse anesthetist with Osteopathic Anesthesia, S.C., Dr. Alan Zarkower, c/o New General Hospital, 5310 West Capitol Drive, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53216.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The conduct described above constitutes unprofessional conduct and unfitness by reason of abuse of drugs under Wis. Stats. secs. 441.07(1)(c) and (d) and Wis. Adm. Code sec. N 11.03(3)(b) and N 11.04(1).

Therefore it is hereby ORDERED that:

The license of Ronald A. Wegner be suspended for thirty (30) days.

The license of Ronald A. Wegner is limited in that as a condition of licensure, Mr. Wegner must remain in and comply with the terms of his current treatment program at DePaul Rehabilitation, until its completion in August, 1982. This treatment program shall include: 1) Random urine screens. 2) Weekly AA meetings, and 3) Bi-weekly individual therapy sessions. Respondent shall arrange for monthly progress reports to be sent from DePaul to the Board of Nursing.

Failure by respondent to remain drug free, or to comply with other terms of the treatment program, may result in an extension of the limitation period, or in the imposition of additional discipline by the Board.

The suspension shall be retroactive to the period of August 1, 1980 through September 1, 1980. The limited license shall commence five days from the date of this Order.

BOARD OF NURSING

By:

Marjorie Sundquist RN  
A Member of the Board

May 20th, 1982

WRA:dms  
862-446

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE  
BOARD OF NURSING

---

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF

RONALD A. WEGNER, R.N.

STIPULATION

---

It is hereby stipulated between Ronald A. Wegner, acting on his own behalf, and Steven M. Gloe, attorney for the Department of Regulation and Licensing, Division of Enforcement, as follows that:

1. Ronald A. Wegner was at all times relevant to this stipulation duly licensed as a registered nurse in the State of Wisconsin (license #63621); the State Board of Nursing issued the license on September 30, 1975.

2. This Stipulation shall be submitted to the Board of Nursing to form the basis for the final decision and order of the Board in this matter.

3. 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. If the Board accepts the terms of the stipulation, the parties to this action consent to the entry of the attached final decision and order without further notice, pleading, appearance or consent of the parties.

4. Mr. Wegner agrees that Mr. Gloe or another representative of the Division of Enforcement may appear before the Board, if necessary, for the limited purpose of arguing in favor of adoption of this stipulation.

5. This stipulation is entered into as a result of a pending investigation by the Division of Enforcement of Mr. Wegner's practice (80 Nurse 2). Mr. Wegner consents to the resolution of this investigation by stipulation and without the issuance of a formal complaint, and waives his right to a hearing based on a complaint.

6. In resolution of this matter, the parties agree to the following facts:

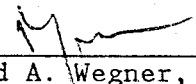
- a. Between December 2, 1979 and January 17, 1980, Mr. Wegner diverted approximately forty-nine (2cc) dosages of Sublimaze from his employer, Hartford Memorial Hospital, (Hartford, Wisconsin). Mr. Wegner was employed at Hartford Memorial as a nurse anesthetist.
- b. Sublimaze (fentanyl) is a Schedule II narcotic analgesic.
- c. Mr. Wegner falsified entries on the narcotics sheets for the amounts patients received to cover his diversion of the drug. No patient charts were falsified.

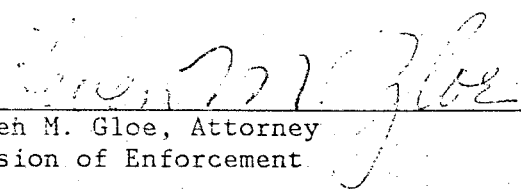
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Dept. of Regulation & Licensing  
of Enforcement

- d. Mr. Wegner self-administered the Sublimaze he diverted for the relief of personal problems; he self-administered the drug while off-duty.
  - e. On or about July 14, 1980, respondent's employment at Hartford Memorial was terminated, because respondent had violated one of the conditions of employment which were imposed by his employer in January, 1980. Mr. Wegner had obtained and administered a narcotic (Sublimaze) during the performance of operative procedures, rather than having the drug obtained and administered by a circulating nurse.
  - f. On August 6, 1980, Mr. Wegner entered the inpatient phase for impaired nurses at DePaul Rehabilitation Hospital of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Attached to this stipulation are copies of three (3) reports from DePaul to the Division of Enforcement. These reports outline the treatment and prognosis of Mr. Wegner. Also attached is a copy of a letter from Peter C. Joosee, M.D., on his treatment of Mr. Wegner.
  - g. Mr. Wegner is currently employed as a nurse anesthetist with Osteopathic Anesthesia, S.C., Dr. Alan Zarkower, c/o NW General Hospital, 5310 West Capitol Drive, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53216.
7. The parties further agree to the recommendation by the Division of Enforcement of imposition of the following discipline:
- a. A thirty (30) day suspension of Mr. Wegner's license as a registered nurse, and
  - b. A period of limitation requiring Mr. Wegner to remain in his current treatment program at DePaul until its completion in August, 1982. Mr. Wegner understands that failure to remain drug free and/or failure to comply with the terms of the treatment program could result in an extension of the limitation period, or in the imposition of additional discipline.

