

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services Access to the Public Records of the Reports of Decisions

This Reports of Decisions document was retrieved from the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services website. These records are open to public view under Wisconsin's Open Records law, sections 19.31-19.39 Wisconsin Statutes.

Please read this agreement prior to viewing the Decision:

- The Reports of Decisions is designed to contain copies of all orders issued by credentialing authorities within the Department of Safety and Professional Services from November, 1998 to the present. In addition, many but not all orders for the time period between 1977 and November, 1998 are posted. Not all orders issued by a credentialing authority constitute a formal disciplinary action.
- Reports of Decisions contains information as it exists at a specific point in time in the Department of Safety and Professional Services data base. Because this data base changes constantly, the Department is not responsible for subsequent entries that update, correct or delete data. The Department is not responsible for notifying prior requesters of updates, modifications, corrections or deletions. All users have the responsibility to determine whether information obtained from this site is still accurate, current and complete.
- There may be discrepancies between the online copies and the original document. Original documents should be consulted as the definitive representation of the order's content. Copies of original orders may be obtained by mailing requests to the Department of Safety and Professional Services, PO Box 8935, Madison, WI 53708-8935. The Department charges copying fees. *All requests must cite the case number, the date of the order, and respondent's name* as it appears on the order.
- Reported decisions may have an appeal pending, and discipline may be stayed during the appeal. Information about the current status of a credential issued by the Department of Safety and Professional Services is shown on the Department's Web Site under "License Lookup."

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>

- Records not open to public inspection by statute are not contained on this website.

By viewing this document, you have read the above and agree to the use of the Reports of Decisions subject to the above terms, and that you understand the limitations of this on-line database.

Correcting information on the DSPS website: An individual who believes that information on the website is inaccurate may contact DSPS@wisconsin.gov

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION FOR :
SUMMARY SUSPENSION AGAINST :
: DLSC Case No. 14 MED 581
NANETTE J. LIEGEOIS, M.D., :
RESPONDENT. : **00036 04**

ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION

The Petition for Summary Suspension of December 11, 2014 was noticed to be presented at 8:15 a.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter could be heard, on December 17, 2014. At that time, Attorney Joost Kap appeared for the Petitioner, Department of Safety and Professional Services, Division of Legal Services and Compliance. The Respondent did not appear.

The Wisconsin Medical Examining Board, having considered the sworn December 11, 2014 Petition for Summary Suspension; the Affidavit of Jeffrey M. Hall, M.D., as evidence; the December 12, 2014 Affidavit of Service of Notice of Presentation and Petition for Summary Suspension of Beth Cramton certifying that a true and accurate copy of the Notice of Presentation of Petition for Summary Suspension, Petition for Summary Suspension and Affidavit of Jeffrey M. Hall, M.D. had been served on Respondent, and having heard the arguments of counsel, hereby makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Nanette J. Liegeois, M.D., (dob April 29, 1967), is licensed in the State of Wisconsin to practice medicine and surgery, having license number 60872-20, first issued on June 3, 2013, with registration current through October 31, 2015. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 120 Oakbrook Center, Suite 220, Oak Brook, Illinois 60523.
2. On December 9, 2014, the Division of Legal Services and Compliance received a complaint from Jeffrey M. Hall, M.D., Chief Medical Officer at the St. Croix Regional Medical Center in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin (St. Croix).
3. The complaint pertains to Respondent Nanette J. Liegeois, M.D., a dermatologist who was hired by St. Croix and started seeing patients there on October 13, 2014.
4. Within three (3) weeks of hiring her, Dr. Hall began receiving complaints about Respondent's patient care and interactions with St. Croix staff.

5. The complaints prompted St. Croix to order that Respondent undergo a fitness for duty evaluation, which was performed by a psychologist, Dr. John H. Hung, Ph.D. Dr. Hung is licensed to practice psychology in Minnesota, first licensed in 1981 and current through December 31, 2015. He has never been the subject of any license limitation or other discipline by the Minnesota Board of Psychology.

6. Dr. Hung prepared a December 4, 2014 report, which concludes with his professional opinion that:

[Respondent] is presently impaired in her psychological ability to perform her clinical duties and interact with co-workers in a consistently effective manner. I do not see this as an issue that can be adequately remedied through job modifications or accommodations. In my opinion, [Respondent] is psychologically not fit for duty as a physician specialist at this time, and it is appropriate for her to remain off work from [St. Croix].

