

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 APPLICATION	:	
FOR LICENSURE AS A PROFESSIONAL	:	
COUNSELOR OF	:	
	:	FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
ANGELA M. NIGH,	:	
APPLICANT.	:	ORDER 0000456

To: Angela M. Nigh
517 Elizabeth Street
Waukesha, WI 53186

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

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The applicant, Angela Nigh, acquired the required 3,000 hours of supervised clinical practice while she did not hold a training license. Ms. Nigh asked the section to waive the training license requirement and accept her supervised practice hours for licensure. On August 3, 2010, the Professional Counselor Section determined that Ms. Nigh's supervised practice was acceptable and issued a Notice of Intent to Deny Application and offered the applicant a license in lieu of denial, subject to discipline. The applicant accepted the offer and the section having now received her verification of acceptance, has reviewed it and adopts and makes the following in conjunction with the issuance of her license:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Angela M. Nigh, whose date of birth is August 8, 1978, applied to the Professional Counselor Section for a license as a professional counselor. Her application was received on May 12, 2010.
2. Ms. Nigh's application included evidence of her completion of the required 3,000 hours of supervised clinical practice as a clinical case manager for Transitional Services in

Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Ms. Nigh practiced under the supervision of Dr. Vance Baker from September 26, 2005 to February 28, 2009.

3. Dr. Baker is a licensed physician who is an appropriate supervisor for professional counselor practice hours and he signed the application form attesting that he had supervised the applicant for the required hours over the necessary period of time.
4. The applicant did not have a professional counselor training license or training certificate while she acquired the supervised professional counseling practice hours. Wis. Stat. § 457.04(6)
5. By practicing professional counseling while not holding a professional counselor training license, the applicant violated Wis. Stat. § 457.12(3)(a) and Wis. Adm. Code § MPSW 12.01, laws substantially relate to the practice of professional counseling, which in and of itself constitutes a violation of 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.
2. By practicing professional counseling in Wisconsin without a training license while obtaining her hours of supervised practice, the applicant violated 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.¹
3. The Professional Counsel Section has authority, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26(2)(f), to deny an application for credential if the applicant has committed unprofessional conduct and the authority to impose discipline on a credential holder for unprofessional conduct.
4. The accrual of supervised practice hours without holding a training license is unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Adm. Code § MPSW 20.02(2).
5. The Professional Counselor Section is authorized to discipline the applicant for her inadvertent and minor violation of the law in lieu of the denial of her application for licensure.

¹ Wis. Stat. sec. 457.02 provides exceptions to the prohibition, but Applicant did not qualify for any of those exceptions.

ORDER


NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. The applicant, Angela Nigh, is hereby GRANTED a license as a professional counselor, effective the date of this Order.

2. Upon issuance of her license, Angela Nigh, L.P.C., is simultaneously REPRIMANDED for having practiced as a professional counselor without a professional counselor training license while acquiring the hours of supervised practice required for licensure.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING, AND SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR SECTION



Les Mirkin, L.P.C., 83
Chair

10-18-10

Date