# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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

IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY

PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

: FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

HEIDI R. GOTTSCHALK,

RESPONDENT :

0003673

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 14 SOC 043

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

Heidi R. Gottschalk W4850 Overlook Dr. Elkhorn, Wisconsin 53121

Social Worker Section of the Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Work Examining Board 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 Social Worker Section of the Wisconsin 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.

## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Respondent Heidi R. Gottschalk, (DOB April 30, 1969) is certified in the state of Wisconsin to practice social work, having certificate number 2817-120, first granted on December 30, 1993 and current through February 28, 2015. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is W4850 Overlook Drive, Elkhorn, Wisconsin 53121.

- 2. In 2013, the Department conducted an audit of social workers to determine their compliance with the continuing education requirements for the 2011-2013 biennium.
  - 3. Respondent's name was randomly selected as a subject of the audit.
- 4. Respondent certified on her 2013 application for license renewal that she completed thirty (30) continuing education hours (CEH) for the 2011-2013 biennium.
- 5. Respondent failed to demonstrate compliance with continuing education requirements for the 2011-2013 biennium as follows:
  - a. Respondent submitted evidence that she completed 30 hours of education;
  - b. 23 of the hours Respondent submitted were completed via self-study;
  - c. A maximum of 10 hours may be completed via self-study in any biennium; and
  - d. Respondent therefore completed only 17 acceptable hours within the biennium.
- 6. Respondent has submitted evidence that she has completed 12.5 credits of inperson continuing education since the end of the biennium.
- 7. In resolution of this matter, Respondent consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Social Worker 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. Respondent did not comply with Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 8.02(1), by failing to complete 30 credits of continuing education in the appropriate biennium.
- 3. Respondent, in failing to comply with the requirements of Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 8.02(1), has engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § 20.02(2).
- 4. As a result of the above violations, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 457.26(2)(a) and (h).

## **ORDER**

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

- 2. Respondent, Heidi R. Gottschalk, certificate no. 2817-120, is hereby REPRIMANDED.
- 3. The certificate to practice social work in the State of Wisconsin of Respondent Heidi R. Gottschalk is hereby LIMITED as follows:
  - a. Within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order Respondent shall complete one-half (.50) credit of required in-person continuing education consisting of subject matter relevant to social work;
  - b. Respondent shall be responsible for obtaining the course(s) required under this Order, for providing adequate course(s) descriptions to the Department Monitor, and for obtaining pre-approval of the course(s) from the Social Worker Section of the Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Work Examining Board, or it designee, prior to commencement of the course(s);
  - c. The Section or its designee may reject any course(s) and may accept a course(s) for less than the number of hours for which Respondent seeks approval. Any decision under this subsection is not reviewable;
  - d. Within thirty (30) days of completion of each educational component, Respondent shall file an affidavit with the Department Monitor stating under oath that she has attended, in its entirety, the course(s) approved for satisfaction of this requirement along with supporting documentation of attendance from the sponsoring organization(s);
  - e. Respondent is responsible for all costs associated with compliance with this educational requirement;
  - f. The continuing education courses taken by Respondent on July 10, 2014 and July 11, 2014 have been retroactively applied to the 2011-2013 biennium and will not count towards the educational requirements for the 2013-2015 biennium.
  - g. None of the education completed pursuant to this requirement may be used to satisfy any other continuing education requirements that have been or may be instituted by the Section or Department, nor for the purpose of obtaining any credential;
  - h. Satisfaction of this limitation does not relieve Respondent of the obligation to complete continuing education in the current biennium; and
  - i. This limitation shall be removed upon Respondent demonstrating to the Section or its designee that Respondent has successfully completed continuing education requirements for the 2011-2013 biennium.
- 4. Within 90 days from the date of this Order, Respondent Heidi R. Gottschalk, shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$150.00.

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 7190, Madison, WI 53707-7190
Telephone (608) 267-3817; Fax (608) 266-2264
DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

- 6. Respondent is on notice that the Section may audit Respondent's compliance with continuing education requirements in the next biennium and any biennium that follows. Respondent is strictly responsible for complying with all aspects of Wis. Admin. Code sec MPSW 8.02.
- 7. Violation of any of the terms of this Order, including failure to complete continuing education or to pay costs as ordered may be construed as conduct imperiling public health, safety and welfare and may result in a summary suspension of Respondent's license. The Section 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 costs as ordered or fails to submit proof of successful completion of the continuing education as set forth above, Respondent's certificate (no. 2817-120) may, in the discretion of the Section or its designee, be SUSPENDED without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with payment of the costs and completion of the continuing education.
  - 8. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

SOCIAL WORKER SECTION OF THE WISCONSIN MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING, AND SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

by:	DickSmh		1/28	5/15
	A Member of the Section (	(Drin)	Date/	1

- 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, 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.
- 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.

1/14/2015

1/14/0015

Heidi R. Gottschalk, Respondent

Date

W4850 Overlook Dr. Elkhorn, WI 53121

Certificate no. 2817-120

Cody Wagner, Attorney

Date

Division of Legal Services and Compliance

P.O. Box 7190

Madison, WI 53707-7190

\* I have mailed a note to cody Wagner - containing the completed . 5hr of time neededfor

documentation.