

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF	:	
DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST	:	
	:	FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
JULIE J. MULLIKIN, R.N.,	:	LS # 0507145NUR
RESPONDENT.	:	

Division of Enforcement Case # 04 NUR 044

The parties to this action for the purposes of Wis. Stat. § 227.53 are:

Julie J. Mullikin, R.N.
P.O. Box 113
Gordon, WI 54838

Division of Enforcement
Department of Regulation and Licensing
1400 East Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

Board of Nursing
Department of Regulation & Licensing
1400 East Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final decision of this matter, subject to the approval of the Board of Nursing. The Board has reviewed the attached Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Board in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Julie J. Mullikin, R.N., (DOB 10/28/1961) is duly licensed as a registered nurse in the state of Wisconsin (license # 30 131519). This license was first granted on 02/19/1999.
2. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Board of Nursing is P.O. Box 113, Gordon, WI 54838.
3. At all times relevant to this action, Respondent was working as a registered nurse in Wisconsin.
4. In or about January of 2004, Respondent's employer noticed that she gave much more pain control medications to patients than any of the other nurses. Specifically, Respondent gave 40% of all pain medications, although there were 20 nurses.

5. Respondent's employer also noticed that Respondent was often staying late to assist other nurses in giving narcotics, when other nurses said that help was not needed.

6. Respondent's employer also noticed that Respondent filled a newly arrived order for pain medication, but did not fill several other medications at the same time for the same resident.

7. On January 22, 2004, a patient complained that she had not been given her morphine all day. Respondent was the R.N. on the day shift.

8. On several other occasions Respondent claimed to have given morphine to residents for pain, but the residents appeared to have no pain relief.

9. On another occasion, another nurse observed Respondent in a resident's bathroom drawing up morphine. This was unusual because the nurses always draw up doses of injectable medications in the med room before going to the resident's room, and because this resident was not Respondent's patient.

10. On February 12, 2004, staff reported that Respondent seemed to be falling asleep at her desk, her eyes were drooping, and she had problems with charting (she would begin to chart and stop mid-sentence, she would forget to sign off charting, and charting was trailing above and below the lines). In addition, a telephone order was found in a closed chart, that Respondent had taken but had not written nor implemented.

11. On February 12, 2004, Respondent's employer confronted her regarding her work performance. Respondent claimed that she had taken Benadryl for allergies and it made her tired. Respondent finished her shift, but continued to have poor charting the remainder of the shift.

12. On February 16, 2004, Respondent's employer once again confronted Respondent regarding her work performance, noting the continued poor charting. Respondent then claimed that she was taking some medications for anxiety, and that the side effects of those medications were making her drowsy.

13. Respondent's employer asked her to take a drug test. The test was positive for codeine and morphine. Although Respondent had previously informed her employer of the medications she was taking, she did not mention codeine or morphine and was not able to produce a prescription for either drug. She claimed that she had signed for codeine cough syrup, and that she had taken the morphine from an old prescription from three-four years ago. Respondent claimed to have thrown away the bottle and thus had no evidence of the morphine prescription.

14. Respondent's pharmacy records going back to the year 2000 show no prior prescriptions for morphine.

15. Respondent underwent an AODA assessment, which confirmed that she had misused prescription drugs, but did not find evidence of a substance dependence disorder. The assessor could not confirm nor rule out the concerns of the employer.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Board of Nursing has jurisdiction to act in this matter, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §441.07,[\[smg1\]](#) and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation and Order, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

2. The conduct described in paragraphs 4-15 above constitutes a violation of Wisconsin Administrative Code § N 7.04(2) and Wis. Stat. § 441.07(1)(c).

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that the attached Stipulation is accepted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, effective the date of this Order:

SUSPENSION

- A.1. The license of Julie J. Mullikin, R.N., to practice as a registered nurse in the State of Wisconsin is SUSPENDED for an indefinite period.
- A.2. Respondent shall mail or physically deliver all indicia of nursing licensure to the Department Monitor within 14 days of the effective date of this order.
- A.3. Upon a showing by Respondent of continuous, successful compliance for a period of at least two (2) years with the terms of this Order, including at least 600 hours of active nursing for every year the suspension is stayed, the Board may grant a petition by the Respondent under paragraph D.4. for return of full licensure.
- A.4. The Board may, on its own motion or at the request of the Department Monitor, grant full licensure at any time.

STAY OF SUSPENSION

- B.1. The suspension shall be stayed upon Respondent providing proof, which is determined by the Board or its designee to be sufficient, that Respondent is in compliance with the provisions of Sections C and D of this Order.
- B.2. The Board or its designee may, without hearing, remove the stay upon receipt of information that Respondent is in substantial or repeated violation of any provision of Sections C or D of this Order. Repeated violation is defined as the multiple violation of the same provision or violation of more than one provision. The Board may, in conjunction with any removal of any stay, prohibit the Respondent for a specified period of time from seeking a reinstatement of the stay under paragraph B.4.
- B.3. This suspension becomes reinstated immediately upon notice of the removal of the stay being provided to Respondent either by:
 - (a) Mailing to Respondent's last-known address provided to the Department of Regulation and Licensing pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.11; or
 - (b) Actual notice to Respondent or Respondent's attorney.
- B.4. The Board or its designee may reinstate the stay, if provided with sufficient information that Respondent is in compliance with the Order and that it is appropriate for the stay to be reinstated. Whether to reinstate the stay shall be wholly in the discretion of the Board or its designee.
- B.5. If Respondent requests a hearing on the removal of the stay, a hearing shall be held using the procedures set forth in Wis. Admin. Code ch. RL 2. The hearing shall be held in a timely manner with the evidentiary portion of the hearing being completed within 60 days of receipt of Respondent's request, unless waived by Respondent. Requesting a hearing does not stay the suspension during the pendency of the hearing process.

