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 THE LICENSE OF

: FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

MOLLY M. CHRISTOFFERSON, LICENSEE.

FOR REMEDIAL EDUCATION

6005601

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 16 CPC 039

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

Molly M. Christofferson 8630 Stickney Avenue Wauwatosa, WI 53226

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. Licensee Molly M. Christofferson (dob November 27, 1974) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin to practice professional counseling, in-training, having license number 2641-226, first issued on August 11, 2015 and current through August 11, 2019. Licensee holds an expired license to practice substance abuse counseling, in training, having license number 16866-130, first issued on April 5, 2013, and expired on February 28, 2017. Licensee's most recent

address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 8630 Stickney Avenue, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin 53226.

- 2. Licensee was employed as a professional counselor in-training and substance abuse counselor in-training, at a clinic (the clinic), located in West Bend, Wisconsin, from October 2014, until March 2016.
 - 3. Licensee began providing counseling services to Patient A in October 2014.
- 4. While Licensee was providing therapy to Patient A, Licensee gave her personal cell phone number to Patient A.
 - 5. Licensee terminated therapy with Patient A in late 2015.
 - 6. Licensee maintained contact with Patient A outside of the therapeutic setting.
- 7. In April 2016, Licensee began working at a fast-food restaurant, after being solicited for help by Patient A, who was a supervisor at the restaurant.
- 8. Approximately four (4) months later, Licensee was terminated from the restaurant based on an allegation of theft. Licensee was issued a municipal ordinance citation for theft, but denies the theft.
- 9. Licensee continued to have contact with Patient A after Licensee was terminated from the restaurant.
- 10. In resolution of this matter, Licensee 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).

ORDER

- 1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
- 2. Within six (6) months of the date of this Order, Molly M. Christofferson shall at her own expense take and successfully complete six (6) hours of education on the topic of professional boundaries as follows:
 - a. Each course attended in satisfaction of this Order must be pre-approved by the Section or its designee. Licensee shall be responsible for locating course(s) satisfactory to the Section and for obtaining the required approval of the courses

from the Section 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.
- 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.
- 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
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

4. 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 EXAMENING BOARD

DEC : 2017

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF

STIPULATION F SAFETY SOLD USSIGNAL SERVI

MOLLY M. CHRISTOFFERSON, LICENSEE.

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 16 CPC 039

Licensee Molly M. Christofferson 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 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. Licensee 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 Licensee'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. Licensee 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 Services and Compliance joins Licensee in recommending the Section adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

Molly M. Christofferson, Licenses

8630 Stickney Avenue Wauwatosa, WI 53226 License no. 2641-226 Date

Alicia M. Nall, Attorney

Department of Safety and Professional Services Division of Legal Services and Compliance

P.O. Box 7190

Madison, WI 53707-7190