

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE PHARMACY EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY	:	
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST	:	
	:	FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
JEREMY C. VAN BUREN, R.Ph.,	:	LS0804093PHM
RESPONDENT.	:	

[Division of Enforcement Case # 07 PHM 078]

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

Jeremy C. Van Buren, R.Ph.
N5429 Deneveu Lane
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

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

Wisconsin Pharmacy Examining Board
Department of Regulation and 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 Pharmacy Examining Board. 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. Jeremy C. Van Buren, R.Ph., Respondent, date of birth January 16, 1971, is licensed by the Wisconsin Pharmacy Examining Board as a pharmacist in the state of Wisconsin pursuant to license number 12259, which was first granted January 17, 1995.

2. Respondent's address of record with the Department of Regulation and Licensing is N5429 Deneveu Lane, Fond du Lac, WI 54935.

3. At the time of the events set out below, Respondent was employed by Agnesian Healthcare as the Clinical Coordinator of Pharmacy Services at St. Agnes Hospital in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.

4. On December 14, 2007, it was noted on a Narcotic Vault Access Report for "Sell to Pharmacy" that hydrocodone/APAP 10/325mg tabs and zolpidem 5mg tabs (brand name Ambien) had been dispensed numerous times since July 2007. Hydrocodone/APAP is a Schedule III controlled substance; zolpidem is a Schedule IV controlled substance. Agnesian Healthcare does not routinely sell controlled substances to other pharmacies. The user ID# listed on the report for each transaction was verified as Respondent's user ID#.

5. On December 19, 2007, administrators met with Respondent to discuss these findings:

- a. Respondent took responsibility for his actions and admitted to taking the medications for personal use. He explained that approximately two years prior, he started using pain medication, from a leftover prescription following a knee surgery, for knee pain and subsequent sleeping difficulties.
- b. After his knee pain subsided, Respondent continued self-medicating because it helped with some family-related emotional problems he was experiencing.
- c. Respondent admitted to diverting the medications “on and off” for a period of at least one year but stated that he never took the medications while he was working and that his use did not affect his job performance.
- d. Respondent stated that he never sold or gave the drugs to anyone else.

6. Respondent’s employment was immediately suspended and he was placed on a leave of absence. Administrators informed Respondent that they were willing to support him as he sought treatment for his drug abuse, rather than terminating his employment. Respondent was referred to the Employee Assistance Program and required to follow their recommendations for treatment.

7. On December 21, 2007, Respondent had an AODA assessment performed at Associated Counseling and Recovery Center LLC in Fond du Lac. Respondent was diagnosed with Opioid Dependency (304.00); r/o Alcohol Abuse (305.00). Since his suspension, Respondent has been receiving AODA counseling and treatment and has been attending weekly Narcotics Anonymous meetings and monthly Wisconsin Pharmacists Recovery Network meetings. Respondent’s prognosis is good.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Pharmacy Examining Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 450.10 and has authority to enter into this stipulated resolution of this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

2. Respondent, by obtaining and administering a drug other than in legitimate practice or as prohibited by law, as set out above, has committed unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § Phar 10.03(1) and is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 450.10(1).

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the attached Stipulation is accepted.

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

SUSPENSION

- A.1. The license of Jeremy C. Van Buren, R.Ph., to practice as a pharmacist in the State of Wisconsin is SUSPENDED for an indefinite period.
- A.2. Respondent shall mail or physically deliver all indicia of pharmacist 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 five (5) years with the terms of this Order, including at least 600 hours of active pharmacist practice 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. At the Board’s discretion, the 5-year period may be started anew for every substantial or repeated violation of any provision of Sections C or D of this Order.
- 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 is hereby stayed based upon Respondent having provided proof, which was determined by the Board 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 § 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 with a 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 once weekly for the first year of the stayed suspension. 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 one meeting 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. Within 24 hours of ingestion or administration, Respondent shall report to Treater and the Department Monitor all medications and drugs, over-the-counter or prescription, taken by Respondent, shall identify the person or persons who prescribed, dispensed, administered or ordered said medications or drugs, and shall provide the Department Monitor with a copy of the prescription. 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. Admin. 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 – including any positive test for any controlled substance or alcohol – 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 96 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. Admin. Code § RL 7.11.

Practice Limitations

- C.19. Respondent shall not practice as a pharmacist in any capacity unless Respondent is in full compliance with the rehabilitation and treatment programs as specified and approved under this Order. Respondent shall not practice

as a pharmacist in any capacity other than in the presence of another pharmacist without approval of the Board.