7. The complaints which led St. Croix to require Dr. Hung's evaluation of Respondent are as follows.

- a. Patient A is a St. Croix staff nurse who saw Respondent for acne that was not responding to topical medication. After examining Patient A, Respondent stated that her acne was caused either by a benign hormone-producing tumor, or that Patient A had been pregnant without knowing it and the undetected child had calcified inside of her and was causing the acne. When the patient requested a different treatment option, Respondent told her it was not a good time to start a new medication because of the approaching holidays.
- b. Patient B presented to Respondent with recurrent hives that responded to prednisone, but returned and worsened as he tapered off the steroids. Respondent suspected Lymphoma and ordered Patient B to undergo a full body CT scan. Respondent did not document her medical reasoning as to how Patient B's presentation supported her diagnosis or the testing she ordered.
- c. Patient C presented to Respondent with itching scalp and mentioned his belief that it may be related to a recent switch to well water. This information prompted Respondent to order a full lab panel for heavy metal poisoning, and she subsequently contacted the Burnett County Public Health Department with her concerns.

8. Respondent refused to use St. Croix's standard informed consent form because it references the possibility of death. Instead, Respondent obtained verbal consent for care without documenting the discussion or whether consent was given.

9. Respondent informed Dr. Hall that she has contacts within the federal Department of Justice who promised significant financial reward for her work as a whistleblower on

Medicare fraud. Respondent believes that federal agents are closely monitoring St. Croix (the medical center and community as a whole) and that they have identified an unnamed “bad apple,” but will otherwise keep St. Croix Falls free from harm. *Id.* Respondent then told Dr. Hall that “they” have hacked into her cell phone and email account because of her work as a whistleblower.

10. On November 7, 2014, Respondent met with Dr. Hall and St. Croix’s VP of Clinic and Ancillary Services, who raised the above-described complaints with Respondent and stated St. Croix’s position that her conduct was not consistent with St. Croix’s values. Respondent denied the allegations and/or justified her actions, she disagreed with St. Croix’s position, and she reiterated her belief that heavy metal poisoning was an ongoing public health disaster about which she had contacted Governor Walker.

11. At the conclusion of the November 7 meeting, St. Croix suspended Respondent’s employment, effective immediately, and Respondent declined any further meetings with St. Croix representatives.

12. Respondent Nanette J. Liegeois, M.D., by engaging in conduct as set out in paragraphs 2-11 above, has committed unprofessional conduct under Wis. Admin. Code §§ Med 10.03(2)(a), (b) and (j), and is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 448.02(3).

13. Based upon the above findings of fact contained in paragraphs 1 through 12, there is probable cause to believe that the Respondent has committed unprofessional conduct and that it is necessary to suspend the Respondent’s license, immediately, to protect the public health, safety, or welfare.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Medical Examining Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 448.02(3) and has authority to summarily suspend the license and registration of Respondent Nanette J. Liegeois, M.D., to practice medicine and surgery in the State of Wisconsin, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 448.02(4) and Wis. Admin. Code ch. SPS 6.

2. Sufficient notice of this proceeding has been given to Respondent as required by Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 6.05.

3. There is probable cause to believe that unprofessional conduct has occurred as set forth in the Findings of Fact and it is necessary to suspend the license and registration of Respondent Nanette J. Liegeois, M.D., immediately to protect the public health, safety or welfare, based upon the following conduct by the Respondent.

ORDER

1. The license and registration of Respondent Nanette J. Liegeois, M.D., to practice medicine and surgery in the State of Wisconsin is summarily suspended until the effective date of a final decision and order issued in the disciplinary proceeding against Respondent Nanette J. Liegeois, M.D., unless otherwise ordered by the Board.

2. Respondent Nanette J. Liegeois, M.D., is hereby notified of her right, pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 6.09, to request a hearing to show cause why this summary suspension order should not be continued and is further notified that any request for a hearing to show cause should be filed with the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board, 1400 East Washington Avenue, Post Office Box 8366, Madison, Wisconsin 53708-8366.

3. In the event that Respondent Nanette J. Liegeois, M.D., requests a hearing to show cause why the summary suspension should not be continued, that hearing shall be scheduled to be heard on a date within 20 days of receipt by the Board of Respondent's request for hearing, unless Respondent requests or agrees to a later time for the hearing.

WISCONSIN MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

By: Kenneth Simons MD
A Member of the Board

December 18, 2014
Date