

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION AND LICENSING

IN THE MATTER OF :
DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :
 : FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
WILLIAM R. STEBER, : LS0704203RSA
RESPONDENT. :

Division of Enforcement Case # 06 RSA 018

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

William R. Steber
733 Clermont St.
Antigo, WI 54409

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

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 Secretary. The Secretary has reviewed the attached Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Secretary adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. William R. Steber (DOB 04/30/1956) is duly certified as a substance abuse counselor in the state of Wisconsin (license # 131-11382). This license was first granted on June 10, 2002.
2. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing is 733 Clermont Street, Antigo, Wisconsin, 54409.
3. In or about July, 2005, Respondent was working for Green Lake Department of Health and Human Services ("Green Lake DHHS") as a therapist.
4. On or about July 25, 2005, Green Lake DHHS received an anonymous letter indicating that Respondent had been reprimanded at his previous place of employment for: (1) not having client records up to date, (2) having unsigned prescriptions for treatment that needed a physician's signature, and (3) providing services to two clients without charging them.
5. Green Lake DHHS confirmed these allegations with Respondent's former employer, then confronted Respondent as to why he had not revealed this employment or the reprimand when he applied for his position at Green Lake

DHHS.

6. Respondent stated that he had worked only 2-3 hours per week for his previous employer, and was dissatisfied with the clinical supervision he had received. He said that all client records were up to date when he left, and he met with two clients on his own time because he felt that they needed closure and did not think it was fair to charge them for this. He said that when he turned in his resignation his employer was angry and reprimanded him in retribution for quitting.

7. Respondent's supervisor at Green Lake DHSS then reviewed Respondent's case notes, and discovered that as of August of 2005, "few, if any," notes were done on clients Respondent had seen that year.

8. Respondent resigned from Green Lake DHSS in September of 2005. His current employer states that he has been thorough and conscientious in keeping files up to date.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing has jurisdiction to act in this matter, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.88(6), 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 - 7 above constitutes a violation of Rule 8.1 of the Counselor Code of Conduct, and subjects Respondent to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.88(6).

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED:

1. William R. Steber is REPRIMANDED

2. The license of William R. Steber to practice as a substance abuse counselor in the State of Wisconsin is LIMITED as follows:

- (a) Respondent shall practice only under the direct supervision of a licensed substance abuse counselor approved by the Secretary or her designee.
- (c) 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 substance abuse counselor or other care giver, or provides health care, currently or in the future.
- (d) 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 practice worked during that quarter.
- (e) Respondent shall report to the Department Monitor any change of employment status, residence, address or telephone number within five (5) days of the date of a change.
- (f) After two years, Respondent may petition the Secretary to end this limitation. If the Secretary, in her discretion, continues the limitation beyond two years, Respondent may request a hearing on the continuation of the limitation under 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 continuation of the limitation during the pendency of the hearing process.

3. Respondent shall, within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, pay costs of this proceeding in the amount of Six Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$ 650.00). Payment shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing, and mailed to:

Department Monitor
Division of Enforcement
Department of Regulation and Licensing
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935
Telephone (608) 267-3817
Fax (608) 266-2264

4. Violation of any of the terms of this Order may be construed as conduct imperiling public health, safety and welfare and may result in a summary suspension of Respondent's license. The Secretary in her discretion may in the alternative impose additional conditions and limitations or other additional discipline for a violation of any of the terms of this Order. In the event Respondent fails to pay costs as ordered, the Respondent's license (#131-11382) SHALL BE SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of this Order.

5. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

Department of Regulation and Licensing

By: Celia Jackson, Secretary

4/20/07

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION AND LICENSING

IN THE MATTER OF	:	
DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST	:	
	:	STIPULATION
WILLIAM R. STEBER,	:	LS# _____
RESPONDENT.	:	

Division of Enforcement Case # 06 RSA 018

Respondent William R. Steber, personally on his own behalf; and Jeanette Lytle, attorney for the Department of Regulation and Licensing, Division of Enforcement, stipulate:

1. This Stipulation is entered into as a result of a pending investigation of Respondent's licensure by the Division of Enforcement (case # 06 RSA 018). Respondent consents to the resolution of this investigation by stipulation.

2. Respondent understands that by signing this Stipulation he voluntarily and knowingly waives his rights, including: the right to a hearing on the allegations against him, at which time the state has the burden of proving those allegations by a preponderance of the evidence; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to call witnesses on his behalf and to compel their attendance by subpoena; the right to testify himself; the right to file objections to any proposed decision and to present briefs or oral arguments to the officials who are to render the final decision; the right to petition for rehearing; and all other applicable rights afforded to him under the United States Constitution, the Wisconsin Constitution, the Wisconsin Statutes, the Wisconsin Administrative Code, and any other provisions of state or federal law.

3. Respondent has been provided an opportunity to obtain the advice of legal counsel prior to signing this stipulation.

4. Respondent agrees to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Department Secretary. The parties to the Stipulation consent to the entry of the attached Final Decision and Order without further notice, pleading, appearance or consent of the parties. Respondent waives all rights to any appeal of the Secretary's order, if adopted in the form as attached.

5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Secretary, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall be returned to the Division of Enforcement for further proceedings. In the event that this Stipulation is not accepted by the Secretary, the parties agree not to contend that the Secretary has been prejudiced or biased in any manner by consideration of this attempted resolution.

6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Enforcement may appear before the Secretary, without the presence of the Respondent or his attorney, for purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that the Secretary may have in connection with the Secretary's deliberations on the Stipulation.

7. Respondent is informed that should the Secretary adopt this Stipulation, the Secretary's final decision and order is a public record and will be published in accordance with standard Department procedure.

8. The Division of Enforcement joins Respondent in recommending the Secretary adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

William R. Steber
733 Clermont St.
Antigo, WI 54409

Date

Jeanette Lytle, Attorney
Division of Enforcement
Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

Date