

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

CHRISTINE A. MURPHY,  
RESPONDENT.

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FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

**0002639**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance<sup>1</sup> Case No. 13 SOC 024

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

Christine A. Murphy  
648 Lemon St. N  
Hudson, WI 54016

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 Christine A. Murphy (dob December 3, 1970) is certified in the State of Wisconsin to practice social work, having certification number 9095-120, first issued on May

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

1, 2006, and current through February 28, 2015. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 648 Lemon Street N, Hudson, Wisconsin 54016.

2. At all times relevant to this case, Respondent was employed as a senior social worker at the Dunn County Department of Human Services.

3. The Dunn County Department of Human Services disciplined Respondent for failing to meet her job responsibilities in 2012. Respondent: a. inadequately completed social work case management functions related to monitoring safety; b. failed on numerous occasions to document face-to-face, collateral, and telephone contacts with clients in the Wisconsin Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (eWiSACWIS); and c. failed to complete a permanency plan review.

4. On January 10, 2013 Respondent and the Dunn County Department of Human Services entered into a "Last Chance Agreement" to correct Respondent's deficient work performance. The Last Chance Agreement included a five-day suspension without pay, which Respondent served between February 4, 2013, and February 9, 2013.

5. The Last Chance Agreement requires that between January 10, 2013, and January 9, 2014, Respondent meet with her supervisor on a weekly basis. Additionally, the agreement requires that a senior social worker will review and scrutinize Respondent's work to ensure compliance with all agency timelines and statutory requirements for record keeping and client contact. Respondent must satisfy the terms and conditions of the Last Chance Agreement in order to continue her employment at the Dunn County Department of Human Services.

6. Respondent states that her past performance issues were related to a family death. She indicates that she is addressing those issues in therapy.

7. The Section finds that the actions that her employer has taken are sufficient to protect the public and to address Respondent's rehabilitative needs.

8. In resolution of this matter, Respondent consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Social Worker Section of the Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Work Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26, 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, Christine A. Murphy violated Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 20.02(18) by failing to maintain adequate records relating to services provided to a client in the course of a professional relationship.

3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Christine A. Murphy violated Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 20.02(22) by engaging in gross negligence in practice by failing to adequately complete social work case management functions.

4. As a result of the above violations, Christine A. Murphy is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 457.26(2)(f) and (g).

#### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
2. Respondent Christine A. Murphy is REPRIMANDED.
3. The social worker certification issued to Christine A. Murphy (certification number 9095-120) is LIMITED as follows:
  - a. Respondent must comply, to the satisfaction of her supervisor with the Dunn County Department of Human Services, with all the terms and conditions of the Last Chance Agreement into which she entered with the Dunn County Department of Human Services on January 10, 2013.
  - b. Respondent shall, within five business days of occurrence, report to the Department Monitor any violation or alleged violation, however slight, of the Last Chance Agreement
  - c. If Respondent changes employment, Respondent shall notify the Department Monitor, within 48 hours of leaving her current employer. While Respondent's certificate is limited, Respondent must show a copy of this Final Decision and Order to any person or entity that retains Respondent to practice social work, whether paid or unpaid. Respondent shall continue in therapy as recommended by her therapist or counselor. Respondent may discontinue treatment with the agreement of her treatment provider after Respondent has satisfactorily completed the Last Chance Agreement. If Respondent fails to successfully complete the Last Chance Agreement, she may terminate therapy with the agreement of her treatment provider and approval from the Section or its designee.
  - d. No later than January 15, 2014, Respondent shall submit a report from her supervisor to the Department Monitor indicating whether or not Respondent has successfully complied with the terms of the Last Chance Agreement.
  - e. This limitation shall be removed upon proof satisfactory to the Section or its designee that the terms of the limitations(s) have been satisfied.
  - f. Any decision by Respondent's supervisor at the Dunn County Department of Human Services that Respondent has violated the terms of the Last Chance Agreement shall be conclusive proof of a violation of the terms of this Order and may result in additional disciplinary action.

g. If Respondent fails to successfully complete the terms of the Last Chance Agreement, the Section may amend the terms of this Order as it deems necessary to protect the public and rehabilitate Respondent.

4. Within 90 days from the date of this Order, Christine A. Murphy shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$200.00.

5. Any requests, petitions, reports and other information required by this Order and payment of costs (made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services) shall be sent by Respondent 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

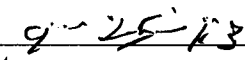
6. Violation of any of the terms of this Order may be construed as conduct imperiling public health, safety and welfare and may result in a summary suspension of Respondent's license. The Section in its discretion may in the alternative impose additional conditions and limitations or other additional 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 or fails to submit any other required reports as set forth above, Respondent's certification (no. 9095-120) 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 and submitted any required reports.

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

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

by:

  
A Member of the Section

  
Date