

# 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](mailto:web@drl.state.wi.gov)

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF  
DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

JOANN A. PALMER, RN,  
Respondent

ORDER GRANTING REQUESTS

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. The board denied the stay by its Order dated March 8, 1999.

By letter dated June 14, 1999, Ms. Palmer petitioned the board for reinstatement of the stay of suspension of her license. In support of her petition, Ms. Palmer included letters of reference from her supervisors and co-workers at her place of employment, and verification of her attendance at A.A. The board considered the petition at its meeting of July 9, 1999, and denied the stay by its Order dated July 23, 1999.

Ms. Palmer appeared before the board in support of her further petition for a stay of the suspension on September 17, 1999. The stay was granted by the board's Order dated September 23, 1999.

On May 19, the board considered Ms. Palmer's request for a further three month stay, and her further request that she be granted permission to have access to and to administer controlled substances in her employment setting. The board granted the requests by its Order dated September 23, 2000.

By letter dated January 30, 2001, Ms. Palmer requested a further stay of the suspension of her license, and that the number of required therapy sessions be reduced to one per month. Ms. Palmer's therapist supported the latter request. Based upon the requests and all other information of record herein, the board orders as follows:

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the request of JoAnn A. Palmer, R.N., for a further three month stay of the suspension of her license is granted, and the suspension is stayed for a period of three months. Ms. Palmer may petition for further stays of the suspension upon submission of evidence that she has complied with the terms and conditions on her license during the previous three months.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the number of required therapy sessions is hereby reduced to one per month.

Dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2001.

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BOARD OF NURSING

Ann Brewer, R.N.  
Chair