- C.20. Respondent shall not be employed as or work in the capacity of a "managing pharmacist" as defined in Wis. Admin. Code § Phar 1.02(6) without approval of the Board.
- C.21. Respondent shall not be employed as or work in the capacity of a "pharmacy technician" as defined in Wis. Admin. Code § Phar 7.015(1) without approval of the Board.
- C.22. Respondent shall not be employed as or work in the capacity of a "pharmacist in charge" as defined in Wis. Admin. Code § Phar 1.02(9) while under the terms of this Order, except as otherwise allowed herein. Respondent may petition the Board for modification of this prohibition against practice as a pharmacist in charge pursuant to the terms of paragraph D.4. In addition to complying with the conditions of paragraph D.4., any such petition shall be accompanied by written request of the managing pharmacist, which shall include a complete work schedule of all pharmacists employed in the pharmacy indicating the proposed work schedule and supervision pattern for Respondent. The Board in its discretion may at any time modify any of the terms regarding practice by Respondent as a pharmacist in charge, including removal of authorization under this Order of Respondent to practice as a pharmacist in charge, as the Board deems appropriate in the circumstances. Grounds for modification or removal of the authorization to practice as a pharmacist in charge may include, but shall not be limited to, change in employer, managing pharmacist or residence address of the Respondent.
- C.23. Respondent shall provide a copy of this Final Decision and Order and all other subsequent orders immediately to supervisory personnel (including the managing pharmacist) at all pharmacies where Respondent is engaged in the practice of pharmacy as defined at Wis. Stat. § 450.01(16). The Board or the Department in its discretion may conduct unannounced inspections and/or audits, and make copies, of pharmacy records and inventory where Respondent is employed as a pharmacist. EMPLOYERS WHO ARE DEA REGISTRANTS ARE INFORMED THAT IF RESPONDENT HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF ANY FELONY RELATING TO CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES, THE EMPLOYER MUST RECEIVE A WAIVER OF 21 CFR §1301.76 UNDER 21 CFR §1307.03 BEFORE EMPLOYING RESPONDENT.
- C.24. 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 pharmacist practice worked during that quarter.
- C.25. Respondent shall obtain agreement from his managing pharmacist to monitor Respondent's access to and accountability for handling of controlled substances and other abusable prescription drugs in order to reasonably detect loss, diversion, tampering, or discrepancy relating to controlled substances and other abusable prescription drugs. Respondent's supervisor shall include in the quarterly reports a description of Respondent's access to controlled substances and other abusable drugs and the monitoring thereof. Any loss, diversion, tampering, or discrepancy shall be immediately reported to the Board.
- C.26. In addition to the foregoing subparagraph, Respondent shall obtain from his supervising pharmacist agreement to conduct a full and exact (not estimated) count of all controlled substances in inventory immediately, and accountability audits of all controlled substances every six months for the duration of this Order. The audit shall be conducted by and certified by a licensed pharmacist other than Respondent, who shall be approved by the Board. A summary of all audits required under this subparagraph shall be included in the quarterly report following the audit, however, any discrepancy or missing drugs indicated by the audits shall be immediately reported in writing to the Board.
- C.27. Respondent shall arrange for agreement by his managing pharmacist to immediately report to the Board and to the Treater any conduct or condition of Respondent that may constitute a violation of this Order or a danger to the public.
- C.28. Respondent shall not own in whole or in part any interest in a pharmacy during the period of time this Order remains in effect.
- C.29. 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 Avenue
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935
Fax: (608) 266-2264
Telephone: (608) 267-3817

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, 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, no such petition shall be made any earlier than three months from the date the Board has acted on the last such petition, 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 \$425.00 to the Department of Regulation and Licensing, within 90 days of the date of this Order. In the event Respondent fails to timely submit any payment of costs, Respondent's license SHALL BE SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of this Order.

Additional Discipline

- D.7. 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. § 450.10.

Wisconsin Pharmacy Examining Board

By: Gregory C. Weber
A Member of the Board

4/9/08
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE PHARMACY EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY	:	
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST	:	
	:	STIPULATION
JEREMY C. VAN BUREN, R.Ph.,	:	LS _____ PHM
RESPONDENT.	:	

[Division of Enforcement Case # 07 PHM 078]

It is hereby stipulated and agreed, by and between Jeremy C. Van Buren, R.Ph., Respondent, and Sandra L. Nowack attorney for the Complainant, Department of Regulation and Licensing, Division of Enforcement, as follows:

1. This Stipulation is entered into as a result of a pending investigation of Respondent’s licensure by the Division of Enforcement (file 07 PHM 078). Respondent consents to the resolution of this investigation by stipulation and without the issuance of a formal complaint.
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 advice of legal counsel prior to signing this Stipulation.
4. Respondent agrees to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Board. 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 Board's Order, if adopted in the form as attached.
5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Board, 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 Board, the parties agree not to contend that the Board has been prejudiced or biased in any manner by the consideration of this attempted resolution.
6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Enforcement and any member of the Board ever assigned as a case advisor in this investigation may appear before the Board in open or closed session, without the presence of Respondent or Respondent’s attorney, if any, for purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that any member of the Board may have in connection with the Board’s deliberations on the Stipulation. Additionally, any such case advisor may vote on whether the Board should accept this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.
7. Respondent is informed that should the Board adopt this Stipulation, the Board’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 that the Board adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

Respondent
N5429 Deneveu Lane
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Sandra L. Nowack
Attorney for Complainant
Division of Enforcement
Department of Regulation and Licensing
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

Date

[07 PHM 078: Costs \$425.00]