

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



Wisconsin Department of Regulation & Licensing Access to the Public Records of the Reports of Decisions

This Reports of Decisions document was retrieved from the Wisconsin Department of Regulation & Licensing website. These records are open to public view under Wisconsin's Open Records law, sections 19.31-19.39 Wisconsin Statutes.

Please read this agreement prior to viewing the Decision:

- The Reports of Decisions is designed to contain copies of all orders issued by credentialing authorities within the Department of Regulation and Licensing from November, 1998 to the present. In addition, many but not all orders for the time period between 1977 and November, 1998 are posted. Not all orders issued by a credentialing authority constitute a formal disciplinary action.
- Reports of Decisions contains information as it exists at a specific point in time in the Department of Regulation and Licensing data base. Because this data base changes constantly, the Department is not responsible for subsequent entries that update, correct or delete data. The Department is not responsible for notifying prior requesters of updates, modifications, corrections or deletions. All users have the responsibility to determine whether information obtained from this site is still accurate, current and complete.
- There may be discrepancies between the online copies and the original document. Original documents should be consulted as the definitive representation of the order's content. Copies of original orders may be obtained by mailing requests to the Department of Regulation and Licensing, PO Box 8935, Madison, WI 53708-8935. The Department charges copying fees. *All requests must cite the case number, the date of the order, and respondent's name as it appears on the order.*
- Reported decisions may have an appeal pending, and discipline may be stayed during the appeal. Information about the current status of a credential issued by the Department of Regulation and Licensing is shown on the Department's Web Site under "License Lookup." The status of an appeal may be found on court access websites at: <http://ccap.courts.state.wi.us/InternetCourtAccess> and <http://www.courts.state.wi.us/wscca>.
- Records not open to public inspection by statute are not contained on this website.

By viewing this document, you have read the above and agree to the use of the Reports of Decisions subject to the above terms, and that you understand the limitations of this on-line database.

Correcting information on the DRL website: An individual who believes that information on the website is inaccurate may contact the webmaster at web@drl.state.wi.gov

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF
DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

MARY E. TRAHAN, R.N.,
Respondent

ORDER SUSPENDING THE LICENSE

On November 29, 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 was suspended for an indefinite period. The Order provided that respondent could petition the board for a stay of the suspension upon providing the board with an evaluation by a licensed physician attesting to respondent's current ability to safely practice professional nursing.

By letter dated December 9, 1997, respondent petitioned for a stay of the suspension of her license. Included with her petition were letters from Greg Gaffke, Ms. Trahan's therapist at United Behavioral health, Wauwatosa; Jane Casseus, Ms. Trahan's therapist at Southeastern Wisconsin medical & Social Services, Wauwatosa; and Kumari Chintamaneni, M.D, Ms. Trahan's physician. Each of them recommended that the suspension of Ms. Trahan's license be stayed. The board considered the petition at its meeting of January 30, 1998. The board granted the petition by its Order dated February 10, 1998.

By letter dated June 29, 1998, Alicia Noonan, Trahan's therapist, requested that the board substitute breathalyzer screens for urine screens, or at least intersperse breathalyzer screens with urine screens. The stated basis for the request was to ease the financial burden on Ms. Trahan. The board considered the request at its meeting of July 9, 1998, and denied the request by its order dated July 18, 1998.

On January 29, 1999, the board considered Ms. Trahan's request for a further three month stay of the suspension of her license, and her further request that the requirements for urine screens and therapy be terminated. The board considered the request on that date and reduced the number of required urine screens and therapy sessions to two per month.

On March 5, 1999, the board considered ms. Trahan's request for a further stay of the suspension of her license. The board also considered evidence that Ms. Trahan had relapsed on alcohol on February 22, 1999. The board therefore denied the request for a stay by its Order dated March 8, 1999.

By letter dated May 26, 1999, Ms. Trahan appealed the board's previous denial of the stay based upon her progress in counseling. In terms of her compliance with required urine screens, Ms. Trahan states "I am continuing counseling, but I have no insurance or extra money for the urine screens. I am already \$1300.00 in fees I can't pay, but will make arrangements to comply with the board." The board denied the stay by its Order dated July 23, 2000.

On September 1, 2000, the board again considered Ms. Trahan's request that the suspension of her license be stayed. The board granted the stay by its Order dated September 8, 2000.

On January 5, 2001, the board considered Ms. Trahan's request for a further three month stay of the suspension of her license, and her further request to eliminate the requirement for urine screens and therapy. The board granted the stay but denied the request for modification of the terms and conditions on her license by Order dated January 12, 2001.

On April 6, 2001, the board considered Ms. Trahan's request for a further three month stay of the suspension of her license. She also again requested to eliminate the requirement for urine screens and therapy. The board granted the stay, but denied the other requests.

On September 6, 2001, the board granted Ms. Trahan's request for a further three month stay of the suspension.

On October 4, 2001, the board considered information that Ms. Trahan had on October 1, 2001, relapsed to the use of alcohol and was in the process of contacting her therapist. Based upon that information, the board orders as follows:

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that pursuant to the board's November 29, 1997, Final Decision and Order, the stay of the suspension of Ms. Trahan's license is terminated, and Ms. Trahan's license is hereby suspended.

Dated this 11th day of October, 2001.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BOARD OF NURSING

Ann Brewer, RN
Chair