

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY	:	
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST	:	
	:	FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
DIANE K. PITZEN,	:	
RESPONDENT.	:	

ORDER 0002223

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance<sup>1</sup> Case No. 12 CPC 057

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

Diane K. Pitzen  
2825 Hwy 61 & 151  
Cuba City, WI 53807

Professional Counselor Section  
Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and  
Social Work 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 Work 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.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Diane K. Pitzen (dob March 23, 1954) is licensed in the State of Wisconsin to practice as a professional counselor, having license number 125-2131 first issued on September 5, 1995, and current through February 28, 2013. Diane K. Pitzen's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 2825 Hwy 61 & 151, Cuba City, Wisconsin 53807.

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<sup>1</sup> The Division of Legal Services and Compliance was formerly known as the Division of Enforcement.

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 5.5 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 did submit information showing that she obtained 75.5 continuing education hours, but only 9.5 of her continuing education hours meet the requirements of Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 14.04(1) – (5).

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Professional Counselor Section of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Work Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26(2), 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, Diane K. Pitzen violated Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 14.03.

3. As a result of the above violations, Diane K. Pitzen is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26(2)(h).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. Diane K. Pitzen's Licensed Professional Counselor license (no. 125-2131) is INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED effective the date of this Order. Respondent shall not practice as a professional counselor in the State of Wisconsin while suspended. Diane K. Pitzen may petition the Section to lift the suspension of the license with satisfactory evidence of having obtained 5.5 hours of continuing education from providers approved under Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 14.04(1)-(5); 4 of those hours shall be in the topic of ethics for professional counselors.

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 \$ 128.42. 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:

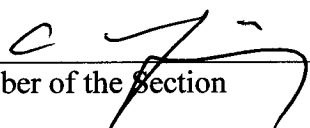
Department Monitor  
Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
Department of Safety and Professional Services  
P.O. Box 8935, Madison, WI 53708-8935  
Telephone (608) 267-3817; Fax (608) 266-2264  
[DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov)

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. 125-2131) 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.

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

By

  
A Member of the Section

12/19/12  
Date