

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

LAURA J. WARREN, R.N.,  
LICENSEE.

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FINAL DECISION AND ORDER  
FOR REMEDIAL EDUCATION

**0003800**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 13 NUR 608

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

Laura J. Warren, R.N.  
409 Hamilton Street  
Columbus, WI 53925

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. Licensee Laura J. Warren, R.N., (dob June 21, 1958) is licensed in the State of Wisconsin as a professional nurse, having license number 93493-30, first issued on March 26, 1986 and current through February 29, 2016. Licensee's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 409 Hamilton Street, Columbus, Wisconsin 53925.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Licensee was employed as a director of health and wellness for seven community based residential facilities. One of those community based residential facilities (CBRF) was located in Randolph, Wisconsin.

3. Licensee's position as the director of health and wellness did not require direct patient care. Rather, Licensee's duties included: review and development of care plans for residents and other administrative tasks.

4. Patient A, a 93 year-old male, was admitted to the CBRF in July 2012, with a diagnosis of dementia and hyperthyroidism. He was ambulatory, but needed assistance for other activities and was a low risk for falls.

5. On July 8, 2013, Patient A underwent a transurethral resection of his bladder to remove a cancerous tumor. Patient A was discharged from the hospital following surgery and returned to the CBRF.

6. Licensee was notified by the assistant administrator upon Patient A's return to the CBRF.

7. On July 9, 2013, Patient A was experiencing increased pain, increased confusion, and needed assistance to a wheelchair and two-person assistance when transferring. Patient A kept attempting to get up and walk to the bathroom. He had to be redirected numerous times and was very confused.

8. On July 9, 2013, at 7:00 p.m., Patient A was found lying on the floor next to his bed, attempting to crawl to the bathroom. A fall report was completed and report stated that Patient A's physician was not contacted regarding the fall.

9. On July 10, 2013, Licensee, as part of her duties, was notified of Patient A's fall via the electronic system used by the CBRF.

10. On July 10, 2013, at 5:00 a.m., Patient A fell while attempting to get out of bed to use the bathroom. A fall report was completed and stated that Patient A's physician was not contacted regarding the fall.

11. At 6:30 a.m., Patient A experienced another fall. A fall report was completed and stated that Patient A's physician was not contacted regarding the fall.

12. On July 11, 2013, Licensee, as part of her duties, was notified of Patient A's two (2) July 10 falls via the electronic system used by the CBRF.

13. On July 13, 2013, at 10:45 p.m., Patient A experienced a fall while trying to use the bathroom. A fall report was completed and stated that Patient A's physician was not contacted regarding the fall.

14. On July 11, 2013, Licensee, as part of her duties, was notified of Patient A's fall via the electronic system used by the CBRF.

15. On July 16, 2013, at 7:00 a.m., Patient A experienced a fall while trying to use the bathroom. A fall report was completed and stated that Patient A's physician was not contacted regarding the fall.

16. On July 16, 2013, Licensee, as part of her duties, was notified of Patient A's fall via the electronic system used by the CBRF. Licensee did not ensure staff contacted the physician nor did she call the physician herself.

17. From July 8 – 17, 2013, Patient A's medical record does not indicate that Patient A's physician was contacted regarding his rapid deteriorating condition in which he experienced falling episodes, hallucinations, restlessness, confusion, increased lethargy, and requiring two staff to transfer.

18. On July 18, 2013, at 6:00 a.m., Patient A was found on the floor. Patient A was evaluated by a practical nurse at 7:15 a.m. and Patient A's bed was moved to the floor. A fall report was completed for this fall and stated that Patient A's physician was not notified of the fall.

19. At 7:45 a.m., Patient A was found expired.

20. Licensee was aware of all of Patient A's falls and did not adequately ensure that the physician was contacted nor did she recommend a policy that all staff contact the physician for all falls.

21. Licensee's job description requires review of all fall reports. If the reports had been reviewed Licensee would have seen that the physician was not contacted regarding any of the falls.

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

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Board of Nursing is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

#### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. Within six (6) months of the date of this Order, Laura J. Warren, R.N., shall at Licensee's own expense take and successfully complete five (5) hours of education on the topic of professional accountability and legal liability for nurses and (4) hours on the topic of ethics in nursing as follows:

- a. Each course attended in satisfaction of this Order must be pre-approved by the Board or its designee. Licensee shall be responsible for locating course(s) satisfactory to the Board and for obtaining the required approval of the courses from the Board or its designee. Licensee must take and pass any exam offered for the course(s).

- b. Licensee 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 education requirements that have been or may be instituted by the Board or Department.

3. Within 120 days from the date of this Order, Licensee shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$1,150.00.

4. 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 Licensee to the Department Monitor at the address below:

Department Monitor  
Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
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 Licensee'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 Licensee 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, Licensee's license (no. 93493-30) may, in the discretion of the Board or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Licensee has complied with payment of the costs and submitted proof of successful completion of the ordered education.

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

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

by: Judy St. Pierre DNP, RN, NP  
A Member of the Board

3-12-15  
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

LAURA J. WARREN, R.N.,  
RESPONDENT.

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STIPULATION

**0003800**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 13 NUR 608

Respondent Laura J. Warren, R.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. Respondent  
is represented by Attorney Brian R. Purtell.

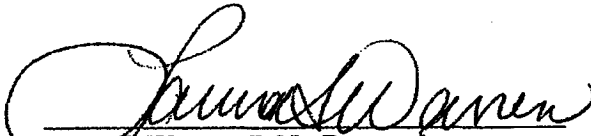
4. Respondent agrees to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by  
the Wisconsin Board of Nursing (Board). The parties to the Stipulation consent to the entry of  
the attached Final Decision and Order without further notice, pleading, appearance or consent of  
the parties. Respondent 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 or Respondent's attorney, 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.

  
Laura J. Warren, R.N., Respondent  
409 Hamilton St.  
Columbus, WI 53925  
License no. 302153-31

2/10/15  
Date

  
Brian R. Purtell, Attorney for Respondent  
DeWitt, Ross and Stevens S.C.  
2 E. Mifflin Street, Suite 600  
Madison, WI 53703

2/23/15  
Date

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

2/24/15  
Date