

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE HEARING AND SPEECH EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

KATHERINE A. WALKER,  
RESPONDENT.

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FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

**0002679**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance<sup>1</sup> Case No. 13 HAD 003

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

Katherine A. Walker  
100 Sunshine Cir., Apt. 22  
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

Wisconsin Hearing and Speech 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 Hearing and Speech Examining Board (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 Katherine A. Walker (dob November 17, 1985) is licensed in the State of Wisconsin to practice speech-language pathology, having license number 3590-154, first issued on June 22, 2012 and current through January 31, 2015. Ms. Walker's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 100 Sunshine Circle, Apartment 22, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin 54729.

2. On October 23, 2012, while working as a speech therapist for the Clark County Department of Community Services, Respondent was attending a work related "Birth to Three"

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

meeting at the Clark County Courthouse Boardroom. While there, she took personal possession of an iPad that was left in the restroom of the Clark County Courthouse. Respondent maintained possession of the iPad without the consent of the owner, provided false and inaccurate information to the individual that owned the iPad, and Respondent did not return the iPad, nor did she notify anyone that she had the iPad in her possession until she was confronted/contacted by law enforcement officials investigating the theft of the iPad.

3. On January 29, 2013, Respondent was charged with one count of theft of movable property <=\$2,500, a violation of Wis. Stats. § 943.20(1)(a). On June 13, 2013, the criminal complaint was amended and Respondent was instead charged with one count of disorderly conduct, a violation of Wis. Stats. § 947.01(1), which Respondent pled guilty to and was convicted.

4. Respondent neither admits nor denies the alleged conduct but has chosen to resolve this matter through stipulation. Respondent admits that the facts set out above are sufficient to support the Conclusions of Law and Order below.

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 Hearing and Speech Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 459.34, 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, Katherine A. Walker violated Wis. Admin. Code. § HAS 6.18(2)(d) by engaging in conduct likely to deceive, defraud, or harm an individual or the public in the course of the practice of speech-language pathology.

3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Katherine A. Walker violated Wis. Admin. Code § HAS 6.18(1)(c) by being convicted of an offense the circumstances of which substantially relate to the practice of speech-language pathology.

4. As a result of the above violations, Katherine A. Walker is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 459.34 (2)(c) and 459.34(2)(h).

#### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. The license to practice speech-language pathology issued to Katherine A. Walker (license number 3590-154) is SUSPENDED for a period of 30 days. Respondent served the 30 day suspension from May 25, 2013 through June 23, 2013.

3. Respondent Katherine A. Walker is REPRIMANDED.

4. Within 90 days from the date of this Order, Katherine A. Walker shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$250.00.

5. Payment of costs shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services and sent by Respondent to the Department Monitor at the address below:

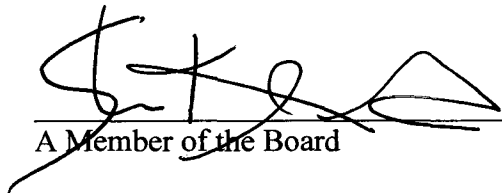
Department Monitor  
Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
Department of Safety and Professional Services  
P.O. Box 8935, Madison, WI 53708-8935  
Telephone (608) 267-3817; Fax (608) 266-2264  
DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

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 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 as ordered, Respondent's license (no. 3590-154) may, in the discretion of the Board or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with payment of the costs.

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

WISCONSIN HEARING AND SPEECH EXAMINING BOARD

by:

  
A Member of the Board

10-14-13  
Date