

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	:	
	:	FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
SAMANTHA S. CONNAUGHTY, R.N.,	:	
RESPONDENT.	:	ORDER 0001812

Division of Enforcement Case No. 11NUR586

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

Samantha S. Connaughty, R.N.
626 Meier Lane
Onalaska, WI 54650

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

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

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. Samantha S. Connaughty, R.N., (DOB 02/01/1969) is licensed as a professional nurse in the State of Wisconsin (license no. 150809-30). This license was first granted on August 4, 2005.

2. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Board of Nursing is 626 Meier Lane, Onalaska, WI 54650.

3. On September 29, 2011, Respondent was convicted of three counts of fraudulent insurance claim, a class A misdemeanor. Respondent was ordered to six months jail time to be served by electronic monitoring, maintain employment, pay fees, pay restitution in the amount of \$37,890.32, undergo financial and education counseling, and follow through with any treatment recommendations.

4. The convictions were based on Respondent having made false statements on applications for payment for hours she claimed to have worked as a nurse for a patient, who is covered by the Medicaid Program, between January 1, 2009 – November 25, 2010.

5. According to Respondent, she was suffering from an illness and could not work, so she filed the fraudulent claims to help support her family.

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 paragraphs 3-4 above constitutes a violation of Wisconsin Administrative Code §§ N 7.04(1) and (13) and subjects Respondent to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07(1)(d).

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED:

1. The license of Samantha S. Connaughty, R.N. to practice nursing in the state of Wisconsin, and her privilege to practice in Wisconsin pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact, are **SUSPENDED** for ninety (90) days.

2. The license of Samantha S. Connaughty, R.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, at her own expense, shall complete four (4) hours of pre-approved continuing education in ethics, and four (4) hours of pre-approved continuing education in proper billing practices, within 90 days of the date of this Order. 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. Respondent shall provide her nursing employers with a copy of this Order before engaging in any nursing employment.
 - c. For a period of at least two (2) years from the date of this order, Respondent shall work only under direct supervision, and only in a work setting pre-approved by the Board. Respondent shall not work in a home health, agency or pool position. Respondent's current position with Lee Quality Home Care is approved.
 - d. For a period of at least two (2) years from the date of this Order, Respondent shall arrange for quarterly reports from her nursing employer(s) reporting the terms and conditions of her employment, and evaluating her work performance.
 - e. 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.
 - f. 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 180 days of the date of this Order, pay to the Department of Safety and Professional Services costs of this proceeding in the amount of Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00), pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.22(2).
5. All petitions, payments, reports and other correspondence shall be directed to the Department Monitor, as follows:

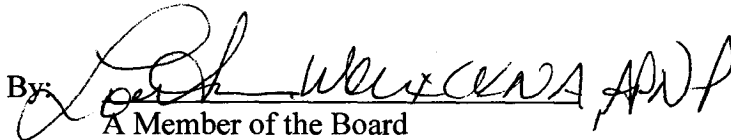
Department Monitor
Department of Safety and Professional Services
Division of Enforcement
1400 East Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

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 (no. 150809-30) 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.

Wisconsin Board of Nursing

By:  WBCNA, ANP
A Member of the Board

Date

6/7/12