# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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# STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY

PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

LEONARD A. BRITT, R.N., RESPONDENT.

0005070

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 15 NUR 415

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

Leonard A. Britt, R.N. 12120 W. Oklahoma Ave. West Allis, WI 53227

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. Respondent Leonard A. Britt, R.N., (dob June 13, 1979) is licensed in the State of Wisconsin as a professional nurse, having license number 199822-30, first issued on March 12, 2014 and current through February 28, 2018. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 12120 West Oklahoma Avenue, West Allis, Wisconsin 53227.
- 2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a professional nurse at a facility (Facility), located in Brookfield, Wisconsin.

- 3. On July 19 and 24, 2015, Respondent was assigned to the long term care unit at the Facility.
- 4. On July 28, 2016, a practical nurse noticed that patients in the long term care unit had been receiving more pain medication than normal.
- 5. The Facility conducted an investigation and discovered discrepancies in patient medication records for the dates of July 19 and 24, 2015, for the patients below.

#### Patient S.D.

- 6. Patient S.D. has a physician's order for hydrocodone-acetaminophen 5/325 mg, one (1) tablet three (3) times daily, as needed for pain.
- 7. Patient S.D.'s controlled drug use record indicated he was administered one (1) hydrocodone-acetaminophen 5/325 mg tablet on each of the following dates: July 4, 5, and 6, 2015.
- 8. On July 19, 2015, at 3:00 p.m., Respondent documented on Patient S.D.'s controlled drug use record that he dispensed two (2) hydrocodone-acetaminophen 5/325 mg tablets to Patient S.D. Respondent failed to document the administration, waste or return of the medication.
- 9. On July 24, 2015, at 2:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., Respondent documented on Patient S.D.'s controlled use record that he dispensed two (2) hydrocodone-acetaminophen 5/325 mg tablets. Respondent failed to document the administration, waste or return of the medication.
- 10. On or about July 29, 2015, Patient S.D., an alert and oriented patient, was interviewed by the director of nursing (DON). Patient S.D. denied receiving any hydrocodone-acetaminophen tablets on July 19 or 24, 2015. Patient S.D. further reported that his pain had been controlled since being prescribed a fentanyl patch on July 4, 2015.

#### Patient N.D.

- 11. Patient N.D. has a physician's order for one (1) hydrocodone-acetaminophen 5/325 mg tablet every four (4) hours, as needed for pain.
- 12. On July 24, 2015, at 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., Respondent documented on Patient N.D.'s controlled drug use record that he dispensed two (2) hydrocodone-acetaminophen 5/325 mg tablets. Respondent failed to document the administration, waste or return of the medication.
- 13. On or about July 29, 2015, Patient N.D., an alert and oriented patient, was interviewed by the DON. Patient N.D. did not recall being administered hydrocodone-acetaminophen on July 24, 2015, but indicated that she was certain she didn't take any at 2:00 p.m. Patient N.D. further indicated that she never takes two (2) tablets because her stomach cannot handle two (2) tablets.

#### Patient M.S.

- 14. Patient M.S. has a physician's order for one (1) hydrocodone-acetaminophen 5/325 mg tablet every six (6) hours, as needed.
- 15. On July 24, 2015, at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., Respondent documented on Patient M.S.'s controlled drug use record that he dispensed one (1) hydrocodone-acetaminophen 5/325 mg tablet. Respondent failed to document the administration, waste or return of the medication.
- 16. On or about July 29, 2015, Patient M.S., an alert and oriented patient, was interviewed by the DON. Patient M.S. stated that it was possible he was administered hydrocodone-acetaminophen on July 24, 2015, but does not remember receiving it at 2:00 p.m.