CONDITIONS AND LIMITATIONS

Treatment Required

- C.1. Respondent shall enter into, and shall continue, in a drug and alcohol treatment program at a treatment facility (Treater) acceptable to the Board or its designee. Respondent shall participate in, cooperate with, and follow all treatment recommended by Treater.
- C.2. Respondent shall immediately provide Treater with a copy of this Final Decision and Order and all other subsequent orders.
- C.3. Treater shall be responsible for coordinating Respondent's rehabilitation, drug monitoring and treatment program as required under the terms of this Order, and shall immediately report any relapse, violation of any of the terms and conditions of this Order, and any suspected unprofessional conduct, to the Department Monitor (See D.1., below). If Treater is unable or unwilling to serve as Treater, Respondent shall immediately seek approval of a successor Treater by the Board or its designee.
- C.4. The rehabilitation program shall include individual and/or group therapy sessions at a frequency to be determined by Treater, but not less than twice per month for the first year. Therapy may end only upon a determination by the Board or its designee after receiving a petition for modification as required by D.4., below.

- C.5. Treater shall submit formal written reports to the Department Monitor on a quarterly basis, as directed by the Department Monitor. These reports shall assess Respondent's progress in the drug and alcohol treatment program. Treater shall report immediately to the Department Monitor any violation or suspected violation of this Order.

Releases

- C.6. Respondent shall provide and keep on file with Treater, all treatment facilities and personnel, laboratories and collections sites current releases complying with state and federal laws. The releases shall allow the Board, its designee, and any employee of the Department of Regulation and Licensing, Division of Enforcement to: (a) obtain all urine, blood and hair specimen screen results and patient health care and treatment records and reports, and (b) discuss the progress of Respondent's treatment and rehabilitation. Copies of these releases shall immediately be filed with the Department Monitor.

AA/NA Meetings

- C.7. Respondent shall attend Narcotics Anonymous and/or Alcoholic Anonymous meetings or an equivalent program for recovering professionals, at the frequency recommended by Treater, but no less than twice per week. Attendance of Respondent at such meetings shall be verified and reported monthly to Treater and the Department Monitor.

Sobriety

- C.8. Respondent shall abstain from all personal use of alcohol.
- C.9. Respondent shall abstain from all personal use of controlled substances as defined in Wis. Stat. § 961.01(4), except when prescribed, dispensed or administered by a practitioner for a legitimate medical condition. Respondent shall disclose Respondent's drug and alcohol history and the existence and nature of this Order to the practitioner prior to the practitioner ordering the controlled substance. Respondent shall at the time the controlled substance is ordered immediately sign a release in compliance with state and federal laws authorizing the practitioner to discuss Respondent's treatment with, and provide copies of treatment records to, Treater and the Board or its designee.
- C.10. Respondent shall abstain from all use of over-the-counter medications or other substances which may mask consumption of controlled substances or of alcohol, create false positive screening results, or interfere with Respondent's treatment and rehabilitation.
- C.11. Respondent shall report all medications and drugs, over-the-counter or prescription, taken by Respondent to Treater and the Department Monitor within 24 hours of ingestion or administration, and shall identify the person or persons who prescribed, dispensed, administered or ordered said medications or drugs. If Respondent has not provided a release as required by C.9 above, within 24 hours of a request by Treater or the Board or its designee, Respondent shall provide releases in compliance with state and federal laws. The releases shall authorize the person who prescribed, dispensed, administered or ordered the medication to discuss Respondent's treatment with, and provide copies of treatment records to, the requester.

Drug and Alcohol Screens

- C.12. Respondent shall enroll and begin participation in a drug and alcohol monitoring program which is approved by the Department pursuant to Wis. Adm. Code § RL 7.11 ("Approved Program"). A list of Approved Programs is available from the Department Monitor.
- C.13. At the time Respondent enrolls in the Approved Program, Respondent shall review all of the rules and procedures made available by the Approved Program. Failure to comply with all requirements for participation in drug and alcohol monitoring established by the Approved Program is a substantial violation of this Order. The requirements shall include:
- (a.) Contact with the Approved Program as directed on a daily basis, including vacations, weekends and holidays.
 - (b.) Production of a urine specimen at a collection site designated by the Approved Program within five (5) hours of notification of a test.
- C.14. The Approved Program shall require the testing of urine specimens at a frequency of not less than 56 times per year, for the first year of this Order. After the first year, the frequency may be reduced only upon a determination by the Board or its designee after receiving a petition for modification as required by D.4., below.
- C.15. If any urine, blood or hair specimen is positive or suspected positive for any controlled substances or alcohol, Respondent shall promptly submit to additional tests or examinations as the Treater or the Board or its designee shall determine to be appropriate to clarify or confirm the positive or suspected positive test results.
- C.16. In addition to any requirement of the Approved Program, the Board or its designee may require Respondent to do any or all of the following: (a) submit additional urine specimens, (b) submit blood, hair or breath specimens, (c) furnish any specimen in a directly witnessed manner.

