

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY :
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :
 : FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
KAREN L. HECK, : LS 0603201 NUR
RESPONDENT. :

[Division of Enforcement Case # 03 NUR 173]

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

Karen L. Heck
6619 E. 27th Place
Tulsa, OK 74129-6138

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

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

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

A disciplinary complaint and notice of hearing were filed with an Administrative Law Judge and served upon Respondent on March 20, 2006. A hearing on the allegations which was scheduled for April 17, 2006 was adjourned to discuss settlement.

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 this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Karen L. Heck, Respondent, date of birth April 7, 1963, was licensed by the Wisconsin Board of Nursing as a registered nurse in the state of Wisconsin pursuant to license number 136887, which was first granted December 15, 2000.
2. Respondent elected not to renew her license as a registered nurse when it expired on February 29, 2004, but could renew it pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.08(3)(a) by paying the required fees.
3. Respondent's last address reported to the Department of Regulation and Licensing is 6216 S. 29th West Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74132. The Division of Enforcement has determined that her most recent address is 6619 E. 27th Place, Tulsa, OK 74129-6138
4. Pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact, Respondent, who is not licensed in Texas, practiced professional nursing in that State during 2002, using her Wisconsin license.
5. Wisconsin and Texas are party states of the Nurse Licensure Compact which provides for multistate licensure privileges and allows a nurse with a license from a "home state" to engage in the practice of nursing in all other party states which are called "remote states."

6. In December 2002, Respondent was employed as a registered nurse at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, Galveston, Texas. On December 6, 2002, Respondent caused harm to a patient and prevented a physician the opportunity to implement timely medical interventions. Respondent:

a. Negligently administered another patient's medications to Patient A. As a result, Patient A became hemodynamically unstable and required treatment in the hospital's intensive care unit. The medications included:

- Enalapril 20 mg
- Atenolol 50 mg
- Clonidine 0.3 mg
- Propranolol 20 mg
- Aminoxidil 2.5 mg
- Furosemide 40 mg
- Famotidine 20 mg
- Mycophenolate 500 mg
- Cyclosporine 125 mg

b. Failed to immediately notify the nursing supervisor or the physician when she became aware of what had occurred.

c. Failed to make timely nursing intervention required to stabilize Patient A.

7. As a result of Respondent's conduct, the following occurred in a disciplinary action by the Texas State Board of Nurse Examiners (Texas Board):

a. On July 16, 2004, formal charges against Respondent were filed and mailed to Respondent at her last known address.

b. On March 24, 2005, Respondent was served with a notice setting the hearing on the charges for June 1, 2005.

c. Respondent did not appear and was not represented at the hearing held on June 1, 2005. All allegations were determined to be true and the Administrative Law Judge recommended that Respondent's privilege to practice nursing in Texas under the Nurse Licensure Compact be revoked.

d. On July 21, 2005, the Texas State Board of Nurse Examiners revoked the Multi-State Compact Privilege previously issued to Respondent to practice professional nursing in the state of Texas.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Board of Nursing has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07 and has authority to enter into this stipulated resolution of this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).
2. The action by the Texas State Board of Nurse Examiners was a remote state adverse action under the Nurse Licensure Compact, which allows the home state of Wisconsin to take adverse action against Respondent based on the finding of the remote state pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.50(5)(e).
3. Respondent, by engaging in the conduct set out in Finding of Fact 6, has committed negligence as defined by Wis. Adm. Code § N 7.03(1) and is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07(1)(c).
4. Respondent, by having disciplinary action taken against her Multi-State Compact privilege to practice professional nursing in the state of Texas by the Texas State Board of Nurse Examiners, has committed misconduct or unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Adm. Code § N 7.04(7) and is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07(1)(d).

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. The SURRENDER by Karen L. Heck of the right to renew her license as a registered nurse in the state of Wisconsin is hereby ACCEPTED, effective immediately.
2. Respondent shall, within 90 days of the date of this Order, pay to the Department of Regulation and Licensing costs of this proceeding in the amount of \$989.00 pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.22(2).
3. Payment shall be mailed or delivered to:

Department Monitor
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

Wisconsin Board of Nursing

By: Marilyn Kaufmann
A Member of the Board

July 13, 2006
Date