

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

SHARON R. COWAN, R.N.,  
RESPONDENT.

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FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

0005071

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 16 NUR 407

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

Sharon R. Cowan, R.N.  
724 Elm St., Unit 102  
West Bend, WI 53095

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 Sharon R. Cowan, R.N., (dob October 22, 1957) is licensed in the State of Wisconsin as a professional nurse, having license number 226934-30, first issued on February 1, 2016 and current through February 28, 2018. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 724 Elm Street, Unit 102, West Bend, Wisconsin 53095.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a professional nurse in the state of Texas.

3. On August 24, 2015, the Texas Board of Nursing sent a certified letter to Respondent notifying her that an investigation was being conducted as to whether Respondent violated the rules and regulations of the Texas Board of Nursing.

4. On September 2, 2015, the letter was delivered to Respondent.

5. On December 9, 2015, Respondent signed her application for a professional nursing license in the state of Wisconsin.

6. Respondent checked the “no” box on the application to the question “Is disciplinary action pending against you in any jurisdiction?”

7. On December 14, 2015, Respondent faxed her application to the Department.

8. On July 2, 2016, Respondent entered into an “Agreed Order” with the Texas Board of Nursing to a voluntary surrender of her Texas nursing license and her privilege to practice in Texas pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact based on the following facts:

- a. On or about August 8, 2015, Respondent physically and verbally abused a pediatric patient.
- b. Respondent denied all wrongdoing.

9. 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. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Sharon R. Cowan, R.N., engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(1)(b), by having a license to practice nursing or a nurse licensure compact privilege to practice denied, revoked, suspended, limited, or having the credential holder otherwise disciplined in another state, territory, or country.

3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Sharon R. Cowan, R.N., engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(5)(e), by fraud, deceit, or material omission in obtaining a license or certification or in the renewal of the license or certification.

4. As a result of the above conduct, Sharon R. Cowan, R.N., is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07(1g)(b) and (d).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
2. The voluntary SURRENDER of the license and privilege of Sharon R. Cowan, R.N., (license no. 226934-30) to practice nursing in the State of Wisconsin or under another state license pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact is hereby accepted.
3. In the event Respondent petitions the Board of Nursing for reinstatement to practice as a nurse in the future, the Board may enter an order denying such application without further notice or hearing. Whether to grant a license and whether to impose any limitations or restrictions on any license granted shall be in the discretion of the Board.
4. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

by: Deborah Kruse  
A Member of the Board

12-8-16  
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

SHARON R. COWAN, R.N.,  
RESPONDENT.

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STIPULATION

0005071

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 16 NUR 407

Respondent Sharon R. Cowan, 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.

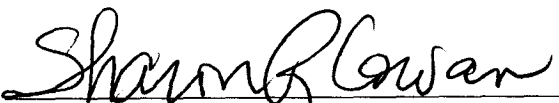
5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Board, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the Division

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.



Sharon R. Cowan, R.N., Respondent  
724 Elm St., Unit 102  
West Bend, WI 53095  
License no. 226934-30

11/7/16  
Date



Kim M. Kluck, Attorney  
Department of Safety and Professional Services  
Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
P.O. Box 7190  
Madison WI 53707-7190

11/11/16  
Date