

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF	:	ORDER GRANTING
THE LICENSE OF	:	REINSTATMENT OF LICENSE
	:	WITH LIMITATIONS
LAURA J. DIMMER, RN	:	
PETITIONER	:	LS09120315NUR

TO: Laura J. Dimmer
1861-16 Ave.
Kenosha, WI 53140

On October 6, 2011, the Board of Nursing considered the petitioner's request for reinstatement of her revoked registered nurse license pursuant to the Final Decision and Order of the Board dated December 3, 2009. Based upon the information of record which includes a current AODA assessment, fitness to practice letter and enrollment in a drug screen monitoring program, the Board now finds and makes the following:

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the request for reinstatement of the registered nurse license of Laura Dimmer, R.N. (#138267-30) is GRANTED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the license of Laura Dimmer shall be LIMITED by the following terms and conditions:

SUSPENSION

- A.1. The license of Laura Dimmer, R.N., to practice as a nurse in the State of Wisconsin is SUSPENDED for an indefinite period.
- A.2. The privilege of Laura Dimmer, R.N. to practice as a nurse in the State of Wisconsin under the authority of another state's license pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact is also SUSPENDED for an indefinite period.
- A.3. During the pendency of this Order and any subsequent related orders, Petitioner may not practice in another state pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact under the authority of a Wisconsin license, unless Petitioner receives prior written authorization to do so from both the Wisconsin Board of Nursing and the regulatory board in the other state.
- A.4. Upon a showing by Petitioner of continuous, successful compliance for a period of at least two (2) years with the terms of this Order, including at least 600 hours of active nursing for every year the suspension is stayed, the Board may grant a petition by the Petitioner under paragraph D.6. for return of full Wisconsin licensure. The Board may, on its own motion or at the request of the Department Monitor, grant full Wisconsin licensure at any time.

STAY OF SUSPENSION

- B.1. The suspension is hereby stayed based upon Petitioner having provided proof, which was determined by the Board or its designee to be sufficient, that Petitioner 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 Petitioner is in substantial or repeated violation of any provision of Sections C or D of this Order. A substantial violation includes, but is not limited to, a positive drug or alcohol screen. A 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 Petitioner 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 Petitioner either by:
 - (a) Mailing to Petitioner's last-known address provided to the Department of Safety and Professional Services pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.11; or
 - (b) Actual notice to Petitioner or Petitioner's attorney.
- B.4. The Board or its designee may reinstate the stay, if provided with sufficient information that Petitioner 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 Petitioner requests a hearing on the removal of the stay, a hearing shall be held using the procedures set forth in 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 Petitioner's request, unless waived by Petitioner. Requesting a hearing does not stay the suspension during the pendency of the hearing process.

CONDITIONS AND LIMITATIONS

Treatment Required

- C.1. Petitioner shall enter into, and shall continue, mental health treatment with a treater acceptable to the Board or its designee ("Treater"). Petitioner shall participate in, cooperate with, and follow all treatment recommended by Treater.
- C.2. Petitioner 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 Petitioner's treatment as required under the terms of this Order, and shall immediately 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 required by this Order, Petitioner 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. Therapy may end only with the approval of the Board or its designee, after receiving a petition for modification as required by D.5., 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 Petitioner's progress in treatment. Treater shall report immediately to the Department Monitor any violation or suspected violation of this Order.

Releases

- C.6. Petitioner 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 Safety and Professional Services, Division of Enforcement to: (a) obtain all specimen screen results and patient health care and treatment records and reports, and (b) discuss the progress of Petitioner's treatment and rehabilitation with Treater and treatment facilities and personnel, laboratories and collection sites. Copies of these releases shall immediately be filed with the Department Monitor.

