

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE SOCIAL WORKER SECTION
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING,
AND SOCIAL WORKER EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY :
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :
 : FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
CATHERINE M. FRANKLIN, :
RESPONDENT. : **ORDER 0001015**

Division of Enforcement Case # 10 SOC 035

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

Catherine Franklin
4318 Cherokee Drive
Madison, WI 53711

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

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 Social Worker Section of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Worker 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. Catherine M. Franklin ("Respondent"), date of birth June 18, 1958, is licensed as a clinical social worker in the state of Wisconsin, pursuant to license number 1559-123. This license was first granted October 2, 1993.

2. Respondent's last known address reported to the Social Worker Section of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Worker Examining Board is 4318 Cherokee Drive, Madison, WI 53711.

3. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed at St. Charles Youth and Family Services (St. Charles) as a program manager with the Odayin Day Treatment Program.

4. On March 23, 2010, an employee of Odayin, SK, was going through a client's file and discovered that she was listed as the writer of the client's treatment plan. SK also discovered that her last name was spelled incorrectly and her signature appeared to be forged. SK contends she did not write the treatment plan, or sign her signature.

5. On March 24, 2010, SK presented the treatment plan with the forged signature to DH, a supervisor at St. Charles. DH held a meeting between SK and Respondent, where Respondent denied forging any signatures. When another Odayin employee found her treatment plans also contained a forged signature, DH held another meeting between Odayin staff and Respondent. During this meeting, Respondent admitted to forging staff member's names on the documents.

6. On March 25, 2010, Respondent called the Vice-President of St. Charles and told him that she had written the names of two staff members on the paperwork without their consent. As a result of this incident of poor professional judgment, Respondent was placed on a disciplinary plan. The disciplinary plan included a written warning, and a recommendation to attend an ethics course, which Respondent completed.

7. On September 14, 2010, Respondent was released from her position at St. Charles due to budget concerns. Respondent is currently employed as a clinical director for a company in Texas.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Social Worker Section of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Worker Examining Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.88(6) and has authority to enter into this stipulated resolution of this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

2. Respondent, by reporting distorted information and making false statements in practice, as described in paragraph 5 and 6, above, has committed unprofessional conduct as

defined by Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 20.02(7) and is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26(2)(f).

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. Catherine M. Franklin., (License No. 1559-123) is hereby REPRIMANDED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

2. Respondent shall, within ninety (90) days from the date for this Order, pay costs of this proceeding in the amount of Three Hundred Thirty Five DOLLARS (\$335.00). Payment shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing, and mailed to:

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

3. 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 payment of the costs as ordered, the Respondent's license (#1559-123) may, in the discretion of the board or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with payment of the costs.

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

Social Worker Section of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Worker Examining Board

By: George J. Kampa
A Member of the Board

7/27/11
Date