

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY | : | |
| PROCEEDINGS AGAINST | : | |
| | : | FINAL DECISION AND ORDER |
| CAROL A. STEFANIK, | : | |
| RESPONDENT. | : | ORDER 0001931 |

Division of Enforcement Case No. 12SOC002

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

Carol A. Stefanik
55 Sapphire Court
Susanville, CA 96130

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

Social Worker Section
Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling and Social Work Examining Board
Wisconsin 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 Social Worker Section of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling and Social Work Examining Board (Section). The Section has reviewed the attached Stipulation and considered it acceptable.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Carol A. Stefanik, (DOB 07/04/1953), is credentialed as an independent social worker in the State of Wisconsin, pursuant to credential number 659-122. This credential was first granted May 12, 1995.

2. Respondent's last known address reported to the Social Worker Section of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Work Examining Board is 55 Sapphire Court, Susanville, CA 96130.

3. On or about January 12, 2011, Respondent renewed her independent social worker credential in the State of Wisconsin. During the Continuing Education Certification portion of the renewal process, Respondent attested to the following statement:

I have completed 30 credit hours of continuing education in approved programs as provided in section MPSW 19.01, Wisconsin Administrative Code, between March 1, 2009 and February 28, 2011. I have or will have evidence of this which I will furnish to the Board upon request.

4. In July 2011, as a result of a continuing education audit conducted on behalf of the Section, the Department requested that Respondent submit an attendance table, and proof of attendance, that included the continuing education hours she completed during the 2009-2011 credentialing period.

5. Respondent completed the attendance table and provided proof of completion for 41 continuing education hours (CEH). Respondent completed 3 in-person CEH in ethics, which is 1 hour short of the 4-hour requirement, and she completed 38 CEH via interactive internet courses, which exceeds the 21 CEH interactive internet course limit.

6. Respondent completed another ethics course worth 3 CEH and she completed 4 in-person training hours. Respondent is now in compliance with the continuing education requirements for the 2009-2011 biennium.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Social Worker Section of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Work Examining Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26 and has authority to enter into this stipulated resolution of this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

2. The conduct described in paragraphs 3-5 above constitutes a violation of Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 20.02(4), and subjects Respondent to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26(2)(f).

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. Carol A. Stefanik is hereby REPRIMANDED.

2. Respondent shall not count the continuing education hours earned to satisfy the continuing education requirements of the 2009-2011 biennium towards the continuing education requirements of the 2011-2013 biennium.


3. Respondent shall, within ninety (90) days from the date for this Order, pay costs of this proceeding in the amount of Two Hundred Fifty (\$250.00). 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

4. 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 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 pay costs as ordered, Respondent's independent social worker credential, credential no. 659-122, MAY BE SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of this Order.

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

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

By: 
A Member of the Section

7/18/2012
Date