

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE PHYSICAL THERAPY EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY	:	
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST	:	
	:	<b>FINAL DECISION AND ORDER</b>
MICHAEL J. WRIGHT, SR., P.T.A.,	:	
RESPONDENT.	:	<b>0002507</b>

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance<sup>1</sup> Case No. 12 PHT 002

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

Michael J. Wright, Sr., P.T.A.  
2430 S. 66<sup>th</sup> Street  
West Allis, WI 53219

Wisconsin Physical Therapy 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

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

A disciplinary proceeding was commenced in this matter by the filing of a Notice of Hearing and Complaint with the Board on April 15, 2013. Prior to the hearing on the Complaint, the parties in this matter agreed to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final disposition of this matter, subject to the approval of the 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 Michael Jerome Wright, Sr., P.T.A., (dob April 10, 1960) is licensed in the State of Wisconsin as a physical therapist assistant, having license number 19-149, first issued on February 14, 2013 and current through February 28, 2015. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 2430 S. 66<sup>th</sup> Street, West Allis, Wisconsin 53219.

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

2. Respondent is under investigation, and a formal complaint has been filed, alleging the matters set forth in paragraphs 3 through 9.

3. On January 3, 2008, and while employed as a physical therapist assistant by Select Specialty Hospital of West Allis Wisconsin, Respondent received a "verbal warning" for sexual harassment of two female coworkers. He was required to attend education in the area of sexual harassment, and warned that future incidents would result in termination.

4. On April 1, 2009, Respondent was terminated by Select Specialty Hospital for sexual harassment of a different female coworker.

5. On April 1, 2009, Respondent applied for employment as a physical therapist assistant at the Milwaukee Center for Independence. On that application, he was asked why he left his previous employment. He stated that the reason for leaving Select Specialty Hospital was: "to work with different activities of patients." He did not disclose the fact that he was dismissed, or the reason for his dismissal.

6. On January 8, 2010, Respondent was disciplined by the Milwaukee Center for Independence for multiple incidents of sexual harassment directed at two female coworkers, including one incident where he placed his hand on the buttocks of a female coworker, without consent and without any legitimate reason to do so. He was required to take a specified online training in the area of sexual harassment, and follow an action plan. On January 29, 2010, Respondent was terminated for failure to comply with the plan in two respects, including that he failed to take the specified online training.

7. On February 25, 2010, Respondent applied for work assignments as a physical therapist assistant to "TotalMed Staffing Inc." The application asked the following question: "have you ever been dismissed or asked to resign from employment?" Respondent failed to disclose that he had been dismissed by Select Specialty Hospital or the Milwaukee Center for Independence.

8. On March 21, 2011, Respondent commenced employment as a physical therapist assistant at Kindred TCR-Milwaukee; the terms of his employment provided that he was paid only for time spent in actual therapy with patients. On February 15, 2012, Respondent was terminated because, on February 14, 2012, he billed the facility for 70 minutes of therapy provided to patient R, when in fact he did not provide any services to patient R; Respondent also billed for 85 minutes of therapy provided to patient K, when in fact he did not provide any services to patient K at all; Respondent also billed for 50 minutes of therapy provided to patient D, although in fact he did not provide any services to patient D at all.

9. While employed at Kindred TCR-Milwaukee, Respondent consistently failed to create daily progress notes that contained sufficient detail to give all providers serving this patient the necessary information to make informed decisions regarding the patient's care and level of assistance needed to provide this care safely.

10. Respondent does not admit any of the allegations. However, Respondent has, through no fault of his own, become physically unable to practice as a physical therapy assistant. Solely to settle this matter, Respondent has agreed to surrender his license.


CONCLUSION OF LAW

The Wisconsin Physical Therapy Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 448.57, and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
2. The SURRENDER of the license (number 19-149) of Michael J. Wright, Sr., P.T.A., is ACCEPTED.
3. The COSTS of this matter are \$1,050, and shall be paid if Respondent ever seeks reinstatement, or applies for any other license under Wis. Stats. chs. 440-460.
4. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

WISCONSIN PHYSICAL THERAPY EXAMINING BOARD

by: Michele Thorman, PT  
A Member of the Board   
akt

6/27/13  
Date