

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

JOYCE C. BICKFORD, R.N.,
RESPONDENT.

:
:
:
:
:

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

ORDER 0002388

Division of Legal Services and Compliance¹ Case No. 12 NUR 620

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

Joyce C. Bickford, R.N.
6804 East Caterpillar Road
South Range, Wisconsin 54874

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 Joyce C. Bickford, R.N., (dob September 11, 1953) is licensed in the State of Wisconsin as a professional nurse, having license number 30-112079, first issued on January 27, 1993. This license expired on February 29, 2012, and has not been renewed. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. 440.08(3), Respondent retains the right to renew upon payment of a fee until February 28, 2017. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 6804 East Caterpillar Road, South Range, Wisconsin 54874.

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

2. On December 6, 2012, the Minnesota Board of Nursing entered an order (Minnesota order) for the voluntary surrender of Respondent's license to practice nursing in Minnesota, due to Respondent's declining mental health.

3. Due to Respondent's declining mental health, Respondent tenders the voluntary surrender of her Wisconsin nursing license.

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, Joyce C. Bickford, R.N., is impaired as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(3).

3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Joyce C. Bickford, R.N., engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined in Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.04(7).

4. As a result of the above conduct, Joyce C. Bickford, R.N., is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 441.07(1)(c) and (d).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. The SURRENDER of the right to renew of the license and privilege of Respondent Joyce C. Bickford, R.N., (license number 30-112079) to practice nursing in the State of Wisconsin or under another state license pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact is hereby accepted.

3. Respondent may petition for re-licensure, under the following terms and conditions:

- a. Respondent shall notify the Division of Legal Services and Compliance (Division) of the petition and the Division shall have the opportunity to apprise the Board of all allegations and information contained in the investigative file.
- b. Respondent shall meet all of the statutory and rule requirements for licensure in effect at the time of application.
- c. Respondent shall pay to the Department of Safety and Professional Services the costs of this proceeding in the amount of \$100.00 pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.22(2).

- d. Respondent shall, at her own expense, have undergone an assessment by a mental health care practitioner with experience in the diagnosis and treatment of cognitive impairment.
- e. The practitioner performing the assessment shall not have treated Respondent and prior to the assessment being performed, must be approved by the Board or its designee, with an opportunity for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance to make its recommendation.
- f. Respondent must provide proof sufficient to the Board that Respondent can practice with reasonable skill and safety of clients and public.
- g. The Board in deciding whether to grant the petition shall consider and weigh the three objectives of professional discipline:
 - Protection of the public.
 - Deterrence of the licensee and other licensees.
 - Rehabilitation of the licensee.

4. The Board may or may not grant Respondent's petition for re-licensure. If the Board determines to grant Respondent's petition for re-licensure, Respondent's license shall be limited in a manner to address any concerns the Board has as a result of the conduct set out in the Findings of Fact and to address any recommendations resulting from the assessment, including, but not limited to:

- a. Psychotherapy, at Respondent's expense, by a therapist approved by the Board, to address specific treatment goals, with periodic reports to the Board by the therapist.
- b. Additional professional education in any identified areas of deficiency.
- c. Restrictions on the nature of practice or practice setting or requirements for supervision of practice, by a professional approved by the Board, with periodic reports to the Board by the supervisor.

5. If Respondent believes that any denial of licensure or that any limitation imposed by the Board is inappropriate, Respondent may seek a class 1 hearing pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.01(3)(a) in which the burden shall be on Respondent to show that the Board's decision is arbitrary or capricious. The denial or limitations on Respondent's license shall remain in effect until there is a final decision in Respondent's favor on the issue.

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

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

By: Julia Nelson, RN
A Member of the Board

4/11/13
Date