Sobriety

- C.7. Petitioner shall abstain from all personal use of alcohol.
- C.8. Petitioner 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. Petitioner shall disclose Petitioner's drug and alcohol history and the existence and nature of this Order to the practitioner prior to the practitioner ordering the controlled substance. Petitioner 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 Petitioner's treatment with, and provide copies of treatment records to, Treater and the Board or its designee. Copies of these releases shall immediately be filed with the Department Monitor.
- C.9. Petitioner shall abstain from all use of over-the-counter medications or other substances (including but not limited to natural substances such as poppy seeds) which may mask consumption of controlled substances or of alcohol, create false positive screening results, or interfere with Petitioner's treatment and rehabilitation. It is Petitioner's responsibility to educate herself about the medications and substances which may violate this paragraph, and to avoid those medications and substances.
- C.10. Petitioner shall report to Treater and the Department Monitor all prescription medications and drugs taken by Petitioner. Reports must be received within 24 hours of ingestion or administration of the medication or drug, and shall identify the person or persons who prescribed, dispensed, administered or ordered said medications or drugs. Each time the prescription is filled or refilled, Petitioner shall immediately arrange for the prescriber or pharmacy to fax and mail copies of all prescriptions to the Department Monitor.
- C.11. Petitioner shall provide the Department Monitor with a list of over-the-counter medications and drugs that they may take from time to time. Over-the-counter medications and drugs that mask the consumption of controlled substances or of alcohol, create false positive screening results, or interfere with Petitioner's treatment and rehabilitation, shall not be taken unless ordered by a physician and approved by Treater, in which case the drug must be reported as described in paragraph C.11.

Drug and Alcohol Screens

- C.12. Petitioner shall enroll and begin participation in a drug and alcohol monitoring program which is approved by the Department ("Approved Program").

- C.13. At the time Petitioner enrolls in the Approved Program, Petitioner 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 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, blood, sweat, fingernail, hair, saliva or other 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 specimens at a frequency of not less than 29 times per year, for the first year of this Order. After the first year, Petitioner may petition the Board on an annual basis for a modification of the frequency of tests. The board may adjust the frequency of testing on its own initiative at any time.
- C.15. If any urine, blood, sweat, fingernail, hair, saliva or other specimen is positive or suspected positive for any controlled substances or alcohol, Petitioner shall promptly submit to additional tests or examinations as 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 Petitioner to do any or all of the following: (a) submit additional specimens; (b) furnish any specimen in a directly witnessed manner; or (c) submit specimens on a more frequent basis.
- C.17. All confirmed positive test results shall be presumed to be valid. Petitioner must prove by a preponderance of the evidence an error in collection, testing, fault in the chain of custody or other valid defense.
- C.18. The Approved Program shall submit information and reports to the Department Monitor as directed.

Practice Limitations

- C.19. Petitioner may work as a nurse or other health care provider in a setting in which Petitioner has access to controlled substances.
- C.20. Petitioner shall practice only under the direct supervision of a licensed nurse or other licensed health care professional approved by the Board or its designee.
- C.21. Petitioner shall practice only in a work setting pre-approved by the Board or its designee.
- C.22. Petitioner shall provide a copy of this Final Decision and Order and all other subsequent orders immediately to supervisory personnel at all settings where Petitioner works as a nurse or care giver or provides health care, currently or in the future.
- C.23. It is Petitioner'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 Petitioner's work performance, and shall include the number of hours of active nursing practice worked during that quarter. If a report indicates poor performance, the Board may institute appropriate corrective limitations, or may revoke a stay of the suspension, in its discretion.

- C.24. Petitioner 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 Safety and Professional Services
Division of Enforcement
1400 East Washington Ave.
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935
Fax: (608) 266-2264
Telephone: (608) 267-3817

Required Reporting by Petitioner

- D.2. Petitioner is responsible for compliance with all of the terms and conditions of this Order, including the timely submission of reports by others. Petitioner 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. Petitioner shall promptly notify the Department Monitor of any violations of any of the terms and conditions of this Order by Petitioner.
- D.3. Every three (3) months the Petitioner shall notify the Department Monitor of the Petitioner'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.4. 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 Petitioner continue treatment and rehabilitation under the direction of another Treater or Approved Program.

Petitions for Modification of Limitations or Termination of Order

- D.5. Petitioner may petition the Board on an annual basis for modification of the terms of this Order, however no such petition for modification shall occur earlier than one year from the date of the initial stay of the suspension. Any petition for modification shall be accompanied by a written recommendation from Petitioner'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 Petitioner shall not have a right to any further hearings or proceedings on the denial.
- D.6. Petitioner may petition the Board for termination of this Order anytime after two years from the date of the initial stay of the suspension. However, no petition for termination shall be considered without a showing of continuous, successful compliance with the terms of the Order, for at least two years.

Costs of Compliance

- D.7. Petitioner 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.

Additional Discipline

- D.8. 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. § 441.07.

This order is effective on the date signed below.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BOARD OF NURSING


Lou Ann Weix, R.N., A.P.N.P.
Chairperson

10/20/11
Date