

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 :

KATHLEEN M. BOWEN, R.N., :
RESPONDENT. :

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
LS0807241NUR

[Division of Enforcement Case #04 NUR 036]

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

Kathleen M. Bowen, R.N.
4510 5th Avenue
Kenosha WI 53140

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. Kathleen M. Bowen, R.N. ("Respondent") was born on July 2, 1954, and is licensed to practice professional nursing in the state of Wisconsin pursuant to license number 104824. This license was first granted on September 9, 1990.
2. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Board of Nursing is 4510 5th Avenue, Kenosha, Wisconsin 53140.
3. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was working as a professional nurse, through a nursing agency, at the Milwaukee County Jail, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
4. During the period February through May 2002, Respondent provided nursing services to an inmate, JP, and permitted the nurse/patient relationship to develop into a romantic relationship as well.

5. In violation of security rules of the Milwaukee County Jail, Respondent brought a restaurant meal and cigarettes to inmate JP.

6. Respondent terminated the romantic relationship several months after inmate JP was transferred to the custody of the Wisconsin Department of Corrections.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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

2. The conduct described in paragraphs 3 through 6, above, constitutes a violation of Wisconsin Administrative Code § N 7.04, by permitting the development of, and maintaining, a dual relationship with her patient.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. Kathleen M. Bowen, R.N., is hereby REPRIMANDED.

The license of Kathleen M. Bowen to practice nursing in the state of Wisconsin is hereby LIMITED by the condition that, within six months of the date of this Order, she successfully complete four hours of continuing nursing education on professional boundaries.

a. The Board or its designee must approve all continuing education programs prior to Respondent enrolling in, attending, or completing a continuing education program. Respondent shall send a Certificate of Completion to the Department Monitor upon successful completion of the continuing education program.

b. For purposes of this Order, the Board's designee is:

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

c. For a period of two years from the date of this Order, Respondent shall require her employers to submit quarterly work reports to the Board of Nursing, through the Department Monitor, which reports shall include the employer's review of Respondent's compliance with the standards of the practice of nursing, with particular mention of boundary issues.

d. Respondent shall give a copy of this Order to every one of her employers during the two years following the date of this Order.

e. Respondent's license to practice nursing is hereby LIMITED by the condition that for the two years following the date of this Order, Respondent may not practice in any correctional facility or psychiatric care unit.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

3. Respondent shall, within 180 days from the date of this Order, pay costs of this proceeding in the amount of Eight Hundred Seventy-Three (\$873.00) dollars. 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 Board in its 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 or fails to comply with the ordered continuing education the Respondent's license (#104824) 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.

Wisconsin Board of Nursing

By: Marilyn Kaufmann
A Member of the Board

7/24/08
Date