

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE PSYCHOLOGY EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY :  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :  
: FINAL DECISION AND ORDER  
SHARON L. SCHULMAN, PH.D., :  
RESPONDENT. :

**0005245**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 15 PSY 032

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

Sharon L. Schulman, Ph.D.  
6344 North Santa Monica Blvd.  
Whitefish Bay, WI 53217

Wisconsin Psychology 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 Psychology Examining Board (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 L. Schulman, Ph.D., (dob July 26, 1946) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin to practice psychology, having license number 3148-57, first granted on January 16, 2014, and current through September 30, 2017. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 6344 North Santa Monica Blvd., Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin 53217.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was self-employed as a psychologist at a clinic located in St. Augustine, Florida.

3. On September 28, 2015, the Florida Board of Psychology issued a Final Order (Florida Order) in Case Nos. 2010-09248; 2010-05368; and 2009-16980, reprimanding the Respondent.

4. The Florida Order contained the following permanent limitations on Respondent's practice:

- a. Respondent shall not perform forensic evaluations for the purpose of conducting a time-sharing schedule and/or parenting plan in a dissolution of marriage, support, or time-sharing action;
- b. Respondent shall not state an opinion to a court or a mental health professional performing a forensic evaluation regarding time-sharing schedules and/or parenting plans, in a dissolution of marriage, support, or time-sharing action;
- c. Respondent shall not serve as guardian ad litem, mediator, therapist, or parenting coordinator in a dissolution of marriage, support, or time-sharing action;
- d. Respondent shall not serve as an evaluator in a dissolution of marriage, support or time-sharing action.

5. Respondent was charged an administrative fine of \$8000.00, and ordered to pay costs of \$12,500.00.

6. The Florida Order was issued to the Respondent for incomplete records that failed to meet the minimum requirements, testifying in a court case while giving opinions of a forensic nature that were not appropriate from a psychologist who was providing therapy to the child at issue, and failure to meet the minimum standards of practice of her profession.

7. Respondent neither admitted nor denied the allegations. Respondent has stated that she did not contest the Florida Order solely because the projected financial costs of contesting it would have been beyond her ability to finance.

8. Each of the cases resolved by the Florida Order were filed by individuals who were not patients of Respondent, and each arose out of child custody proceedings in Florida which occurred between 2005 and 2010, in which Respondent had been asked to render professional testimony in court on matters relating to child custody or family law.

9. Respondent moved from Florida to Wisconsin in 2013 for reasons unrelated to her professional practice of psychology.

10. Respondent's professional practice in Wisconsin is fundamentally different from her professional practice in Florida in that Respondent does not and has never accepted family court clients in Wisconsin, nor does she perform professional services related to family court cases in Wisconsin.

11. Respondent has been continually licensed in Wisconsin without discipline or restriction by the Board at all times since January 16, 2014. No complaints against Respondent have been received by the Board against Respondent's Wisconsin license.

12. This Order is based entirely and solely on the Florida Order and does not include any new facts or allegations not contained in the Florida Order.

13. This Order will constitute a limitation of Respondent's license only in the event that Respondent elects to begin accepting family court clients or performing professional work related to family court cases in Wisconsin.

14. In resolution of this matter, Respondent consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Psychology Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 455.09(1), 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 L. Schulman, Ph.D., engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § Psy 5.01(32).

3. As a result of the above violations, Sharon L. Schulman, Ph.D., is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 455.09(1)(g).

#### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. Respondent Sharon L. Schulman, Ph.D., is REPRIMANDED.

3. In the event that Respondent elects to begin accepting family court clients or performing professional work related to family court cases in Wisconsin at any time, the license to practice psychology issued to Sharon L. Schulman, Ph.D., (license number 3148-57) is LIMITED as follows:

#### Professional Mentor

- a. Prior to accepting clients or performing work related to family court cases, Respondent must contact the Department Monitor and engage the services of a professional mentor as described in subparagraphs b-k below.
- b. Respondent shall engage the services of a professional mentor who is licensed to practice psychology in the state of Wisconsin, who has family court experience, and who has not been disciplined by the Board.

