

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
: FOR REMEDIAL EDUCATION
STEPHANIE J. HAMANN, L.P.C., :
RESPONDENT. :

0004860

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 16 CPC 002

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

Stephanie J. Hamann, L.P.C.
3733 Henry Street
Wausau, WI 54403

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 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 Stephanie J. Hamann, L.P.C., (dob January 5, 1973) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin to practice professional counseling, having license number 3379-125, first issued on December 4, 2003 and current through February 28, 2017. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 3733 Henry Street, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a professional counselor at a center located in Wausau, Wisconsin.

3. Respondent provided counseling sessions to Child A for approximately two and a half years.

4. On December 3, 2015, Respondent wrote a letter to a court regarding placement of Child A. In that letter, Respondent wrote:

I attempted many times to have contact with Child A's mother. Those conversations were confusing, often disjointed, sometimes bizarre, and I found that her concerns were often not about Child A at all, but about her other child. She often requested that I call her other child's father to intervene. She also questioned my methods and my techniques, but never told me what her concerns were.

5. Child A's mother contends that Respondent did not try to contact her and states she has not spoken to the Respondent about her daughter.

6. Respondent reports that she last had contact with Child A's mother in December of 2014. There is no documentation in the record that Respondent attempted contact with Child A's mother after December 2014.

7. Respondent's December 3, 2015 letter to the court did not explain that Respondent last attempted contact with or spoke with Client A in December of 2014.

8. Professional standards required that Respondent's letter to the court disclose that the communication described occurred approximately one year before the letter was drafted. Failing to do so created an unacceptable risk that the court would not have an accurate understanding of the facts.

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 is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

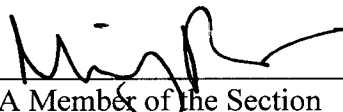
2. Within six (6) months of the date of this Order, Stephanie J. Hamann, L.P.C., shall at her own expense take and successfully complete eight (8) hours of education on the topic of report writing as follows:

- a. Each course attended in satisfaction of this Order must be pre-approved by the Section or its designee. Respondent shall be responsible for locating course(s) satisfactory to the Section and for obtaining the required approval of the courses from the Section or its designee. Respondent must take and pass any exam offered for the course(s).
 - 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.
 - c. 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 Section or Department.
3. Request for approval of courses and proof of successful course completion 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

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

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

by:  8/3/16
 A Member of the Section Date
 Michael J. Berndt, Chief Legal Counsel

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
STEPHANIE J. HAMANN, L.P.C.,	:	
RESPONDENT.	:	0004860

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 16 CPC 002

Respondent Stephanie J. Hamann, 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. Respondent is represented by Attorney Thomas Brunner.

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

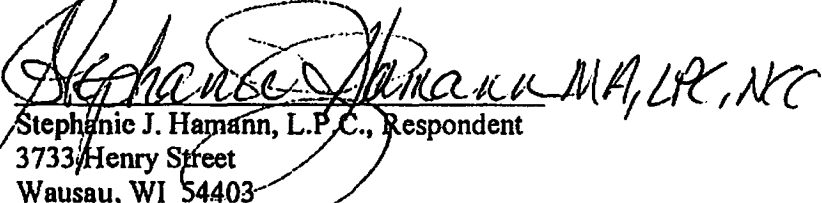
or consent of the parties. Respondent waives all rights to any appeal of the Section's order, if adopted in the form as attached.

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.

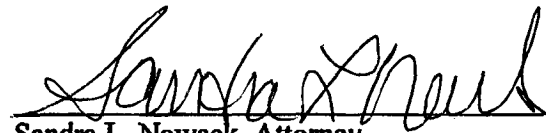
8. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondent in recommending the Section adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.


Stephanie J. Hamann, L.P.C., Respondent
3733 Henry Street
Wausau, WI 54403
License no. 3379-125

6/7/16
Date


Thomas J. Bruner, Attorney for Respondent
P.O. Box 317
Greenville, WI 54942

6/7/2016
Date


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

6/7/14
Date