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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF
DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

KAREN J. SCHUMACHER, R.N.,

ORDER EXTENDING STAY

Respondent

On January 7, 2000, 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 once per week.

On March 1, 2001, the board considered Ms. Schumacher's request for a further three month stay of the suspension, and her further request for a reduction in the number of required therapy sessions and urine screens. The board granted the stay, reduced therapy sessions to one every other month, and denied the requested reduction in urine screens.

On July 9, the board considered Ms. Schumacher's request for a further three month stay of the suspension of her license. Ms. Schumacher also renewed her requests that the therapy requirement be dropped and for a reduction in the number of required urine screens. The board granted the stay, eliminated the requirement that Ms. Schumacher participate in therapy, and granted the right to access to controlled substances in Ms. Schumacher's employment setting. The board denied the request for a reduction in the number of required urine screens.

On December 6, 2001, the board considered Ms. Schumacher's request for a further three month stay of the suspension, and her further request that the number of required urine screens be reduced to one per month. Based upon respondent's requests, and upon all other information of record herein, the board orders as follows:

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the suspension of the license of Karen J. Schumacher, R.N., to practice professional nursing in Wisconsin is hereby stayed for a period of three months. Ms. Schumacher may petition for further three month stays, and such petitions shall be granted upon submission of satisfactory evidence that Ms. Schumacher has fully complied with the board's January 7, 2000, Order during the preceding three month period.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent's request to reduce the number of required urine screens to one per month is denied.

Dated this 18th day of December, 2001.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BOARD OF NURSING

Linda Sanner, RN
Vice Chair