

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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The status of an appeal may be found on court access websites at:

<http://ccap.courts.state.wi.us/InternetCourtAccess> and <http://www.courts.state.wi.us/wscga>

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

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

CRAIG EDWARDS,  
RESPONDENT.

:  
:  
: FINAL DECISION AND ORDER  
:  
:

**0002840**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance<sup>1</sup> Case No. 13 MFT 005

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

Craig Edwards  
N51251 County Road FF  
Eleva, WI 54738

Marriage and Family Therapist 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  
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 Marriage and Family Therapist 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.

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

### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Craig Edwards (dob November 24, 1969) is licensed in the State of Wisconsin as a marriage and family therapist, having license number 768-124, first issued on March 11, 2008 and current through February 28, 2015. Mr. Edward's most recent address on file with the Department is N51251 County Road FF Eleva, WI 54738.
2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was working as a marriage and family therapist at Marriage and Family Health Services, Ltd. in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.
3. On August 29, 2012, Respondent began to provide marriage counseling services to a married couple, identified as Mr. and Mrs. A. The medical records indicate that the counseling sessions for Mrs. A continued until September 26, 2012.
4. Between December 2012 and February 2013 Respondent began an intimate relationship with Mrs. A.
5. Respondent neither admits nor denies sexual conduct with Mrs. A, but agrees that there is evidence from which the Section could reasonably conclude that he had engaged in such conduct with Mrs. A.
6. In resolution of this matter, Respondent consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Marriage and Family Therapist 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, Craig Edwards violated Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 20.02(11) by engaging in sexual contact, sexual conduct, or any other behavior with a client which could reasonably be construed as seductive.
3. As a result of the above violations, Craig Edwards is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26(2)(f).

### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
2. The Department accepts the voluntary SURRENDER of Respondent Craig Edwards's marriage and family therapist license (no. 768-124), and the surrender of his right to

renew his Wisconsin marriage and family therapist license upon payment of a fee pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.08(3).

3. Respondent is on notice that he may not engage in the practice of a marriage and family therapist in the State of Wisconsin, nor may he hold himself out as one so licensed or otherwise authorized to practice marriage and family therapy in this state.

4. This SURRENDER constitutes Respondent's permanent relinquishment of his right to renew his license to practice marriage and family therapy in the State of Wisconsin. In the event that Respondent re-applies for licensure in Wisconsin as a marriage and family therapist in the future, the Section may enter an order denying such application without further notice or hearing.


5. Within fourteen (14) days from the date of this Order, Respondent Craig Edwards shall mail or physically deliver all indicia of certification to the Department Monitor at the address below.

6. Within one hundred and twenty (120) days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$778.00. 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](mailto:DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov)

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

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST SECTION  
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING, AND SOCIAL  
WORK EXAMINING BOARD

by: Arline Albrecht  
A Member of the Section 

12/12/13  
Date

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

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

CRAIG EDWARDS,  
RESPONDENT.

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:  
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STIPULATION

0002840

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance<sup>1</sup> Case No. 13 MFT 005

Respondent, Craig Edwards and the Division of Legal Services and Compliance, Department of Safety and Professional Services stipulate as follows:

1. This Stipulation is entered into as a result of a pending investigation by the Division of Legal Services and Compliance. Respondent consents to the resolution of this investigation by Stipulation.

2. Respondent understands that by signing this Stipulation, Respondent voluntarily and knowingly waives the following rights:

- the right to a hearing on the allegations against Respondent, at which time the State has the burden of proving those allegations by a preponderance of the evidence;
- the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against Respondent;
- the right to call witnesses on Respondent's behalf and to compel their attendance by subpoena;
- the right to testify on Respondent's own behalf;
- the right to file objections to any proposed decision and to present briefs or oral arguments to the officials who are to render the final decision;
- the right to petition for rehearing; and
- all other applicable rights afforded to Respondent under the United States Constitution, the Wisconsin Constitution, the Wisconsin Statutes, the Wisconsin Administrative Code, and other provisions of state or federal law.

3. Respondent is aware of Respondent's right to seek legal representation and has been provided an opportunity to obtain legal counsel before signing this Stipulation. Respondent is represented by Attorney Marie A. Stanton.

4. Respondent agrees to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapist Section of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling and Social Work Examining Board (Section). The parties to the Stipulation consent to the entry of the attached Final Decision and Order without further notice, pleading, appearance or consent of the parties. Respondent waives all rights to any appeal of the Section's order, if adopted in the form as attached.

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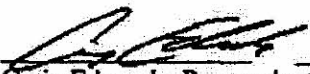
<sup>1</sup> The Division of Legal Services and Compliance was formerly known as the Division of Enforcement.

5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Section, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further proceedings. In the event that the Stipulation is not accepted by the Section, the parties agree not to contend that the Section has been prejudiced or biased in any manner by the consideration of this attempted resolution.

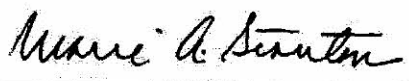
6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance and any member of the Section ever assigned as an advisor in this investigation may appear before the Section in open or closed session, without the presence of Respondent or Respondent's attorney, for purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that any member of the Section may have in connection with deliberations on the Stipulation. Additionally, any such advisor may vote on whether the Section should accept this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

7. Respondent is informed that should the Section adopt this Stipulation, the Section's Final Decision and Order is a public record and will be published in accordance with standard Department procedure.


8. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondent in recommending the Section adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

  
Craig Edwards, Respondent  
N51251 County Road FF  
Eleva, WI 54738  
License no. 768-124

10-18-13  
Date

  
Marie A. Stanton, Attorney for Respondent  
Hurley, Burish & Stanton, S.C.  
33 East Main Street, Suite 400  
P.O. Box 1528  
Madison, WI 53701-1528

10/18/13  
Date

  
Micabil Diaz-Martinez, Attorney  
Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

10/21/2013  
Date