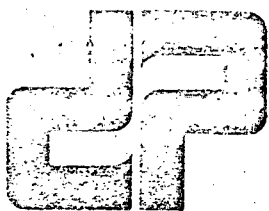
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald A. Wegner, C.R.N.A.

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

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Dept. of Regulation & Licensing  
Division of Enforcement



**De Paul  
Rehabilitation  
Hospital**

4143 South 13th Street  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53221  
414-281-4400

A comprehensive  
inpatient, outpatient  
treatment facility  
for alcoholism and  
other drug abuse.

February 3, 1982

Ms. Belle Randell  
Investigator Division of Enforcement  
Post Office Box 8936  
Madison, Wisconsin 53708

Dear Ms. Randell:

Re: Ronald Wegner

Pursuant to your letter of January 6, 1982, I am writing to respond to your specific questions.

I began seeing Mr. Wegner for individual therapy in September, of 1980. Just prior to my initiating individual therapy, Mr. Wegner had completed a thirty day Inpatient Treatment Program for his drug dependency. I initially saw Mr. Wegner on a weekly basis, but for the past six months, I have been seeing him on an every other week basis.

I anticipate that Mr. Wegner will be involved in the Rehabilitation Program and individual therapy with myself until at least August, of 1982. At that time, Mr. Wegner will have completed the requirement of two years on the Impaired Professionals Program.

Mr. Wegner's program consist of the following: 1. Random Urine Screens. 2. Weekly AA meetings. 3. Bi-weekly individual therapy sessions.

This particular treatment program will continue as is until August, of 1982. The individual therapy sessions are primarily focused on problem solving issues and concerns that Mr. Wegner has related to his recovery from drug dependency. At this point, I think Mr. Wegner is making very acceptable and good progress in the treatment program.

If further information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me at De Paul Hospital.

Sincerely,

*Michael Hawkins Ph.D.*

Michael Hawkins, Ph.D.  
Clinical Psychologist

MH:bj

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FEB 16 1982

Dept. of Regulation & Licensing  
Division of Enforcement

De Paul  
Rehabilitation  
Hospital

4141 South 13th Street  
Madison, Wisconsin 53221  
414/381-4400

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other drug abuse.

A. Bela Maroti  
President

Roland E. Herrington, M.D.  
Medical Director

Edward T. Hida  
Executive Vice President

Charles J. Dreher CPA  
Vice President — Finance

November 12, 1981

Ms. Belle Randel, Investigator  
Division of Enforcement  
P.O. Box 8936  
Madison, Wisconsin 53708

Dear Ms. Randel:

Per your request, a letter dated September 14, 1981, I am writing to you to provide you with the information that was requested in that letter.

I began seeing Mr. Wagner for individual therapy sessions on 9/16/80, following his inpatient treatment at De Paul Hospital. At the time that Mr. Wagner was admitted to De Paul, his admitting diagnosis was opioid dependence and alcohol abuse. I began seeing Mr. Wagner for individual therapy sessions on a weekly basis, and have continued to see him for individual therapy, although, the sessions have been spread out to every two weeks.

In addition to seeing me for individual therapy sessions, Mr. Wagner is involved in the professional program here at De Paul which includes random urine screens and weekly AA meetings. In addition to that, Mr. Wagner is also attending some outside AA meetings.

To my knowledge, Mr. Wagner has been free of narcotics and alcohol since his admission to the program at De Paul Hospital. I think he has made good progress in individual therapy, in terms of working on some of his interpersonal problems, which have previously caused him difficulty. I anticipate that I will be continuing to see Mr. Wagner for every other week individual therapy sessions for at least the next six months.

At this time, I consider Mr. Wagner to have a very favorable prognosis.

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NOV 27 1981

Dept. of Regulation & Licensing



Ms. Belle Randel  
Page 2  
November 12, 1981

If I can be of further help in your evaluation of Mr. Wagner,  
please do not hesitate to contact me at De Paul Hospital.

