# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR SECTION
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING
AND SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

DESIREE R. WRIGHT, L.P.C., RESPONDENT.

ORDER 0000042

[Division of Enforcement Case # 09 CPC 033]

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

Desiree R. Wright, L.P.C. 4935 S. 26<sup>th</sup> Street Milwaukee, WI 53221

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

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 in this matter, subject to the approval of the Professional Counselor Section. The Section has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

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

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. Desiree R. Wright, L.P.C., Respondent, date of birth January 4, 1981, is licensed by the Professional Counselor Section as a professional counselor in the State of Wisconsin pursuant to license number 4300, which was first granted November 5, 2009.
- 2. Respondent's last address reported to the Department of Regulation and Licensing is 4935 S. 26<sup>th</sup> Street, Milwaukee, WI 53221.

- 3. Respondent applied to the Professional Counselor Section for a license as a professional counselor on August 12, 2009.
- 4. Wis. Stat. § 457.12(3)(a) and Wis. Adm. Code § MPSW 12.01 require an applicant to have completed the equivalent of at least 3000 hours of professional counseling practice in no less than a two-year period, including at least 1000 hours of face-to-face client contact.<sup>1</sup>
- 5. Respondent provided evidence of obtaining the required hours while working as a family advocate under the supervision of Lisa A. Roehl, L.P.C., in the Invisible Children's Program (ICP) at Mental Health America of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, Wisconsin from March 27, 2006 to June 29, 2008. Ms. Roehl, a licensed professional counselor and an appropriate person to supervise professional counselor practice hours, signed the Section's form attesting that she had supervised Respondent for the required hours over the necessary period of time. Respondent did not use the title professional counselor.
- 6. Respondent did not have a professional counselor training license or training certificate while obtaining those hours of professional counseling practice. Wis. Stat. § 457.04(6) prohibits anyone from practicing professional counseling in Wisconsin unless the person has a professional counselor license or a professional counselor training license.<sup>2</sup>
- 7. By practicing professional counseling in the Invisible Children's Program (ICP) at Mental Health America of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, Wisconsin from March 27, 2006 to June 29, 2008, while not licensed as a professional counselor or holding a professional counselor training license, Respondent violated a law the circumstances of which substantially relate to the practice of professional counseling, which is unprofessional counseling as defined by Wis. Adm. Code § MPSW 20.02(2).

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The Wisconsin Professional Counselor Section has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.12 and has authority to enter into this stipulated resolution of this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).
- 2. By practicing professional counseling in Wisconsin without a training license while obtaining her hours of supervised practice, Respondent violated Wis. Stat. § 457.04(6), which is unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Adm. Code § MPSW 20.02(2).

#### **ORDER**

### NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Respondent, Desiree R. Wright, L.P.C., is hereby REPRIMANDED for having practiced as a professional counselor without a professional counselor training license while acquiring the hours of supervised practice required for licensure.

Wis. Stat. sec. 457.02 provides exceptions to the prohibition, but Respondent did not qualify for any of those exceptions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Effective July 1, 2009, Wis. Adm. Code sec. MPSW 12.01 was amended to require that the hours of supervised practice be obtained while the applicant was holding a professional counselor training license.

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

Wisconsin Professional Counselor Section

By:

A Member of the Section

Date

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