- c. Respondent shall submit to the Department Monitor at the address below a written request for approval of a proposed mentor. The request for approval shall be accompanied by the mentor's current curriculum vitae and a letter from the mentor confirming that he or she has read the Final Decision and Order and agrees to undertake the duties of a professional mentor as set out in this paragraph.
- d. The professional mentor shall be actively engaged in the practice of psychology, and shall not have any personal or professional relationship, past or present, with Respondent that could reasonably be expected to compromise the proposed mentor's ability to render fair and unbiased reports to the Department. Respondent shall show this order and the Florida Order to the proposed mentor before the proposed mentor agrees to act as a mentor.
- e. The Board's designee has the full and final authority to approve or reject a proposed mentor. This decision is based on an exercise of discretion and is not reviewable. The Board's designee may approve or direct a change in the professional mentor at any time if the mentor becomes unable to continue their duties, if the mentor is disciplined by the Board, the mentor fails to comply with the terms of the order, or if the mentor asks to be relieved of their duties.
- f. The mentor will meet monthly with Respondent to review three (3) of Respondent's current cases related to family court, including but not limited to forensic evaluations of family court litigants, custody studies, placement and custody recommendations, and family court expert appointments. If Respondent has fewer than three (3) such cases, the mentor shall review as many as Respondent has. The mentor will ensure that Respondent is adhering to the applicable ethical standards, and that documentation in the reviewed cases is fully adequate and demonstrates that Respondent is practicing above the minimum standard of care. Whether or not guidance of the mentoring psychologist is appropriate and whether or not Respondent has complied with the guidance shall be in the sole discretion of the Board's designee. These discretionary determinations are not reviewable.
- g. The professional mentor supervision shall occur for twenty-four (24) months in which Respondent has at least one case related to family court. The mentor shall file quarterly reports to the Board reporting the progress in the areas enumerated in subsection f above. These reports shall include an evaluation from the mentor outlining Respondent's level of competence. It is Respondent's responsibility to ensure these reports are submitted when due.

- h. The mentor shall immediately report any unprofessional conduct or suspected violation of this Order to the Department Monitor.
- i. After the timely submission of four (4) consecutive quarterly reports, and with a written recommendation from the mentor expressly supporting the request, Respondent may petition the Board or its designee for modification of any part of this limitation. Whether to modify the terms of this Limitation is in the sole discretion of the Board or its designee and is not reviewable.
- j. Respondent is responsible for any and all costs associated with the services of the professional mentor.
- k. After two (2) years of compliance with the above limitations and eight (8) consecutive favorable quarterly reports, with a petition from Respondent and a written recommendation from the mentor expressly supporting Respondent's unsupervised practice, this limitation shall be removed from Respondent's license and Respondent will be granted a full, unrestricted license.

4. The above-referenced limitation is fully contingent on Respondent electing to begin accepting family court clients or performing professional work related to family court cases in Wisconsin.

5. Within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, Sharon L. Schulman, Ph.D., shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$831.00.

6. Request for professional mentor approval, submission of quarterly reports 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](mailto:DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov)

7. In the event that Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's license to practice psychology in the state of Wisconsin may, in the discretion of the Board or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of the Order. The Board may, in addition and/or in the alternative refer any violation of this Order to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further investigation and action.

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

WISCONSIN PSYCHOLOGY EXAMINING BOARD

by: *Daniel Ashmole*  
A Member of the Board

3-29-2017  
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE PSYCHOLOGY EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

SHARON L. SCHULMAN, PH.D.,  
RESPONDENT.

STIPULATION

**0005245**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 15 PSY 032

Respondent Sharon L. Schulman, Ph.D., 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 Jason J. Franckowiak.

4. Respondent agrees to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Wisconsin Psychology Examining Board (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.

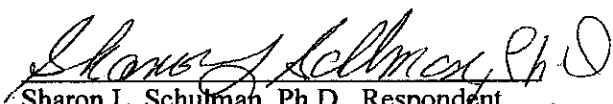


5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Board, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further proceedings. In the event that the Stipulation is not accepted by 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.



Sharon L. Schulman, Ph.D., Respondent

~~11065 North Wauwatosa Road~~ 6344 N. Santa Monica Blvd.  
~~Mequon, WI 53097~~ Whitefish Bay WI 53217  
License no. 3148-57

3-13-2017

Date



Jason J. Frackowiak, Attorney for Respondent  
Otjen, Gendelman, Zitzer, Johnson & Weir, S.C.  
20935 Swenson Drive, Suite 310  
Waukesha, WI 53186

3-16-17

Date



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

3/16/17

Date