

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING
IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST:

KAREN ANN CRESSY, LPN
RESPONDENT

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
LS0109062NUR

Division of Enforcement Case No. 00 NUR 136

The parties to this action for the purposes of section 227.53 of the Wisconsin statutes are:

Karen Ann Cressy, LPN
6435 W. Warnimont Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53220-1342

Board of Nursing
PO Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

Department of Regulation and Licensing
Division of Enforcement
PO Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final decision of this matter, subject to the approval of the Board. The Board has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1 Karen Ann Cressy, LPN (DOB 02/28/55), is duly licensed in the state of Wisconsin to practice as a licensed practical nurse (license #21566). This license was first granted on April 4, 1979.
2. Respondent's latest address on file with the Department of Regulation and Licensing is 6435 W. Warnimont Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53220.
3. On or about January 7, 2000, the Wisconsin Board of Nursing imposed disciplinary action against the license of Respondent for failing to renew her license from 1995 through 1999. A true and correct copy of the Wisconsin Board of Nursing Final Decision and Order is attached and incorporated herein to this document as **State's Exhibit A**.
4. Under the Wisconsin disciplinary order, Respondent was required to notify her previous employers and any insurance carriers who had paid coverage for her nursing services that she had been disciplined for working without a current license. Thirdly, Respondent was required to conduct an in-service presentation to nursing staff on the subject of maintaining current licensure registration. Respondent was to submit written proof of her completion of the presentation to the Department Monitor.

5. The month after the issuance of the disciplinary order, the Department Monitor received a letter, dated February 1, 2000, purportedly from the Human Resources Director for Respondent's employer. The letter stated that Respondent had fulfilled the requirements of the disciplinary order. The letter was written on the employer's letterhead and was initialed and typewritten with the name of the Human Resources Director, Lore Borth.

6. On April 19, 2000, a letter was received by the Department Monitor from Lore Borth stating her concern that Respondent had not notified her employer verbally or in writing of the disciplinary order. A true and correct copy of the letter is attached and incorporated herein as **State' Exhibit B**.

7. The Department commenced an investigation and determined that Ms. Borth had not written or sent the first letter dated February 1, 2000 to the Department Monitor, and that Respondent had not completed any of the disciplinary requirements, including the in-service presentation.

8. Respondent has admitted to the Department that someone forged the HR Director's signature had sent the letter to the Department on her behalf. Respondent also admitted that she had not completed the disciplinary order requirements because she was afraid that she would get fired from her job. A true and correct copy of Respondent's statement is attached and incorporated herein as **State's Exhibit 3**.

Respondent consents to the issuance of the following Conclusions of Law and Order in resolution of this matter.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Board of Nursing has jurisdiction over this matter, pursuant to ch. 441.07, Stats.
2. The Wisconsin Board of Nursing is authorized to enter into the attached stipulation, pursuant to sec. 227.44(5), Stats.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the license of Karen Ann Cressy (license #21566) to practice as a practical nurse in the State of Wisconsin is **SUSPENDED** for thirty (30) days beginning on the effective date of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the license of Ms. Cressy is further limited as follows:

- a. Ms. Cressy shall, within 60 days from the effective date of this Order, volunteer and work a minimum of twenty (20) hours of documented community service. Acceptable forms of community service may include a local food bank, free clinic, Red Cross, neighborhood help program or church organization.
- b. Ms. Cressy shall, within 60 days from the effective date of this Order, write a paper on the importance of being honest and trustworthy, addressing in particular the importance of honesty to the Department of Regulation, and direct that letter to the Board Case Advisor.
- c. Ms. Cressy shall, within 90 days from the effective date of this Order, fulfill the original requirement of speaking to a group of nurses about the importance of license renewal. The presentation may given to a group of student nurses, fellow employee nurses, or to any group of nurses that will allow her to speak during a unit meeting.
- d. Ms. Cressy shall provide written documentation to the Department Monitor verifying her completion of these requirements. The documentation must be from the person or official in charge of the entities described above who have personal knowledge of her activities. The Monitor will check and confirm the authenticity of the documentation and report the results to the Board of Nursing.

This Order shall become effective upon the date of its signing.

BOARD OF NURSING

By: Ann Brewer

9-6-01

A Member of the Board

Date