- C.17. All confirmed positive test results shall be presumed to be valid. Respondent must prove by a preponderance of the evidence an error in collection, testing or other fault in the chain of custody.
- C.18. The Approved Program shall submit information and reports to the Department Monitor in compliance with the requirements of Wis. Adm. Code § RL 7.11.

Practice Limitations

- C.19. Respondent may work as a nurse or other health care provider in a setting in which Respondent has access to controlled substances. If Treater subsequently recommends restrictions on such access, the Board or its designee may impose such restrictions.
- C.20. Respondent shall practice only under the direct supervision of a licensed nurse or other licensed health care professional approved by the Board or its designee and only in a work setting pre-approved by the Board or its designee. Respondent may not work in a home health care, hospice, pool nursing, or agency setting.
- C.21. Respondent shall provide a copy of this Final Decision and Order and all other subsequent orders immediately to supervisory personnel at all settings where Respondent works as a nurse or care giver or provides health care, currently or in the future.
- C.22. It is Respondent's responsibility to arrange for written reports from supervisors to be provided to the Department Monitor on a quarterly basis, as directed by the Department Monitor. These reports shall assess Respondent's work performance, and shall include the number of hours of active nursing practice worked during that quarter.
- C.23. Respondent shall report to the Board any change of employment status, residence, address or telephone number within five (5) days of the date of a change.

MISCELLANEOUS

Department Monitor

- D.1. Any requests, petitions, reports and other information required by this Order shall be mailed, e-mailed, faxed or delivered to:

Department Monitor
Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing
Division of Enforcement
1400 East Washington Ave.
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935
Fax: (608) 266-2264
Telephone: (608) 267-3817
department.monitor@drl.state.wi.us

Required Reporting by Respondent

- D.2. Respondent is responsible for compliance with all of the terms and conditions of this Order, including the timely submission of reports by others. Respondent shall promptly notify the Department Monitor of any failures of the Treater, treatment facility, Approved Program or collection sites to conform to the terms and conditions of this Order. Respondent shall promptly notify the Department Monitor of any violations of any of the terms and conditions of this Order by Respondent. Additionally, every three (3) months the Respondent shall notify the Department Monitor of the Respondent's compliance with the terms and conditions of the Order, and shall provide the Department Monitor with a current address and home telephone number.

Change of Treater or Approved Program by Board

- D.3. If the Board or its designee determines the Treater or Approved Program has performed inadequately or has failed to satisfy the terms and conditions of this Order, the Board or its designee may direct that Respondent continue treatment and rehabilitation under the direction of another Treater or Approved Program.

Petitions for Modification of Limitations or Termination of Order

- D.4. Respondent may petition the Board for modification of the terms of this Order or termination, however no such petition for modification shall occur earlier than one year from the date of this Order and no such petition for termination shall occur other than in compliance with paragraph A.3. Any such petition for modification shall be

accompanied by a written recommendation from Respondent's Treater expressly supporting the specific modifications sought. Denial of a petition in whole or in part shall not be considered a denial of a license within the meaning of Wis. Stat. § 227.01(3)(a), and Respondent shall not have a right to any further hearings or proceedings on the denial.

Costs of Compliance

- D.5. Respondent shall be responsible for all costs and expenses incurred in conjunction with the monitoring, screening, supervision and any other expenses associated with compliance with the terms of this Order. Being dropped from a program for non-payment is a violation of this Order.

Costs of Proceeding

- D.6. Respondent shall pay costs of \$600.00 to the Department of Regulation and Licensing, within ninety (90) days of this Order. In the event Respondent fails to timely submit any payment of costs, the Respondent's license SHALL BE SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of this Order.

Deferred Caregiver violation

- D.7. If Respondent fails to fully and completely comply with all terms and conditions set forth herein or if the Department receives a subsequent credible allegation against Respondent of abuse, neglect or misappropriation, the Department Monitor shall without further notice or hearing notify the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services that the findings set forth in this Order shall thereafter constitute an agency finding of neglect for the purposes of Wis. Stat. §§.48.685 and 50.065. Respondent shall then REFRAIN from any nursing employment in any facility licensed by the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services until such time as Respondent successfully completes a rehabilitation review administered by DHFS.

Additional Discipline

- D.8. In addition to any other action authorized by this Order or law, violation of any term of this Order may be the basis for a separate disciplinary action pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin this 14th day of July, 2005.

Jacqueline A. Johnsrud, R.N.
Chairperson
Board of Nursing

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