

# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF	:	
DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST	:	
	:	ORDER DENYING STAY
DEBORAH E. KLOSS, RN,	:	
RESPONDENT	:	

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On May 19, 2000, the Board of nursing issued its Final Decision and Order in the above-captioned matter. By the terms of the board's Order, Ms. Kloss' license was suspended for an indefinite period. Ms. Kloss was permitted to petition the board for a stay of the suspension, conditioned upon her submitting a report from a current independent mental health evaluation of Ms. Kloss performed by a health care provider acceptable to the Board and an alcohol/chemical dependency assessment performed by a health care provider acceptable to the Board. The person providing the mental health assessment shall have experience in treating boundary violations between caregivers and patients.

In conjunction with a petition by Ms. Kloss, she was also required to submit documentation of successful completion of at least 24 hours of continuing education or other training acceptable to the Board in the areas of legal and ethical aspects of nursing and nurse/patient boundaries. To be acceptable, the course or training was required to be pre-approved by the Department. Acceptable documentation shall include certification from the sponsoring organization as well as a statement signed by Ms. Kloss verifying that she attended the course in its entirety.

On December 5, 2003, the board denied Ms. Kloss' petition for a stay of the suspension of her license and directed that Ms. Kloss could renew her petition upon submission to the board of a supplement to the evaluation submitted by Jerome S. Gordon, Ph.D., setting forth his recommendations, if any, for individual or group therapy, and setting forth his opinion regarding whether Ms. Kloss is currently able to safely return to the practice of professional nursing.

On January 15, 2004, the board considered Ms. Kloss' renewed petition for a stay of the suspension. Submitted with the petition was correspondence dated January 12, 2004, from Jerome S. Gordon, Ph.D., setting forth his opinion regarding whether Ms. Kloss is currently able to safely return to the practice of professional nursing. Jerome Gordon, found that:

“Ms. Kloss does appear fit to pursue nursing at this time subject to the following provisions. One, is that for the next two to three years she obtain continuing education credit of approximately four hours per year regarding ethics in nursing. Second, is that she engage in some brief individual counseling once she returns to nursing to discuss the ethical issues that arise. The length of this counseling should be somewhere between five and ten sessions and continue over a period of six months.”

The board finds that the correspondence indicates that Ms. Kloss continues to have unresolved issues related to boundary violations between caregivers and patients and that the January 12, 2004, correspondence by Jerome S. Gordon, Ph.D, does not establish Ms. Kloss' ability to safely return to the practice of professional nursing.

Based upon all information of record herein, the board in exercising its discretion orders as follows:

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Ms. Kloss' petition for a stay of the suspension is denied.

Dated this 20<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2004.

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BOARD OF NURSING

Jacqueline Johnsrud, RN  
Chair