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STATE OF WISCONSIN

BEFORE THE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST SECTION MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING AND SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY :

PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

: LS0312122MFT

DOUGLAS K. DOBBERFUHL, :

RESPONDENT.

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

The parties to this action for the purposes of § 227.53, Stats., are:

Douglas K. Dobberfuhl

11614 NE 49th Street # C20

Vancouver, WA 98682

Marriage and Family Therapist Section

Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling

and Social Work Examining Board

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 in this matter, subject to the approval of the Social Worker Section. The Section has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Section in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and

makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Douglas K. Dobberfuhl, Respondent, date of birth October 29, 1968, was licensed by the Marriage and Family Therapy Section as a marriage and family therapist in the State of Wisconsin pursuant to license number 598, which was first granted July 20, 2000. (Prior to a statutory change effective 11/01/02, Respondent's credential was a certificate as a marriage and family therapist.)
- 2. Respondent has not renewed his marriage and family therapist license since it expired on June 30, 2003, but could renew it pursuant to § 440.08(3)(a), Stats. and Wis. Adm. Code § SFC 1.08(2) by payment of fees.
- 3. Respondent's last address reported to the Department of Regulation and Licensing is 11614 NE 49th Street, Apt. C20, Vancouver, WA 98682.
- 4. During a period of time ending June 5, 2003, Respondent was employed at Marshfield Clinic Chippewa Falls Center in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, as a psychotherapist.
- 5. On June 5, 2003, Respondent resigned his position at the Marshfield Clinic by leaving a letter in which he:
 - Admitted that he had ethically and legally crossed boundaries with an adult client.
 - b. Resigned his position.
 - c. Tendered the surrender of his marriage and family therapist license.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Marriage and Family Therapist Section of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling and Social Work Examining Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to § 457.26(2), Stats.
- 2. The Marriage and Family Therapist Section of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling and Social Work Examining Board has authority to enter into this stipulated resolution of this matter pursuant to § 227.44(5), Stats.
- 3. Respondent, by the conduct set out above, engaged in sexual contact, sexual conduct, or other behavior with a client which could reasonably be construed as seductive, which is defined as unprofessional conduct by Wis. Adm. Code § MPSW 20.02(11) [formerly SFC 20.02(11)], and is subject to discipline pursuant to § 457.26(2)(f), (g) & (h), Stats.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of Respondent's license and right to renew his license as a marriage and family therapist in the State of Wisconsin is hereby ACCEPTED, effective immediately.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin this 12th day of December, 2003.

Linda Schwallie, L.M.F.T.

Chairperson

Social Worker Section