

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE PHARMACY EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY :  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

PATRICK J. STEFFECK R.PH., :  
RESPONDENT. :

ORDER 0001005

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[Division of Enforcement Case #09 PHM 008]

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

Patrick J. Steffek, R.Ph.  
211 N. 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Wausau, WI 54401

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

Wisconsin Pharmacy Examining Board  
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 of this matter subject to the approval of the Pharmacy Examining 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. Patrick J. Steffek, R.Ph., (“Respondent”), date of birth December 5, 1952, is licensed and currently registered by the Wisconsin Pharmacy Examining Board to practice as a registered pharmacist in the state of Wisconsin, pursuant to license number 9476-40. This license was first granted on December 9, 1978.

2. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Pharmacy Examining Board is 211 N. 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Wausau, WI 54401.

3. At all times relevant to this case, Respondent worked as a pharmacist at the Shopko Pharmacy #2079 (Shopko) in Wausau, Wisconsin.

4. On December 8, 2008, patient H.B. had a prescription for Warfarin (Coumadin) filled at Shopko. H.B. was to receive 2 mg of Coumadin daily. Shopko received the prescription from H.B.'s doctor via E-Scribe. While filling the prescription, an input technician incorrectly entered the prescription as Coumadin, 10 mg. instead of Coumadin, 2 mg .

5. Respondent is responsible for verifying the prescription filled is the exact prescription the doctor prescribed, and that the pharmacy technician filled it correctly. Respondent did not confirm that the dosage entered by the input technician matched the dosage on the electronic prescription, and dispensed the incorrect prescription to H.B.

6. On January 11, 2009, H.B. was admitted to the Aspirus Wausau Hospital due to several falls, weakness and persisting general weakness. Multiple areas of extensive bruising from the falls were noted and the bruises were larger than expected.

7. H.B. died on January 15, 2009. The medical examiner confirmed that H.B.'s death was a result of excessive ingestion of Coumadin. The medical examiner reviewed the medical records from H.B.'s doctor and confirmed the prescription order on December 8, 2008 was for 2 mg daily of Coumadin. The medical examiner recovered H.B.'s prescription bottle from Shopko, which listed 10 mg daily of Coumadin. The medical examiner ruled the cause of death to be multi-organ failure and anemia from Coumadin overdose.

8. Respondent acknowledges he made a mistake with H.B.'s prescription.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Pharmacy Examining Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 450.10 and has authority to enter into the stipulated resolution of this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

2. Respondent failed to comply with Wis. Admin. Code § Phar 7.01(1)(a), (b), and (d), which constitutes a violation of Wis. Admin. Code § Phar 10.03(2).

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Respondent, Patrick J. Steffek, R. Ph. (License No. 9476-40), is **REPRIMANDED** for the conduct set out above.

2. Respondent's license is **LIMITED** by the condition that he shall, within one hundred eighty (180) days from the date of this Order, successfully complete ten (10) hours of continuing education in anti-coagulation therapy with a focus on warfarin. The course must be pre-approved by the Board or the Board's designee before the Respondent takes the course; for purposes of this Order, the Department Monitor is the Board's designee. Respondent shall locate an appropriate course and submit a copy of the syllabus or other similar description of the course to the Department Monitor before taking the course. Respondent is solely responsible for all costs associated with compliance with this Order. Any course the Respondent nominates for compliance with this Order may be approved in whole or in part; Respondent may choose to complete a course that is not approved for purposes of this Order, but only a course or portion of a course that is approved for compliance with this Order will be credited towards compliance with this Order. No portion of any course taken in compliance with this Order may be credited to any other continuing education requirement to which Respondent may be subject. Respondent shall submit a certificate of completion of the course or courses to the Department Monitor, at the address noted below, within ten (10) days of completion of the course.

3. Respondent shall, within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, pay to the Department of Regulation and Licensing a forfeiture in the amount of **ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1000.00)**, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 450.10(2).

4. Respondent shall, within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, pay to the Department of Regulation and Licensing costs of this proceeding in the amount of Seven Hundred Sixty-three Dollars (\$763.00), pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.22(2).

4. All payments required by this Order shall be mailed or delivered to:


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

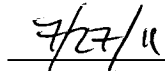
5. Violation of any of the terms of this Order may be construed as conduct imperiling public health, safety and welfare and may result in a summary suspension of Respondent's license.

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 Respondent fails to timely submit any payment of the forfeiture as set forth above, or fails to complete the continuing education, or fails to pay costs as ordered, Respondent's license to practice as a pharmacist in Wisconsin, license #9476-40, MAY BE SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of this Order.

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

Wisconsin Pharmacy Examining Board

By:  \_\_\_\_\_  
A Member of the Board

 \_\_\_\_\_  
Date