

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY	:	
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST	:	
	:	FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
RUTH M. SCHROEDER,	:	
RESPONDENT.	:	ORDER 0002220

Division of Legal Services and Compliance¹ Case No. 12 CPC 066

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

Ruth M. Schroeder
Ross University School of Medicine
630 US Hwy 1 Suite 500
North Brunswick, NJ 08902

Professional Counselor Section
Of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling and Social Worker
Examining Board
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

Division of Legal Services and Compliance
Department of Safety and Professional Services
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 disposition of this matter, subject to the approval of the Professional Counselor Section of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling and Social Worker Examining Board (Section). The Section has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Section in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.

¹ The Division of Legal Services and Compliance was formerly known as the Division of Enforcement.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Ruth M. Schroeder (dob: 11/3/1953) is licensed in the State of Wisconsin to practice as a professional counselor, having license number, 125-2787, first issued on 12/23/1998 and current through 02/28/2013. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is RUSM, 630 US HWY 1 Suite 500, North Brunswick, NJ 08902.
2. In the summer of 2012 the Department conducted an audit to review continuing education credits (CE's) obtained by Professional Counselors for the 2009-2011 biennium. The biennium dates were 3/1/2009 to 2/28/2011.
3. The Respondent was selected to participate in the audit.
4. Wis. Admin. Code §§ MPSW 14.03(1) and (4m) require professional counselors to complete 30 hours of continuing education courses per biennium.
5. Of the 30 hours of continuing education per biennium, licensees must take a minimum of 15 credit hours in professional counselor continuing education programs through NRCA, ARCA, WRCA, NBCC, ACA, WCA, CRCC or a college or university that is accredited by CACREP. Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 14.04 (1) – (5). Four of those 15 credit hours must be in professional counselor ethics and professional boundaries.
6. The remainder of the 30 credit hours may be obtained through the APA Committee for the Approval of Continuing Education, Category I – AMA or AOA, through programs recognized by the Social Work Section under s. MPSW 8.03 (1m) or through programs recognized by the Marriage and Family Therapy Section under s. MPSW 19.02 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code.
7. Respondent did not comply with Wis. Admin Code § MPSW 14.03(1), because Respondent lacked more than ten continuing education credits of the required 30 credits.
8. Respondent did not comply with the requirements of Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 14.03(4m) because Respondent had fewer than 15 credits from among the continuing education programs and other educational activities identified in Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 14.04.
9. Respondent did not comply with the requirements of Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 14.03(4m) because Respondent did not have a total of four credits in the subject area of professional counseling ethics and boundaries from among the continuing education programs and other educational activities identified in Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 14.04.
10. Respondent was given notice of the credit deficiencies and the opportunity to come into compliance, and completed more than the 23.5 credits she had failed to obtain during the biennial reporting period.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Professional Counselor Section of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling and Social Worker Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26, and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).
2. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent violated Wisconsin Administrative Code § MPSW 14.03.
3. As a result of the above violations, Ruth M. Schroeder is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26.

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
2. Respondent Schroeder is REPRIMANDED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, effective the date of this order:

3. Within 90 days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$ 317.58. Costs are payable by check to the Department of Safety and Professional Services.
4. Documents necessary to satisfy the terms of this Order, and payment of costs shall be sent to the Department Monitor at the address below:


Department Monitor
Division of Legal Services and Compliance
Department of Safety and Professional Services
P.O. Box 8935, Madison, WI 53708-8935
Telephone (608) 267-3817; Fax (608) 266-2264
DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

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 Section 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, Respondent's license (no. 125-2787) may, in the discretion of the Section or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with payment of the costs.

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

THE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR SECTION OF THE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY
THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING AND SOCIAL WORKER EXAMINING
BOARD

by:


A Member of the Section

Date

12/19/12