

## 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

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IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY :  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :  
: FINAL DECISION AND ORDER  
SARAH A. CORMELL, :  
RESPONDENT. :  
0004083

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 14 SOC 300

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

Sarah A. Cormell  
1022 Tamarack Place  
New Richmond, WI 54017

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 Sarah A. Cormell (DOB May 17, 1975) is certified in the State of Wisconsin as an advanced practice social worker, having certificate number 129323-121, first granted on March 28, 2014 and current through February 28, 2015. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Department is 1022 Tamarack Place, New Richmond, Wisconsin 54017.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a substance abuse counselor at a behavioral health clinic (Clinic) located at Webster, Wisconsin.

3. On August 21, 2014, Respondent's clinical supervisor determined that, starting in April 2013, Respondent was signing correspondence as a clinical substance abuse counselor (CSAC).

4. On September 3, 2014, Respondent became aware that she was using the CSAC designation erroneously and immediately and voluntarily stopped using the CSAC designation.

5. Respondent admits that she does not and has never had a CSAC credential, and that she was using the CSAC designation erroneously. Respondent's use of the CSAC designation arose out of a good faith misunderstanding as to the requirements for using the CSAC designation.

6. 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. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent Sarah A. Cornell engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 20.02(2) by violating a law of any jurisdiction substantially related to practice as a social worker, in that she violated Wis. Stat. 440.88(5) by representing herself as a clinical substance abuse counselor without being so certified.

3. As a result of the above violations, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 457.26(h).

#### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. Respondent Sarah A. Cornell is REPRIMANDED.

3. Within 90 days from the date of this Order, Respondent Sarah A. Cornell shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$50.00.

4. 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

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 Department 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 and as set forth above, Respondent's certificate (no. 129323-121) may, in the discretion of the Department, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with payment of the costs.

6. 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: Nick Smier  
A Member of the Section 

Date 6/17/15

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

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IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

SARAH A. CORMELL,  
RESPONDENT.

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:  
:  
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:

STIPULATION

0004083

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 14 SOC 300

Respondent Sarah A. Cornell 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 Social Worker 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, 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.

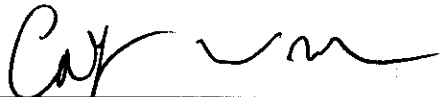
8. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondent in recommending the Section adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.



Sarah A. Cornell, Respondent  
1022 Tamarack Place  
New Richmond, WI 54017  
Certificate No: 129323-121

Date





Cody Wagner, Attorney  
Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
P.O. Box 7190  
Madison, WI 53707-7190

Date

