

# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF  
  
DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST  
  
JOANNE M. SAVAGE, RN,

Respondent

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ORDER MODIFYING THE LIMITED LICENSE

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On July 11, 1997, 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 not less than two years, 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 per week.

By letter dated June 11, 1998, respondent requested that the frequency of required therapy and of required urine screens be reduced. That request was supported by respondent's therapist, and was granted by the board by its Order dated July 18, 1998.

On January 29, 1999, the board considered Ms. Savage's request for a further three month stay of the suspension of her license, and her further request that required therapy sessions be reduced to one per month. The latter request was recommended by her therapist.

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 paragraph #2 of the Final Decision and Order of the Board of Nursing in the above-captioned matter dated July 11, 1997, is hereby modified to read as follows:

2. Applicant shall maintain successful participation in all components of a program for the treatment of chemical dependency at a treatment facility acceptable to the Board. As a part of treatment, applicant must obtain therapy on a schedule as recommended by her supervising health care provider. Attendance shall, however, be required at least once per month. In addition, applicant must attend Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous or another self-help group acceptable to the board at least once per week.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that paragraph #8 of the Final Decision and Order of the Board of Nursing in the above-captioned matter dated July 11, 1997, is hereby modified to read as follows:

8. Respondent must participate in a program of random witnessed monitoring for controlled substances and alcohol in her urine, blood and/or hair on a frequency of not fewer than one screen per month. If the physician or therapist supervising his plan of care or her employer deems that additional blood or urine screens are warranted, respondent shall submit to such additional screens.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all other terms and conditions of the board's July 11, 1997, Order, as modified by the board's Order dated July 18, 1998, shall remain in full force and effect.

Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1999.

STATE OF WISCONSIN

BOARD OF NURSING

by Timothy D. Buns, CRNA

Chairman