

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

PATRICIA A. STRIGHT, R.N., A.P.N.P.,
RESPONDENT.

:
:
: FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
:
:

0002878

Division of Legal Services and Compliance¹ Case No. 12 NUR 352

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

Patricia A. Stright, R.N., A.P.N.P.
2818 Raintree Lane
Waukesha, WI 53189

Wisconsin Board of Nursing
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 Wisconsin Board of Nursing (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 Patricia A. Stright, R.N., A.P.N.P., (dob May 9, 1943) is licensed in the State of Wisconsin as a professional nurse, having license number 44105-30, first issued on September 30, 1965 and current through February 28, 2014. Respondent is also certified as an advance practice nurse practitioner, having certificate number 1550-33, first issued on November 16, 1999 and current through September 30, 2014. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 2818 Raintree Lane, Waukesha, Wisconsin 53189.

¹ The Division of Legal Services and Compliance was formerly known as the Division of Enforcement.

2. On or about June 2, 2004, Respondent began seeing Patient A, age 49, at the Center. Respondent completed an intake form and documented that Patient A's brother died of cancer, type unknown, at age 50.

3. On or about August 17, 2004, Patient A called in for an urgent care appointment because he was suffering from a lot of gas and bloating. Furthermore, Patient A was regurgitating his food when he laid down. Patient A reported that he had been suffering from these symptoms for about three years but the symptoms had worsened over the last few months. Patient A also reported that he had been very constipated since his knee surgery on March 23, 2004. Respondent documented all of these symptoms.

4. Over the course of several years Respondent saw Patient A several times for follow up regarding his knee surgery. Specifically, Patient A and Respondent addressed Patient A's lack of range of motion and pain following the surgery. During these visits, Patient A stated he was constipated. Respondent reminded Patient A to take his previously prescribed medication to help with the constipation, as Patient A indicated the medication helped.

5. On or about February 3, 2006, Patient A presented to Respondent complaining of pain when squatting, bending and walking. Patient A stated the pain came and went but often flared up for no reason. Respondent ordered x-rays and an MRI.

6. The Center called Patient A regarding the x-rays and informed Patient A that he had some spurs on his spine and those spurs could be contributing to his pain. An MRI was scheduled for February 10, 2006. Patient A failed to show for the MRI.

7. On or about March 10, 2006, Patient A refused a rectal exam by Respondent and stated that he had his prostate checked outside the Center and it was normal.

8. On or about October 23, 2006, Patient A refused fecal occult blood testing. The records state that Patient A requested a colonoscopy. This note was documented by an L.P.N., not Respondent.

9. Around October 23, 2006, Patient A informed Respondent that he discovered his mother had colon cancer in her early 50's.

10. On or about March 14, 2007, Patient A had a colonoscopy.

11. Between March 15 and March 16, 2007, Respondent called Patient A regarding the results from his colonoscopy. Patient A failed to call back until March 16, 2007, when he was informed he had colon cancer. Respondent ordered a CT of Patient A's abdomen and pelvis with contrast and a consult with a general surgeon.

12. On or about September 23, 2011, Patient A died.

13. This matter came to the Department and Board's attention after the related civil matter concluded at the end of 2012.

14. In Respondent's September 21, 2012 response to the Department, Respondent stated that she advised Patient A to have a colonoscopy on several occasions between 2004 and 2007. This information was not documented in Patient A's records.

15. Respondent neither admits nor denies the above allegations, but has agreed to surrender her license as she has retired from nursing. Respondent will not reapply for licensure.

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

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Board of Nursing has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07, 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 and privilege of Patricia A. Stright, R.N., A.P.N.P., (license no. 44105-30 and advanced practice nurse practitioner certificate number 1550-33) to practice nursing in the State of Wisconsin or under another state license pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact is hereby accepted.

3. Respondent is on notice that she may not engage in the practice or nursing in the State of Wisconsin, nor may she hold herself out as one licensed or otherwise authorized to practice nursing in this state.

4. This SURRENDER constitutes Respondent's permanent relinquishment of her license to practice nursing in the State of Wisconsin. The Board will not, at any time in the future, process or otherwise consider an application by Respondent for licensure to practice nursing in the State of Wisconsin.

5. Respondent shall immediately return all indicia of Wisconsin licensure and payment of costs 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. In the event that Respondent applies for any license with the Department, COSTS in the amount of \$1,100.00 are due prior to licensure.

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

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

by: Julia Nelson, RN
A Member of the Board

12/19/13
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

PATRICIA A. STRIGHT, R.N., A.P.N.P.,
RESPONDENT.

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STIPULATION

0002878

Division of Legal Services and Compliance¹ Case No. 12 NUR 352

Respondent Patricia A. Stright, R.N., A.P.N.P., 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.

4. Respondent agrees to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Wisconsin Board of Nursing (Board). 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 Board's order, if adopted in the form as attached.

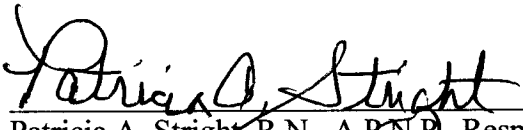
¹ The Division of Legal Services and Compliance was formerly known as the Division of Enforcement.

5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Board, 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 Board, the parties agree not to contend that the Board 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 Board ever assigned as an advisor in this investigation may appear before the Board in open or closed session, without the presence of Respondent, for purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that any member of the Board may have in connection with deliberations on the Stipulation. Additionally, any such advisor may vote on whether the Board should accept this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

7. Respondent is informed that should the Board adopt this Stipulation, the Board'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 Board adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.


Patricia A. Stright, R.N., A.P.N.P., Respondent
2818 Raintree Lane
Waukesha, WI 53189
License no. 44105-30

4 December 2013
Date


Amanda L. Florek, Attorney
Division of Legal Services and Compliance
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

12/6/13
Date