

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

EVANGELINE M. SUQUET,
RESPONDENT.

:
:
:
:
:

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

ORDER 0001285

[Division of Enforcement Case # 11 RSA 037]

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

Evangeline M. Suquet
873 Division Street
Lower Unit
Green Bay, WI 54303

Division of Enforcement
Department of Safety and Professional Services
1400 East Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

Department of Safety and Professional Services
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 Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services. The Secretary has reviewed the attached Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Secretary in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Evangeline M. Suquet, ("Respondent") was born on February 26, 1972, and is duly certified as a substance abuse counselor-in-training in the state of Wisconsin (certificate # 15571-130). This certificate was first granted on May 12, 2008.

2. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services is 873 Division Street, Lower Unit, Green Bay, WI 54303.

3. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was working as a substance abuse counselor-in-training at Oneida Behavioral Health in Oneida, Wisconsin.

4. Client A had recently been released from prison, and was receiving aftercare services at Oneida Behavioral Health. Respondent was the co-facilitator of a therapy group that Client A attended.

5. On July 18, 2011, Respondent hired an acquaintance of hers, Mr. S, to have her van's brakes replaced. Mr. S needed help to replace the brakes, so Respondent agreed to pick up one of the Mr. S' friends, who turned out to be Client A.

6. At approximately 5:30 p.m., Respondent arrived at Mr. S' home, and Mr. S and Client A began replacing the brakes on Respondent's van. The work was not completed until approximately 7:30 p.m. Respondent then drove around and ran errands for both Mr. S, and Client A.

7. At approximately 11:00 p.m., Respondent drove Client A back to the hotel where he was staying. The police were waiting at the hotel, and took Client A into custody. He was charged with disorderly conduct and absconding from the ATTIC Correctional Services Transitional Living Program as of July 8, 2011 when he removed his electronic monitoring bracelet. Respondent gave Client A her cell phone number so he could contact her about the disorderly conduct allegation. Respondent gave a statement to the police and then went home.

8. On July 19, 2011, Client A's mother contacted Respondent and asked Respondent to visit Client A in jail because she was concerned about her son who had a history of depression and suicide ideation.

9. That same morning, Respondent visited Client A in jail and identified herself as the co-facilitator of Client A's therapy group. After her visit with Client A, Respondent contacted Client A's mother and provided assurance and information about Client A's condition.

10. A day or so later, Client A's mother contacted Respondent again and asked Respondent to visit Client A in jail a second time because Client A's mother was still worried that Client A was struggling with depression and Client A had specifically requested that Respondent talk to him and provide reassurance.

11. On July 21, 2011, Respondent visited Client A in jail for a second time. Respondent this time identified herself as a "family member/friend".

12. A dual relationship exists between a substance abuse counselor and a client when the counselor and client have any other relationship at the same time as the counseling relationship; counselors are required to avoid all dual relationships that have the potential to impair their objectivity or create a conflict of interest.

13. Oneida Behavioral Health suspended Respondent without pay for two weeks because of the incident.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services has jurisdiction to act in this matter, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.88(6), and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation and Order, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

2. Respondent's conduct of engaging in a dual relationship with a client as described in paragraphs 4 - 11, above, constitutes a violation of Wis. Admin. Code § RL 164.01(2)(n) and subjects Respondent to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.88(6).

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. Evangeline M. Suquet, (certificate # 15571-130) is hereby REPRIMANDED.

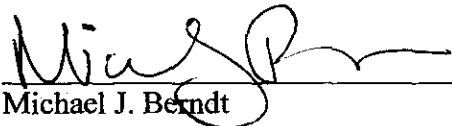
2. Respondent shall, within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, pay costs of this proceeding in the amount of TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$200.00). Payment shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services, and mailed to:

Department Monitor
Division of Enforcement
Department of Safety and Professional Services
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 credential. The Secretary 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 pay costs as ordered, the Respondent's credential (certificate #15571-130) MAY BE SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of this Order.

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

Department of Safety and Professional Services

By: 
Michael J. Berndt
General Counsel

12/15/11
Date