

# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY :  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :

**FINAL DECISION AND ORDER**

THOMAS R. JELENCHICK, R.N., :  
RESPONDENT. :

Order 0000700

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Division of Enforcement Case # 08 NUR 60

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

Thomas R. Jelenchick  
12606 W. Meadow Ln.  
New Berlin, WI 53151

Wisconsin Board of Nursing  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

Department of Regulation and Licensing  
Division of Enforcement  
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. 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. Thomas Richard Jelenchick (D.O.B. 5/25/1952) is duly licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a professional nurse (license # 91404). This license was first granted on 8/31/1985.
2. On 2/21/2005 a 71 year old patient underwent a surgical procedure to debride a wound and create an omental flap.
3. Respondent was the circulating nurse and was responsible for counting the sharps, sponges, and instruments, with another nurse, for the surgery described in paragraph 2 above.

Respondent stated that both he and the other nurse visualized four counts and verified that all sharps, sponges and instruments were removed and accounted for.

4. Notwithstanding his count, the patient did, in fact, have a sponge left inside, following the procedure, and was required to undergo another surgery for removal of the sponge.

5. Respondent has, since the above incident, demonstrated successful completion of six hours of continuing education in the area of prevention of operating room errors, including retained sponges.

#### CONCLUSION OF LAW

By the conduct described above, respondent is subject to disciplinary action against his license to practice as a nurse in the state of Wisconsin, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07(1)(b), (c) and (d), and Wis. Adm. Code §§ N 7.03(1)(b) and N 7.04(15).

#### ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Thomas R. Jelenchick, R.N., is REPRIMANDED for his unprofessional conduct in this matter.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent shall pay the costs of investigating and prosecuting this matter, in the amount of \$350, within 90 days of this Order. If not paid, Respondent's license shall be SUSPENDED without further notice or hearing, until they are paid in full, together with any accrued interest.

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

By:   
A Member of the Board

2-24-11  
Date

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