

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF :
LOUIS P. RALSTON, R.N., : FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
LICENSEE. : FOR REMEDIAL EDUCATION
:

00055 05

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 17 NUR 250

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

Louis P. Ralston, R.N.
2340 W. Carrington Avenue
Oak Creek, WI 53154

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. Licensee Louis P. Ralston, R.N., (dob July 8, 1971) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a professional nurse, having license number 220429-30, first issued on February 6, 2015, and current through February 28, 2018. Licensee's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 2340 West Carrington Avenue, Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Licensee was employed as a professional nurse at a hospital (Hospital), located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

3. On April 11, 2017, Patient A, a male born July 7, 1963, was seen in the Emergency Department of Hospital and discharged at approximately 10:00 p.m. Patient A is a single leg amputee.

4. In the early hours of April 12, 2017, Licensee was informed by another nurse that Patient A was sleeping in an exam room. Licensee knocked on the door to the exam room and observed Patient A sleeping in the bed. Patient A then sat up and told Licensee he needed to use the commode.

5. Licensee returned with the commode and found that Patient A had urinated and defecated on the floor. Licensee left the room to get towels to clean the floor.

6. Licensee re-entered the room, cleaned up the floor and asked Patient A if he needed anything else. Patient A requested pants and socks. Licensee returned with a set of paper clothes and socks.

7. Licensee was at the nurse's station when security personnel arrived and stated that Patient A would not leave until someone put a diaper on him. Another nurse brought Patient A a diaper.

8. Security personnel requested a bag for Patient A's personal belongings so Licensee brought the bag to Patient A and assisted him with bagging his clothes. Patient A then told the Licensee to "get out of here before I kick your motherfucking ass!" Licensee walked to the door and stated "I'd like to see you catch me."

9. Licensee admitted in his written response to the Department that his response was unprofessional.

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

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Board of Nursing is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. Within six (6) months of the date of this Order, Louis P. Ralston, R.N., shall at his own expense take and successfully complete three (3) hours of education on the topic of professionalism and three (3) hours of education on the topic of working with difficult patients as follows:

a. Each course attended in satisfaction of this Order must be pre-approved by the Board or its designee. Licensee shall be responsible for locating course(s) satisfactory to the Board and for obtaining the required approval

of the courses from the Board or its designee. Licensee must take and pass any exam offered for the course(s).

- b. Licensee 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 education requirements that have been or may be instituted by the Board or Department.

3. Request for approval of courses and proof of successful course completion shall be sent by Licensee to the Department Monitor at the address below:

Department Monitor
Division of Legal Services and Compliance
P.O. Box 7190, Madison, WI 53707-7190
Telephone (608) 267-3817; Fax (608) 266-2264
DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

- 4. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

by: 
A Member of the Board

11-9-17
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF :
 :
 : STIPULATION
LOUIS P. RALSTON, R.N., :
 :
 :
LICENSEE. :
 :

0005505

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 17 NUR 250

Licensee Louis P. Ralston, 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. Licensee consents to the resolution of this investigation by Stipulation.

2. Licensee understands that by signing this Stipulation, Licensee voluntarily and knowingly waives the following rights:

- the right to a hearing on the allegations against Licensee, 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 Licensee;
- the right to call witnesses on Licensee's behalf and to compel their attendance by subpoena;
- the right to testify on Licensee'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 Licensee under the United States Constitution, the Wisconsin Constitution, the Wisconsin Statutes, the Wisconsin Administrative Code, and other provisions of state or federal law.

3. Licensee is aware of Licensee's right to seek legal representation and has been provided an opportunity to obtain legal counsel before signing this Stipulation.

4. Licensee 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. Licensee 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 Licensee, 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.

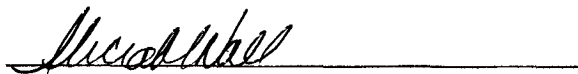
7. Licensee is informed that should the Board adopt this Stipulation, the Board's Final Decision and Order is a public record and will be published in accordance with standard Department procedure.

8. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Licensee in recommending the Board adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.



Louis P. Ralston, R.N., Licensee
2340 W. Carrington Avenue
Oak Creek, WI 53154
License No. 220429-30

10/12/17
Date



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

10/26/2017
Date