

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF
DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

STELLA F. FIELDS, L.P.N.,
RESPONDENT.

:
:
:
:
:

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

ORDER 0000979

Division of Enforcement Case No. 10NUR625

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

Stella F. Fields, L.P.N.
1832 Bellinger St.
Eau Claire, WI 54703

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. Stella F. Fields, L.P.N., (D.O.B. 07/25/1976) is licensed as a practical nurse in the State of Wisconsin (license # 31-310277). This license was first granted on July 16, 2008.

2. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Board of Nursing is 1832 Bellinger St., Eau Claire, WI 54703.

3. At all relevant times, Respondent was employed as a practical nurse at Oakwood Villa in Altoona, Wisconsin.

4. At approximately 2:30 PM on November 15, 2010, Nurse A discovered several pills of Omeprazole at the bottom of the A-Hall sharps container. The sharps container had been recently changed, on November 14, 2010 at approximately 1:00 PM.

5. Nurse A reported the discovery to the Director of Nursing (DON), because of her concern that there were no medication refusals charted in the MAR from the previous day from any residents, indicating numerous medication errors.

6. The DON and Nursing Home Administrator (NHA) questioned Respondent, who initially stated that no resident refused any medication during her shift on November 15, 2010, and that she had not signed out any medication that had not been given to the residents.

7. When Respondent was asked how the Omeprazoles got in the sharps container, she responded that she put them there because the residents refused them.

8. Respondent failed to document the refusals in the MAR. Respondent stated it was a mistake by simple oversight that she did not mark refusal in the MAR for three residents that she stated had refused, and one resident who was only able to take one of two Omeprazoles.

9. Respondent's employment with Oakwood Villa was terminated on November 16, 2010, for committing a Class III offense, #13 in the facility's HR handbook: committing a serious medication error that could or does result in harm to a resident.

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 paragraph 8 above constitutes a violation of Wis. Admin. Code §§ N 7.03(1)(d) and N 7.04(5) and (6) and subjects Respondent to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07(1)(c) and (d).

ORDER

1. Stella F. Fields, L.P.N., is REPRIMANDED.
2. The license of Stella F. Fields, L.P.N., to practice nursing in the state of Wisconsin, and her privilege to practice in Wisconsin pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact, are LIMITED as follows:
 - a. Respondent, within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order and at her own expense, shall complete four (4) hours of pre-approved continuing education in safe medication administration and documentation. Respondent is responsible for finding an appropriate course and submitting the course information to the Board for approval prior to taking the course and in sufficient time to obtain board approval within the 90 day time frame, taking into account the board's meeting schedule. Respondent shall provide proof of completion of the continuing education to the Department Monitor.
 - b. For a period of at least two (2) years from the date of this Order:
 1. Respondent shall provide a copy of this Final Decision and Order immediately to supervisory personnel at all settings where Respondent works as a nurse or caregiver or provides health care, during the two-year period.
 2. Respondent's supervisor(s) shall provide written reports on Respondent's work performance to the Department Monitor on a quarterly basis, as directed by the Department Monitor. It shall be Respondent's responsibility to insure that the reports are made in a timely manner.
 3. Pursuant to Uniform Nurse Licensure Compact regulations, Respondent's nursing practice is limited to Wisconsin during the pendency of this limitation. This requirement may be waived only upon the prior written authorization of both the Wisconsin Board of Nursing and the regulatory board in the state in which Respondent proposes to practice.
 4. Respondent shall notify the Department Monitor of any change of nursing employment during the time in which the Order is in effect. Notification shall occur within fifteen (15) days of a change of employment and shall include an explanation of the reasons for the change.

3. After two (2) years from the date of this Order, Respondent may petition the board for the modification or termination of the limitation. The Board may grant or deny the petition, in its discretion, or may modify this Order as it sees fit.

4. Respondent shall, within 90 days of the date of this Order, pay to the Department of Regulation and Licensing costs of this proceeding in the amount of Six Hundred Dollars (\$600.00), pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.22(2).

5. All petitions, payments, reports and other correspondence shall be mailed or delivered to:

Department Monitor
Department of Regulation and Licensing
Division of Enforcement
1400 East Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935
Fax (608) 266-2264
Telephone (608) 267-3817

6. 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 that Respondent fails to timely submit payment of the costs as ordered or fails to comply with the ordered continuing education as set forth above, Respondent's license may, in the discretion of the Board or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of this Order.

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

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin this 21 day of July, 2011.

Wisconsin Board of Nursing

By: [Signature]
A Member of the Board

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING