WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY

PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

MARCIA M. THOMPSON, L.P.C.,

RESPONDENT.

0003942

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 14 CPC 032

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

Marcia M. Thompson, L.P.C. 3076 Pine Ridge Court Green Bay, WI 54311

Professional Counselor 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 Professional Counselor 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 Board in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Respondent Marcia M. Thompson, L.P.C., (dob December 5, 1935) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin to practice professional counseling, having license number 1049-125, first issued on December 23, 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 3076 Pine Ridge Court, Green Bay, Wisconsin 54311.

- 2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a professional counselor at clinic located in Green Bay, Wisconsin.
- 3. Respondent provided counseling services to Client A. While providing services to Client A, Respondent engaged in conduct, which might have impaired Respondent's objectivity or create a conflict of interest.
- 4. In a September 1, 2014 letter to the Department, Respondent admitted the following:
 - a. Respondent purchased three (3) Reiki sessions for Client A.
 - b. Respondent and her husband employed Client A to do work around their home.
 - c. Respondent permitted Client A to visit her at the hospital and her home while recovering from surgery.
 - 5. At the time, Respondent was supervising two (2) interns.
 - 6. Respondent believed the therapeutic value justified her lapse in judgment.
- 7. There is no evidence that Respondent actually took advantage of Client A's position as both client and employee.
- 8. This is the first time the Section has had cause to investigate Respondent's professional conduct.
- 9. In resolution of this matter, Respondent consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Professional Counselor 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(2), 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, Marcia M. Thompson, L.P.C., engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined in Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 20.02(13), by failing to avoid a dual relationship that may impair the credentialed person's objectivity or create a conflict of interest.
- 3. As a result of the above violations, Marcia M. Thompson, L.P.C., is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26(2)(f).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

- 2. Respondent Marcia M. Thompson, L.P.C., is REPRIMANDED.
- 3. Within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, Marcia M. Thompson, L.P.C., shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$123.33.
- 4. 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

<u>DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov</u>

- 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 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, Respondent's license (no. 1049-125) may, in the discretion of the Section or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with payment of costs.
 - 6. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

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

by: Michael J. Berndy Date

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

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

STIPULATION

MARCIA M. THOMPSON, L.P.C., RESPONDENT.

0003942

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 14 CPC 032

Respondent Marcia M. Thompson, L.P.C., 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 Professional Counselor Section of the Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling and Social Work Examining Board (Section). 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 Section's order, if adopted in the form as attached.

- 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 or Respondent's attorney, 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.
- 7. 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.

Marcia-M. Thompson, L.P.C., Respondent

3076 Pine Ridge Ct. Green Bay, WI 54311 License no. 1049-125

Sandra L. Nowack, Attorney WI State Bar No. 1025643

Department of Safety and Professional Services Division of Legal Services and Compliance

P.O. Box 7190

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