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

ANGELA J. CATHEY, RESPONDENT.

0005321

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 15 CPC 030

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

Angela J. Cathey 303 S FM 1417 Apt. H2 Sherman, TX 75092

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 Angela J. Cathey (dob May 17, 1981) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin to practice professional counseling, having license number 5332-125, first granted on May 7, 2014, and current through February 28, 2017. Respondent's most recent address on file

with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 303 S FM 1417 Apt. H2, Sherman, Texas 75092.

- 2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a trainee therapist at a hospital located in West Allis, Wisconsin.
- 3. Respondent began her supervised training in August, 2014 and started treating Patient A in a post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) program in late 2014.
- 4. Patient A had a significant history of trauma which resulted in complex PTSD, obsessive compulsive disorder, major depressive disorder, panic, dissociation, anorexia accompanied with significant history of suicidal ideations, attachment/abandonment issues, and self-injurious behaviors.
- 5. In January 2015, Patient A expressed her fear to Respondent about being abandoned by her therapists.
- 6. On February 3, 2015, Patient A was unexpectedly discharged by Respondent's employer due to inability to pay. According to Respondent, Patient A began to decompensate due to traumatic attachment to Respondent, and Respondent responded with unclear boundary defense.
- 7. Respondent states that she disclosed to her supervisor the difficulties Patient A was experiencing, as well as Patient A's repeated attempts to contact Respondent on her cell phone following Patient A's discharge. Respondent states that she sought guidance from her supervisor on managing these issues but, failing to receive the requested response, responded to Patient A with unclear boundaries.
- 8. Respondent's employer received a subsequent complaint by Patient A. The hospital learned that, between February 2015 and August 2015, Patient A contacted Respondent multiple times on Respondent's personal cell phone and sought to visit her, and Respondent did not discourage Patient A. Respondent sent Patient A numerous responsive texts from her personal phone, including a photo of an image Respondent was considering getting made into a tattoo.
- 9. The hospital also learned that Respondent continued to communicate with another former patient who had been out of treatment for over a year; on one occasion, this former patient watched Respondent's child for approximately one hour. Respondent states that she had also notified her supervisor of contact with this former patient and did not receive effective feedback.
- 10. 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 has jurisdiction to act in

this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26(2), 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, Angela J. Cathey engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 20.02(13), by failing to avoid dual relationships or relationships that may impair the credentialed person's objectivity or create a conflict of interest.
- 3. As a result of the above violations, Angela J. Cathey is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26(2)(f).

ORDER

- 1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
- 2. Respondent Angela J. Cathey is REPRIMANDED.
- 3. The license to practice professional counseling issued to Angela J. Cathey (license number 5332-125) is LIMITED as follows:
 - a. Within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order, Respondent shall successfully complete four (4) hours of education on the topic of boundaries offered by a provider pre-approved by the Section's monitoring liaison, including taking and passing any exam offered for the courses.
 - b. Respondent shall submit proof of successful completion of the ordered 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, and also may not be used in future attempts to upgrade a credential in Wisconsin.
 - d. For two years, Respondent shall have a supervisor perform a monthly review of each case in which she is using Functional Analytic Psychotherapy (FAP) to ensure proper boundaries are being maintained.
- 4. Within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, Angela J. Cathey shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$1,015.58.
- 5. 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

- 6. 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 Section 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 costs as ordered, fails to submit proof of successful completion of the ordered education or fails to practice in a supervised manner as set forth above, Respondent's license (no. 5332-125) may, in the discretion of the Section 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.
 - 7. 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:

A Member of the Section

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

ANGELA J. CATHEY, RESPONDENT.

0005321

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 15 CPC 030

Respondent Angela J. Cathey 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 and has retained Attorney Mario Mendoza.
- 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	1 Services	and	Comp	liance	joins	Respondent	t in
recommending	g the	Section a	adopt	this S	Stipulation	and i	issue the	attach	ed Fir	nal Decision	and
Order,		_									

Angela J. Cathey Respondent

303 S FM 1417 Apt. H2 Sherman, TX 75092 License no. 5332-125 2 / 8 2017 Date

Date

Mario Mendoza, Artorney

Murphy Desmond S.C.

33 East Main Street, Suite 500

Madison, WI 53703

Cody Wagner, Attorney

Department of Safety and Professional Services

Division of Legal Services and Compliance

P.O. Box 7190

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