

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

LAURA J. NIGH, R.N.,
RESPONDENT.

:
:
:
:
:

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

ORDER 0002387

Division of Legal Services and Compliance¹ Case No. 12 NUR 251

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

Laura J. Nigh, R.N.
178 North 88th Street
Wauwatosa, Wisconsin 53226

Wisconsin Board of Nursing
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 Wisconsin Board of Nursing (Board). The Board has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Laura J. Nigh, R.N., (dob June 3, 1964) is licensed in the State of Wisconsin as a professional nurse, having license number 30-97544, first issued on September 4, 1987 and current through February 28, 2014. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 178 North 88th Street, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin 53226.

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

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent worked as a nurse at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
3. Between January 20, 2012 and February 6, 2012, Respondent accessed three patients' records without the patients' consent or a medical purpose.
4. Respondent admitted to accessing the medical records without a medical purpose.
5. In resolution of this matter, Respondent consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

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 pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).
2. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Laura J. Nigh, R.N., engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined in Wis. Admin. Code. § 7.04(10) by accessing medical records without permission or medical purpose.
3. As a result of the above conduct, Laura J. Nigh, R.N., is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07(1)(d).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
2. Respondent Laura J. Nigh, R.N., is REPRIMANDED.
3. The professional nurse license issued to Laura J. Nigh, R.N., (license number 30-97544) and her privilege to practice in Wisconsin pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact, are LIMITED as follows:
 - a. Within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order, Respondent shall successfully complete four (4) hours of education in Ethics of Nursing Practice and eight (8) hours of education on the topic of HIPPA/ Patient Privacy offered by a provider pre-approved by the Board's monitoring liaison, including taking and passing any exam offered for the courses.
 - i. Respondent shall submit proof of successful completion of the education in the form of verification from the institution providing the education to the Department Monitor at the address below. None of the education completed pursuant to this requirement may be used to satisfy any continuing education requirements that have been or may be instituted by the Board or Department, and may not be used in future attempts to upgrade a credential in Wisconsin.

- ii. This limitation shall be removed from Respondent's license after satisfying the Board or its designee that Respondent has successfully completed all of the ordered education.
- b. For a period of at least one (1) year from the date of this Order, Respondent shall arrange for her supervisor to submit quarterly reports to the Department Monitor at the address below.
 - i. The quarterly reports shall report the terms and conditions of Respondent's employment and evaluate Respondent's work performance.
 - ii. Respondent is responsible for the timely submission of work reports.
 - iii. Respondent may petition for the modification or termination of this limitation after submission of at least four (4) quarterly reports. The Board may grant or deny the petition, in its discretion, or may modify this Order as it sees fit.
- 4. Within one hundred and twenty (120) days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$450.00.
- 5. All request, petitions, proof of successful course completion, quarterly reports, and payment of costs (made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services) 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

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 Respondent fails to timely submit payment of the costs, quarterly reports or proof of successful completion of the ordered education as set forth above, Respondent's license (no. 30-97544) may, in the discretion of the Board or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has paid costs and timely submitted quarterly reports and proof of completion of the required education.

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

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

by: Julia Nelson, RN
A Member of the Board

Date 4/11/13