

## 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 :  
 :  
PEGGY L. KEULER, R.N., A.P.N.P., : FINAL DECISION AND ORDER  
RESPONDENT. :  
 :

**0005164**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 15 NUR 633

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

Peggy L. Keuler, R.N., A.P.N.P.  
6511 Aspen Dr.  
Sobieski, WI 54171

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 Peggy L. Keuler, R.N., A.P.N.P., (dob May 20, 1956) is licensed in the State of Wisconsin as a professional nurse, having license number 102587-30, first granted on August 25, 1989 and current through February 28, 2018. Respondent is also certified in the State of Wisconsin as an advanced practice nurse prescriber, having certificate number 2170-33, first granted on November 25, 2002 and current through September 30, 2016. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 6511 Aspen Drive, Sobieski, Wisconsin 54171.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a professional nurse at a medical center, located in Iron Mountain, Michigan.

3. On March 20, 2012, Patient A presented to the emergency department (ED) with severe lower left leg pain and was diagnosed with acute peroneal nerve injury.

4. On March 26, 2012, Patient A reported back to the ED with severe lower left leg pain and was diagnosed with neuropathic pain-unknown etiology or extent of peroneal nerve involvement.

5. The ED physician increased Patient A's Neurontin® to 300 mg twice daily for three (3) days and 300 mg three times daily as needed.

6. Patient A was also advised to follow-up with his primary care physician in one (1) to fourteen (14) days and with the neurology clinic the next day.

7. On March 27, 2012, Patient A presented to Respondent to follow-up from the ED visit. Respondent documented the reason for the visit as an ED follow-up; peroneal nerve foot drop; acute onset; patient still has not had an **electromyography (EMG)**; walking with crutches and foot base; patient reports meds are helping with pain and sleep; pain will wake him up after Vicodin® wears off; had not tried capsaicin cream yet.

8. Respondent documented the following exam findings: patient walking with crutches and foot brace, cannot bear weight, cannot dorsiflex foot, no swelling in achilles area but **positive redness** and mild swelling of dorsal foot central area, and toes somewhat discolored. An addendum noted severe pain to touch central dorsal foot inflamed area.

9. Respondent placed a comment in the consult notes to expedite the EMG, ordered an x-ray, and noted that neuro input would be welcome. Patient A was encouraged to use capsaicin cream and ice.

10. On April 6, 2012, Patient A presented to a hospital for a consultation with severe irreversible ischemia of his left foot with no target vessel in the foot for revascularization.

11. A lysis was attempted, but was unsuccessful due to several weeks of ischemia causing irreversible tissue loss and a below-the-knee amputation was recommended.

12. On April 7, 2012, Patient A's left foot was amputated.

13. 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 Finding of Fact, Peggy L. Keuler, R.N., A.P.N.P., violated Wis. Admin. Code § N 6.03(1), by failing to utilize the nursing process in the execution

of general nursing procedures in the maintenance of health, prevention of illness or care of the ill.

3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Peggy L. Keuler, R.N., A.P.N.P., violated Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(1)<sup>1</sup>, by violating any of the standards of practice set forth in ch. N 6.

4. As a result of the above violations, Peggy L. Keuler, R.N., A.P.N.P., is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07(1)(b) and (c)<sup>2</sup>.

#### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
2. Respondent Peggy L. Keuler, R.N., A.P.N.P., is REPRIMANDED.
3. The professional nursing license and advanced practice nurse prescriber certificate issued to Peggy L. Keuler, R.N., A.P.N.P., (license number 102587-30 and certificate number 2170-33) and her 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 her own expense, successfully complete three (3) hours of education on the topic of patient assessment and three (3) hours of education on the topic of diagnosing ischemia 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. 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.

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<sup>1</sup> All references to Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03 refer to the Code as it existed before August 1, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> (2011-2012)

5. Within 120 days from the date of this Order, Peggy L. Keuler, R.N., A.P.N.P., shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$850.00.

6. Request for approval of courses, 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  
DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

7. 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 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. 102587-30) and certificate (no. 2170-33) may, in the discretion of the Board or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with payment of costs and has submitted proof of successful completion of the ordered education.

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

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

by:

Peggy L. Keuler  
A Member of the Board

2-9-17  
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

PEGGY L. KEULER, R.N., A.P.N.P.,  
RESPONDENT.

STIPULATION

0005164

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 15 NUR 633

Respondent Peggy L. Keuler, R.N., A.P.N.P., 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 Patrick J. Knight.

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 or Respondent's attorney, 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.

*Peggy L. Keuler*

Peggy L. Keuler, R.N., A.P.N.P., Respondent  
6511 Aspen Dr.  
Sobieski, WI 54171  
License no. 102587-30  
Certificate no. 2170-33

12/20/2016

Date

*Patrick J. Knight*

Patrick J. Knight, Attorney for Respondent  
Gimbel Reilly Guerin & Brown LLP  
Two Plaza E., Ste. 1170  
330 E. Kilbourne Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

1/27/17  
Date

*Kim M. Kluck*

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

1/26/17

Date