

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

MELISSA A. NIECKO, R.N., L.P.N.,
RESPONDENT.

:
:
: FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
:
: **0003394**
:

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 14 NUR 309

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

Melissa A. Niecko
1161 Hidden Lane, #204
New Richmond, WI 54017

Wisconsin Board of Nursing
P.O. Box 8366
Madison, WI 53708-8366

Division of Legal Services and Compliance
Department of Safety and Professional Services
P.O. Box 7190
Madison, WI 53707-7190

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 Melissa A. Niecko, R.N., (dob December 11, 1975) is licensed in the State of Wisconsin as a professional nurse, having license number 178324-30, first issued on June 16, 2011 and current through February 29, 2016. Respondent is also license as a practical nurse, having license number 311233-31, first issued on May 20, 2009 and which is currently expired. This license expired on April 20, 2013, and has not been renewed. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. §440.08(3), Respondent retains the right to renew upon payment of a fee until April 30, 2018. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 1161 Hidden Lane, #204, New Richmond, Wisconsin 54017.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a professional nurse at a skilled nursing facility (Facility), located in Hudson, Wisconsin.

3. On March 13, 2014, the Board issued a Final Decision and Order (Division of Legal Services and Compliance case number 13 NUR 038) indefinitely suspending Respondent's professional nursing license. The Final Decision and Order (Order) was issued pursuant to a Stipulation signed by Respondent and the attorney for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance.

4. On March 17, 2014, a copy of the signed Order was mailed to Respondent at her address of record.

5. Between March 13 and May 22, 2014, Respondent worked as a professional nurse at Facility, in violation of the Order.

6. 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).

2. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined in Wis. Admin. Code § 7.04(14), by working as a professional nurse while her license was suspended.

3. As a result of the above conduct, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07(1g)(b) and (d).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. The license of Melissa A. Niecko, R.N., L.P.N., (license numbers 178324-30 and 311233-31), to practice nursing in the State of Wisconsin, and her privilege to practice in Wisconsin pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact, are SUSPENDED for one year from the date of this Order.

3. Within 120 days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$200.00.

4. 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:

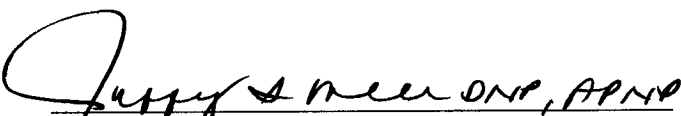
Department Monitor
Division of Legal Services and Compliance

Department of Safety and Professional Services
P.O. Box 7190, Madison, WI 53707-7190
Telephone (608) 267-3817; Fax (608) 266-2264
DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

5. 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 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 licenses (nos. 178324-30 and 311233-31) 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.

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

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

by: 
A Member of the Board

9-11-14
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

MELISSA A. NIECKO, R.N., L.P.N.,
RESPONDENT.

:
:
:
:
:

STIPULATION

0003394

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 14 NUR 309

Respondent Melissa A. Niecko, R.N., L.P.N., 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.

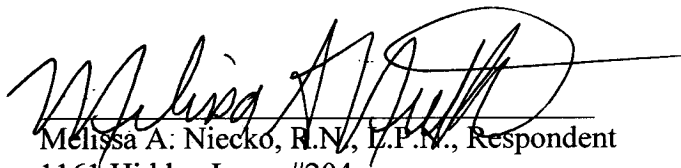
5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Board, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the Division

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.



Melissa A. Niecko, R.N., L.P.N., Respondent
1161 Hidden Lane, #204
New Richmond, WI 54017
License nos. 178324-30, 311233-31

6/17/14
Date



Kim M. Kluck, Prosecuting Attorney
Division of Legal Services and Compliance
P.O. Box 7190
Madison WI 53707-7190

6/18/14
Date