## Patient A.K.

- 17. Patient A.K. has a physician's order for one (1) hydrocodone-acetaminophen 5/325 mg tablet every six (6) hours, as needed for pain.
- 18. On July 24, 2015, at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., Respondent documented on Patient A.K.'s controlled drug use record that he dispensed one (1) hydrocodone-acetaminophen 5/325 mg tablet. Respondent failed to document the administration, waste or return of the medication.
- 19. On or about July 29, 2015, Patient A.K., an alert and oriented patient, was interviewed by the DON. Patient A.K. indicated that July 20, 2015, was the last time she was administered hydrocodone-acetaminophen and does not recall taking any on July 24, 2015. Patient A.K. stated that her physician encouraged her not to take the hydrocodone-acetaminophen and did not recall Respondent administering her pain medication or inquiring about her pain status. Patient A further indicated that if she does take hydrocodone-acetaminophen, she typically takes it at lunch or at night.
  - 20. On July 29, 2015, Respondent's employment was terminated.
- 21. On February 23, 2016, Respondent, during an interview with a Department investigator, denied a history of abuse, misuse, or dependency with alcohol or any other substances.
- 22. Respondent confirmed all of the signatures for July 19 and 24, 2015, on Patient S.D.'s, N.D.'s, M.S.'s and A.K.'s controlled drug use records were his. Respondent denied diverting any narcotics.
- 23. In resolution of this matter, Respondent consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. The Wisconsin Board of Nursing has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07, and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

- 2. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 961.16(2)(a)7., hydrocodone is a schedule II controlled substance for which, under the circumstances at issue, a prescription is required pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 961.38(2).
- 3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Leonard A. Britt, R.N., engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(6)(c), by departing from or failing to conform to the minimal standards of acceptable nursing practice that may create unnecessary risk or danger to a patient's life, health, or safety.
- 4. As a result of the above conduct, Leonard A. Britt, R.N., is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07(1g)(b) and (d).

#### **ORDER**

- 1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
- 2. Respondent Leonard A. Britt, R.N., is REPRIMANDED.
- 3. The professional nursing license issued to Leonard A. Britt, R.N., (license number 199822-30) and his privilege to practice in Wisconsin pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact, are LIMITED as follows:
  - a. Within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order, Respondent shall at his own expense, successfully complete five (5) hours of education on the topic of documentation and four (4) hours of education on the topic of medication errors offered by a provider pre-approved by the Board's monitoring liaison, including taking and passing any exam offered for the courses.
  - 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. 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 Board or Department, and also may not be used in future attempts to upgrade a credential in Wisconsin.
  - c. This limitation shall be removed from Respondent's license after satisfying the Board or its designee that Respondent has successfully completed all of the ordered education.
- 4. The professional nursing license issued to Leonard A. Britt, R.N., (license number 199822-30) and his privilege to practice in Wisconsin pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact, are further LIMITED as follows:
  - a. Within sixty (60) days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall, at his own expense undergo an AODA assessment with a pre-approved provider.

- b. Prior to the assessment, Respondent shall provide a copy of this Order to the treater.
- c. Respondent shall provide and keep on file with the treater current releases complying with state and federal laws. The releases shall allow the Board, its designee, and any employee of the Department to obtain a copy of the assessment. Copies of these releases shall immediately be filed with the Department Monitor.
- d. Respondent shall comply with the treaters recommendations.
- 5. Pursuant to Nurse Licensure Compact regulations, Respondent's nursing practice is limited to Wisconsin during the pendency of this limitation. This requirement may be waived only upon the prior written authorization of both the Wisconsin Board of Nursing and the regulatory board in the state in which Respondent proposes to practice.
- 6. Within 120 days from the date of this Order, Leonard A. Britt, R.N., shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$1,100.00.
- 7. Any documents, requests, proof of successful course completion and 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>

8. 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 Board 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 undergo an AODA assessment, fails to comply with the treater's recommendations, 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, Respondent's license (no. 199822-30) may, in the discretion of the Board or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has undergone and AODA assessment, complied with the treater's recommendations, complied with payment of costs and submitted proof of successful completion of the ordered education.

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING		
by:	A Member of the Board	12-8-16 Date

This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

9.

# STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

LEONARD A. BRITT, R.N., RESPONDENT.

**STIPULATION** 

0005070

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 15 NUR 415

Respondent Leonard A. Britt, 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.
- 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, 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.

Leonard A. Britt, R.N., Respondent

12120 W. Oklahoma Ave. West Allis, WI 53227 License no. 199822-30

Kim M. Kluck, Attorney

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

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P.O. Box 7190

Madison WI 53707-7190

11/22/16

Date