

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

TERRY L. ATKINS, L.P.N.,
RESPONDENT.

:
:
: FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
:
: **0003786**
:

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 15 NUR 016

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

Terry L. Atkins, L.P.N.
701 S. Van Buren St.
Stoughton, WI 53589-2398

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 Terry L. Atkins, L.P.N., (dob March 31, 1957) is licensed in the State of Wisconsin as a practical nurse, having license number 27062-31, first issued on June 6, 1984 and current through April 30, 2015. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 701 South Van Buren Street, Stoughton, Wisconsin 53589-2398.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a practical nurse at a nursing home, located in Edgerton, Wisconsin.

3. Resident A is an elderly patient with dementia and unable to care for herself.
4. On January 5, 2015, two CNAs moved Resident A from her bed to a chair in the sitting room because Resident A was restless.
5. Resident A set off her “tab” alarms numerous times while sitting in her chair.
6. Respondent placed a bath blanket around the waist of Resident A and tied it to the back of the chair to keep Resident A from falling out of the chair and from setting off the “tab” alarms.
7. Two certified nursing assistants (CNAs) observed that Resident A was tied to her chair and immediately removed the bath blanket.
8. Resident A was assessed and did not have any injuries.
9. The incident was reported to the director of nursing.
10. When questioned by the director of nursing, Respondent admitted to tying Resident A to the chair with the bath blanket.
11. 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, Terry L. Atkins, L.P.N., engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined in Wis. Admin. Code. § N 7.03(4)(c), by abusing a patient by a single or repeated act of force, violence, harassment, deprivation, neglect, or mental pressure which reasonably could cause physical pain, injury, mental anguish, or fear.
3. As a result of the above conduct, Terry L. Atkins, L.P.N., is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 441.07(1g)(b) and (c).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
2. Respondent Terry L. Atkins, L.P.N., is REPRIMANDED.
3. The practical nursing license issued to Terry L. Atkins, L.P.N., (license number 27062-31) and her privilege to practice in Wisconsin pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact, are LIMITED as follows:

- a. Within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order, Respondent shall at her own expense, successfully complete four (4) hours of education on the topic of patient abuse and four (4) hours of education on the topic of ethics of nursing practice offered by a provider pre-approved by the Board's monitoring liaison, including taking and passing any exam offered for the courses.
- b. Respondent shall submit proof of successful completion of the education in the form of verification from the institution providing the education to the Department Monitor at the address stated below. None of the education completed pursuant to this requirement may be used to satisfy any continuing education requirements that have been or may be instituted by the Board or Department, and also may not be used in future attempts to upgrade a credential in Wisconsin.
- c. This limitation shall be removed from Respondent's license after satisfying the Board or its designee that Respondent has successfully completed all of the ordered education.

4. Within 120 days from the date of this Order, Terry L. Atkins, L.P.N., shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$100.00.

5. Request of approval of courses, proof of successful course completion and payment of costs (made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services) shall be 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. 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 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 the costs as ordered or fails to submit proof of successful completion of the ordered education as set forth above, Respondent's license (no. 27062-31) may, in the discretion of the Board or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with payment of costs and submitted proof of successful completion of the ordered education.

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

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

by: Judy A. McCall DNP, APNP
A Member of the Board

3-12-15
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

TERRY L. ATKINS, L.P.N.,
RESPONDENT.

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:
:

STIPULATION

0003786

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 15 NUR 016

Respondent Terry L. Atkins, 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. Respondent is further informed that should the Board adopt this Stipulation, the Board's Final Decision and Order would constitute an agency finding within the meaning of Wis. Stat. §§ 48.685 and 50.065. Should Respondent wish to work in a Wisconsin DHS-licensed facility in any role, Respondent will need to pass a Rehabilitation Review through DHS prior to commencement of such employment.

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

Terry L. Atkins
Terry L. Atkins, L.P.N., Respondent
701 S. Van Buren St.
Stoughton, WI 53589-2398
License no. 27062-31

2-19-15
Date

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

2/23/15
Date