

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

KAREN ROBERTSON,  
RESPONDENT.

:  
:  
: FINAL DECISION AND ORDER  
:  
: **0003848**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 14 RSA 055

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

Karen Robertson  
511 Austin Street  
Sparta, WI 54656

Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services  
P.O. Box 8368  
Madison, WI 53708-8368

Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
Wisconsin 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 Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department). The Department has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Department adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Karen Robertson, (DOB January 16, 1961) is certified in the state of Wisconsin to practice as a substance abuse counselor, having certification number 15579-132, first granted on April 1, 2011. This license expired on February 28, 2015, and has not been renewed. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.08(3), Respondent retains the right to renew upon payment of fee until February 27, 2020. Respondent is also certified in the state of Wisconsin to practice as a clinical supervisor-in-training, having certification number 15437-133, first granted on April 27, 2011. This license expired on February 28, 2015, and has not been renewed. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.08(3), Respondent retains the right to renew upon payment of fee

until February 27, 2020. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Department is 511 Austin Street, Sparta, Wisconsin 54656.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a substance abuse counselor and clinical supervisor-in-training at Jackson Correctional Institution located in Black River Falls, Wisconsin.

3. Between approximately October 2013 and January 2014, Respondent conspired with an inmate to purchase three cellphones and secretly bring them into the prison for sale or distribution to inmates.

4. Respondent received approximately \$200.00 for the service of purchasing the cellphones and bringing them into the prison.

5. Respondent was charged with two counts of delivery of illegal articles to inmates, a felony, and one count of obstructing an officer, a misdemeanor, for her initial denial of her part in the conspiracy to introduce contraband into the prison. Respondent has entered into a deferred prosecution agreement on the felony counts, and has pleaded guilty to the misdemeanor.

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

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.88, 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 Karen Robertson engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined in Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 164.02(b).

3. As a result of the violations noted in the Conclusions of Law, Respondent Karen Robertson, is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.88(6).

#### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. The VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of the certificate to practice as a substance abuse counselor (number 15579-132) and the certificate to practice as a supervisor-in-training (number 15437-133) in the state of Wisconsin issued to Karen Robertson is accepted.

3. This surrender constitutes the permanent relinquishment of Respondent's credential to practice as a substance abuse counselor and clinical supervisor-in-training in Wisconsin. Respondent shall not at any time in the future submit to practice as a substance abuse counselor in Wisconsin.

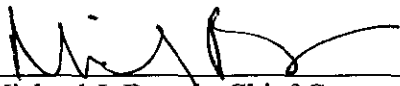
4. Respondent shall immediately return all indicia of certification to the Department Monitor at the address below:

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. Respondent is on notice that Respondent may not practice as a substance abuse counselor or a substance abuse counselor-in-training in the state of Wisconsin, nor may Respondent hold herself out as an addiction counselor, substance abuse counselor, substance abuse counselor-in-training, alcohol and drug counselor, substance use disorder counselor or chemical dependency counselor, clinical supervisor-in training or clinical supervisor.

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

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

By:   
Michael J. Berndt, Chief Counsel  
On Behalf of the Department

3/20/15  
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

KAREN ROBERTSON,  
RESPONDENT.

:  
:  
: STIPULATION  
:  
:

0003848

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 14 RSA 055

~~Respondent Karen Robertson~~ 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 Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department). 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 Department's Order, if adopted in the form as attached.

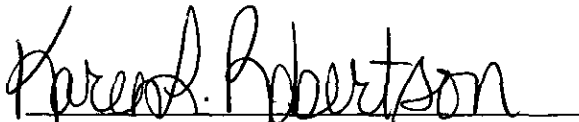
5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Department, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the

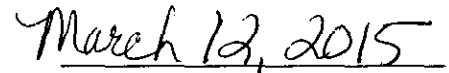
Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further proceedings. In the event that the Stipulation is not accepted by the Department, the parties agree not to contend that the Department has been prejudiced or biased in any manner by the consideration of this attempted resolution.


6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance may appear before the Department, without the presence of Respondent, for purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that the Department may have in connection with deliberations on the Stipulation.

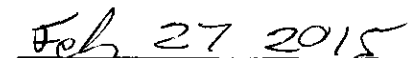
7. Respondent is informed that should the Department adopt this Stipulation, the Department's Final Decision and Order is a public record and will be published in accordance with standard Department procedure.

~~8. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondent in recommending that the Department adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.~~

  
Karen Robertson  
511 Austin Street  
Sparta, WI 54656  
Credential Number 15579-132 and  
Credential Number 15437-133

  
Date

  
James E. Polewski, Attorney  
State Bar Number 1002963  
Department of Safety and Professional Services  
Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
P.O. Box 7190  
Madison, WI 53707-7190  
Tel. (608) 266-0358  
jim.polewski@wisconsin.gov

  
Date