

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

ROWLAND V. BETTIES,
RESPONDENT.

:
:
: FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
:
:

0002472

Division of Legal Services and Compliance¹ Case No. 12 RSA 015

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

Rowland V. Betties
2669 N. MLK Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53212

Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

Division of Legal Services and Compliance
Wisconsin 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 Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department). The Department has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Department adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Rowland V. Betties (dob May 28, 1955) is certified in the State of Wisconsin as a clinical substance abuse counselor, having credential number 14355-132, first issued on March 7, 2006 and current through February 28, 2015. Rowland V. Bettie's most recent address on file with the Department is 2669 N. MLK Drive, Milwaukee, WI 53212.

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 was employed as a clinical substance abuse counselor at Gateway to Change in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. From April of 2011 through August of 2011, Client A was a patient at Gateway to Change and was assigned to Respondent.

3. Client A was also working with a case worker at the YMCA and receiving financial assistance from the YMCA program. One of the YMCA's conditions for financial assistance was that Client A receive alcohol and drug treatment. YMCA staff would routinely check with Respondent to verify that Client A was receiving alcohol and drug treatment services at Gateway to Change.

4. On April 3, 2012, Client A's YMCA case worker contacted Respondent's supervisor to check on the progress of Client A's treatment. Respondent's supervisor verified that Client A had not been an active client of Gateway to Change, and had not received any drug and alcohol treatment services from Gateway to Change since August of 2011.

5. Respondent admits that since "around November" of 2011, he had provided false verifications to Client A's YMCA case worker that Client A was enrolled in a drug and alcohol treatment program and was receiving drug and alcohol treatment services.

6. In fact, Client A had not received any treatment services from Gateway to Change since August of 2011 until the YMCA case worker contacted the program in April 2012 to verify Client A's services; a period of nearly 8 months.

7. Respondent further admits that he provided false information about Client's A's receipt of drug and alcohol treatment services so that Client A could be eligible for financial assistance from the YMCA.

8. Respondent states that he felt that he had been manipulated by the client and that he did not intend to nor receive any kind of personal gain as the result of the false information that he provided to Client A's YMCA case worker.

9. On April 5, 2012, Respondent was terminated as an employee from Gateway to Change.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.88(6), 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 Rowland V. Betties violated Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 164.01(2)(i) by providing false or misleading information concerning a client's receipt of alcohol and drug treatment services.

3. As a result of the violations noted in the Conclusions of Law, Respondent Rowland V. Betties is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.88(6).

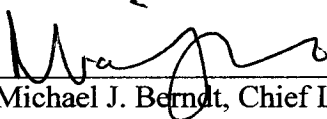
ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
2. Respondent Rowland V. Betties is REPRIMANDED.
3. Within 90 days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall, at Respondent's own expense, successfully complete eight (8) hours of education in ethics and boundaries for substance abuse counselors, offered by a provider pre-approved by the Department's monitoring liaison, including taking and passing any exam offered for the course.
4. 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 stated below.
5. Within 90 days from the date of this Order, Rowland V. Betties shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$900.00.
6. 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
7. 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 credential. The Department 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 or completion of the continuing education as ordered and as set forth above, Respondent's credential (no. 14355-132) may, in the discretion of the Department, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with payment of the costs and education.
8. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

By:



Michael J. Berndt, Chief Legal Counsel
On Behalf of the Department

5/20/13
Date