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IN THE MATTER OF

DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

JOANN A. PALMER, RN,

Respondent

ORDER DENYING THE STAY

On January 30, 1998, the Board of Nursing issued its Final Decision and Order in the above-captioned matter. By the terms of the board's order, respondent's license to practice as a registered nurse in Wisconsin was suspended for an indefinite period, with provision for successive three-month stays of the suspension conditioned upon compliance with certain conditions and limitations on the license. Among these were that respondent participate in a recognized program for the treatment of chemical dependency, that she participate in psychotherapy a minimum of once each week, and that she participate in program of random witnessed monitoring for controlled substances and alcohol in her blood or urine on a frequency of not less than once each week.

By letter dated July 2, 1998, respondent requested that the frequency of required therapy and of required urine screens be reduced during the period of time in which she is not working due to the GM strike. The board considered the request at its meeting of July 9, 1998, and ordered that required drug screens and therapy sessions each be temporarily reduced to two per month.

On September 18, 1998, the board considered Ms. Palmer's request that urine screens and therapy sessions each be permanently reduced to one per month. By its Order dated September 28, 1998, the board denied the request, but permanently reduced the number of urine screens and therapy sessions to two per month.

On March 5, 1999, the board considered Ms. Palmer's request for a further three month stay of the suspension of her license. The board also considered evidence that she had relapsed for a period between February 17 and 21, 1998.

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Based upon respondent's request, and upon all other information of record herein, the board orders as follows:

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Ms. Palmer's request for a stay of the suspension of her license is denied. Ms. Palmer may reapply for a stay at such time as she is able to demonstrate three months of continuous abstinence.

Dated this 8th day of March, 1999.

STATE OF WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

by _____

Timothy D. Burns, CRNA,

Chairman