Sincerely,

*Michael Hawkins Ph.D.*

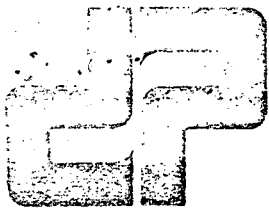
Michael Hawkins, Ph.D.  
Clinical Psychologist

MH:jf

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Dept. of Regulation & Licensing  
Division of Enforcement



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A. Bela Maroti  
President

Roland E. Herrington, M.D.  
Medical Director

Edward T. Hida  
Executive Vice President

Charles J. Dreher CPA  
Vice President — Finance

October 7, 1981

Belle Randell  
Investigator  
Division of Enforcement  
State of Wisconsin  
Department of Regulation and Licensing  
P.O. Box 8936  
Madison, Wisconsin 53708

RE: 80 Nurse 2 - Ronald Wegner

Dear Ms. Randell:

Ronald Wegner was referred to me in August of 1980 by Dr. James Algiers because of drug addiction. My initial evaluation of Mr. Weber indicated that he suffered from addiction to alcohol and narcotics. He agreed to enter the two-year De Paul Rehabilitation Hospital's Impaired Professional Program. He entered the inpatient phase of the De Paul Program on August 6, 1980 and was discharged on September 4, 1980, having made satisfactory progress. Mr. Wegner has been involved in the outpatient program since that time as follows:

1. Urine screens have been obtained randomly three (3) times weekly and tested for the presence of alcohol and other mood altering drugs including sublimaze, which seemed to be the drug of choice when he was admitted into the program. These tests have consistently shown Mr. Wegner to be alcohol and drug free.
2. He attends the professional Alcoholics Anonymous group meetings at De Paul on a weekly basis and is involved in community Alcoholics Anonymous activities.
3. He also receives weekly psychotherapy from Dr. Michael Hawkins, senior psychologist, outpatient department, De Paul Rehabilitation Hospital.

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OCT 08 1981

Belle Randell  
Page 2  
October 7, 1981

4. Mr. Wegner completed sixteen (16) weeks of weekly support group in the outpatient department following the inpatient program.
5. I have counseled regularly with Mr. Ronald Wegner since his entrance into the program.

I am pleased to inform you that Mr. Ronald Wegner is making significant progress in terms of his personality disorder in that he has remained free of alcohol and other drugs. Mr. Wegner is not physically or mentally impaired and I know of no reason why he could not perform the duties of his profession.

I believe his prognosis is good providing he continues to follow faithfully the program outlined above. If I can be of further assistance to you in the solution of this matter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely yours,



Roland E. Herrington, M.D.  
Corporate Medical Director

Director  
Impaired Physician Program

REH/emg

OCT 08 1981

PETER C. JOOSSE, M.D.  
PRACTICE LIMITED TO PSYCHIATRY

2562 NORTH 85TH STREET  
WAUWATOSA, WI 53226  
771-9504

PARKVIEW CLINIC  
HARTFORD, WI 53027  
TEL.: HARTFORD - 673-5745  
WEST BEND - 334-3865  
MILWAUKEE - 344-2982

30 Aug 80

Ms Kristine Raymond

Investigator

Division of Consumer Complaints  
Dept of Regulation and Licensing

Re: Ronald Wegner RN

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SEP 02 1980

Dept. of Regulation & Licensing  
Div. of Consumer Complaints

Dr Ms Raymond:

I saw Mr Wegner on 6 separate occasions between 24 Jan 80 and 25 July 80. He was seen in psychotherapy as a "condition of employment" after he had been discovered falsifying O.R. records and using personally short acting IV narcotics. He readily admitted this, and voluntarily followed up in O.P. therapy.

His personal reason for coming included seeing himself as ultimately self destructive, that he wanted to gain personal insight enabling him to function in group settings, and become more tolerant.

His attendance was sporadic, certainly complicated by his work schedule. He was able to sublimate some of his competitiveness into work related projects but minimized any ongoing concerns.

Dynamically I found Mr Wegner to be very insecure, and very bright, capable, and energetic. He gained some insight into the need to develop his own sphere of independence where he would be relatively free of other's authority. However he

PETER C. JOOSSE, M.D.  
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continued having extreme difficulties in areas where he clearly was in a less powerful position. This is reflected in his needing to present himself in a controlled & non-needy posture in therapy, and is how I interpret his violation of the narcotic handling program set up by his OR supervisor.

I am not aware of any narcotic drug use during the time I saw him. I do not feel he is physically or psychologically addicted to narcotics.

I have not seen Mr. Hegner since this last incident. I do feel that his involvement in an inpatient program for physicians/nurses who abuse drugs would be useful in that his own system of denial makes dealing with his interpersonal problems very difficult on an out pt basis. Without this kind of experience I believe his own need to be in control is likely to cause more professional problems for him.

Sincerely,  
Peter C. Joosse, M.D.

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