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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF
DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

DEBRA J. SHOWEN, RN,

Respondent

ORDER GRANTING ONE MONTH STAY

On January 29, 1999, 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 respondent's petitioning 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.

On November 5, 1999, the board considered respondent's request that the suspension of her license be stayed for a period of three months. The board granted the request by its order dated November 11, 1999.

By letter dated February 2, 2000, Ms. Showen requested a further three month stay of the suspension of her license. She also requested that the provision of the Order by which she is required to refrain from access to controlled substances in her employment setting be removed. The board granted the request by its Order dated March 10, 2000.

On September 1, 2000, the board considered Ms. Showen's request for a further stay of the suspension of her license, and her further request for a reduction in the number of required therapy sessions and urine screens. The board granted the requests by its Order dated September 8, 2000.

On February 2, 2001, the board considered Ms. Showen's request that her unlimited license be reinstated or, in the alternative, that she be granted a further three month stay of the suspension of her license. The board granted the three month stay by its Order dated February 6, 2001, thereby denying the request for a full license.

On May 3, 2001, the board considered Ms. Showen's requests for either a further stay of the suspension or for reinstatement to full licensure. In the event that full licensure was not granted, Ms. Showen requested that the number of therapy sessions be reduced from two to one per month. The suspension of the license was stayed for a period of three months, but her request for a reduction in the number of therapy sessions was denied based upon lack of support for the change by her therapist.

On August 2, 2001, the board considered Ms. Showen's renewal of her request for termination of the limitations on her license or, in the alternative, for a three month stay. The board granted a three month stay by its Order dated August 13, 2001.

On November 1, 2001, the board considered Ms. Showen's request for a further three month stay of the suspension. The board also considered information establishing that Ms. Showen has been out of compliance with the board's Order during the preceding three month period. The board therefore denied the stay by its Order dated November 8, 2001.

On March 1, 2002, June 6, 2002, September 5, 2002, and December 5, 2002, the board granted Ms. Showen's requests for further three month stays of the suspension.

On March 7, 2003, the board considered Ms. Showen's request for a further three month stay of the suspension. Unfortunately, the information related to Ms. Showen's compliance during the previous three month period was not clear. Accordingly, in order to provide the time necessary to clarify her status, the board orders as follows:

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the suspension of the license of Debra J. Showen, RN, is hereby stayed for a period of one month. The board will again consider the matter at its April meeting.

Dated this 12th day of March, 2003.

STATE OF WISCONSIN

BOARD OF NURSING

Linda M. Sanner, RN

Chair