

## 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

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY	:	
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST	:	
	:	FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
MITCHELL J. PARCHEM,	:	
RESPONDENT.	:	
		ORDER 0002241

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance<sup>1</sup> Case No. 12 SOC 071

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

Mitchell J. Parchem  
N7043 Sycamore Lane  
Elkhorn, WI 53121

Social Worker 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 Social Worker 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 Mitchell J. Parchem, (dob: April 4, 1963) is licensed in the State of Wisconsin as a social worker, having license number 120-4076, first issued on September 1, 1994, and current through February 28, 2013. Respondent's most recent address on file with the

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

Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is N7043 Sycamore Lane, Elkhorn, WI 53121.

2. On or about March 10, 2011, Respondent renewed his social worker credential in the State of Wisconsin. During the continuing education portion of the renewal process, Respondent certified 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.

3. In July 2011, the Department conducted a continuing education audit on behalf of the Section. Respondent was selected to comply with this audit and as a result, was requested to submit an attendance table and proof of attendance for the continuing education hours he completed during the 2009-2011 biennium.

4. On July 14, 2011, Respondent e-mailed the Department and explained that he contacted his former employer and requested a copy of all information from his personnel file regarding continuing education.

5. On August 16, 2011, Respondent e-mailed the Department and reported that his former employer was not able to locate his full personnel file and they did not have his training as his file was deleted after he left the company. In his e-mail, Respondent indicated he remembered taking the following courses:

- a. Ethics and Sexual Harassment, 4-5 hours each year;
- b. Blood Borne Pathogens, 2 hours each year;
- c. Suicide Awareness, 2 hours each year;
- d. Annual State Methadone Conference, 7 hours;
- e. Choice for Deaf and Hard Hearing taken two years ago, 4 or 5 hours
- f. Working with Convicted Sex Offenders, 4 hours.

6. On August 22, 2011, the Department e-mailed Respondent requesting copies of all continuing education completion certificates in order to count the education towards the requirement for the 2009-2011 biennium. Respondent replied and told the Department that his completion certificates were lost in a move when leaving a former employer and therefore, he cannot show proof of completion.

7. On April 2, 2012, the Department contacted Respondent and requested a copy of all continuing education completion certificates for courses taken after the end of the 2009-2011 biennium. On April 6, 2012, Respondent submitted a verification letter, signed by himself, indicating that he completed an 8-hour 1-X course on March 23, 2012 and he provided completion certificates for the following courses:

- a. "Addressing Nicotine Dependence in AODA Treatment Training for Managers," completed November 16, 2011, 6 hours;
- b. "The Essential Ingredients of a Nutrition Assessment," completed November 10, 2011, 1 hour; and
- c. "Psychosis and Bipolar Disorders," completed August 10, 2011, 1 hour.

8. On April 18, 2012, the Department contacted Respondent and informed him that the three courses above for which he provided a completion certificate could be used to satisfy the continuing education requirements for the 2009-2011 biennium, but the 8-hour 1-X course could not satisfy the requirements unless he provided further proof of completion. The Department requested that Respondent complete and provide proof of completion for all continuing education for the 2009-2011 biennium by June 2, 2012.

9. On July 2, 2012, Respondent provided a copy of a CPI Blue Card showing that he had completed the 8-hour 1-X course in the area of "Nonviolent Crisis Intervention." On July 2, 2012, Respondent provided completion certificates for the following courses:

- a. "Ethics and Boundaries for Clinical Social Workers," completed June 8, 2012, 4 hours; and
- b. "Case Management Issues," completed June 12, 2012, 10 hours.

10. Respondent has come into compliance with the continuing education requirements for the 2009-2011 biennium by successfully completing 30 continuing education hours as required.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Section has jurisdiction to act in this matter, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26, and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation and Order, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

2. Respondent's conduct in paragraphs 5-9 describes a failure to complete at least 30 Section-approved credit hours of continuing education in the 2009-2011 biennium as required by Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 8.02(1), and subjects Respondent to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26(2)(h).

3. Respondent's conduct in paragraphs 4-6 describes a failure to retain original documents showing attendance at continuing education programs for at least 4 years from the time that credit is claimed for the program, as required by Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 8.02(3), and subjects Respondent to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26(2)(h).

### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
2. Mitchell J. Parchem is REPRIMANDED.

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

3. 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.

4. Within six (6) months from the date of this Order, Respondent shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$300.00.

5. Payment of costs shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services and 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)

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 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 (120-4076) 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.

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

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

by: Eric Alms  
A Member of the Section

12/21/12  
Date