

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF

WILLIAM S. CARPENTER, M.D.,  
LICENSEE.

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FINAL DECISION AND ORDER  
FOR REMEDIAL EDUCATION

**00058 13**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 18 MED 039

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

William S. Carpenter, M.D.  
Marshfield Clinic – Park Falls Center  
50 Sherry Avenue  
P.O. Box 190  
Park Falls, WI 54552

Wisconsin Medical 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 Medical 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. Licensee William S. Carpenter, M.D., (DOB December 13, 1950) is licensed by the State of Wisconsin to practice medicine and surgery, having license number 32646-20, first issued on September 25, 1991, with registration current through October 31, 2019. Licensee's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is Marshfield Clinic – Park Falls Center, 50 Sherry Avenue, P.O. Box 190, Park Falls, Wisconsin 54552.

2. Licensee is board certified in Internal Medicine and Emergency Medicine and has no prior disciplinary history with the Board.<sup>1</sup>

3. Licensee became the subject of a Department investigation, DLSC Case No. 18 MED 039, after the Department received a complaint alleging Licensee inappropriately touched a female patient after a procedure during which he lanced a boil near the patient's groin.

4. The lancing procedure was conducted with a female medical assistant present, but Licensee left and then returned to the examination room to give discharge instructions, at which time the assistant was no longer present.

5. The patient alleged that, while giving discharge instructions, Licensee unnecessarily touched her vaginal area while indicating when the patient should return if swelling or redness extended into her groin.

6. Licensee denies any inappropriate touching or intent.

7. At his employer's direction, Licensee underwent an evaluation with a psychiatrist who is the chair of his employer's physician health committee. The psychiatrist prepared a report which was provided to the Department and stated her opinion that no further training or assessment was indicated.

8. Licensee has historically used chaperones for sensitive examinations of female patients. The arrangement was not unique to his practice and was informal. However, since the allegation giving rise to this matter, Licensee and his employer have entered into a formal chaperone agreement, a copy of which was provided to the Department.

9. The agreement requires a chaperone present during all examinations of female patients from neck to knee, and that the name of the chaperone shall be documented in the medical record.

10. The agreement states it is a condition of Licensee's continued employment, and that failure to comply with it will result in disciplinary action.

11. Licensee consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

#### CONCLUSION OF LAW

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

#### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

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<sup>1</sup> Licensee was also licensed to practice medicine in Nebraska from 1980-2016 and has no disciplinary history there.

2. Within six (6) months of the date of this Order, William S. Carpenter, M.D., shall at his own expense successfully complete ten (10) credits of continuing medical education on the topic of physician-patient boundaries via a course(s) that has/have been pre-approved by the Board or its designee.

3. 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 continuing education requirements that have been or may be instituted by the Board or Department.

4. Requests for course approval 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

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

WISCONSIN MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

by:

  
A Member of the Board

Date

7/11/18

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF

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STIPULATION

WILLIAM S. CARPENTER, M.D.,  
LICENSEE.

0005813

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 18 MED 039

Licensee William S. Carpenter, M.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. 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 Medical 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. 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 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.

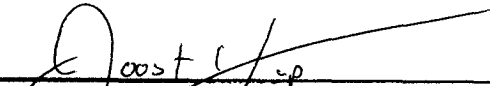
6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance and any member of the Board ever assigned as an advisor in this investigation may appear before the Board in open or closed session, without the presence of Licensee, for purposes 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.

  
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William S. Carpenter, M.D., Licensee  
Marshfield Clinic - Park Falls Center  
50 Sherry Avenue  
P.O. Box 190  
Park Falls, WI 54552  
License no. 32646-20

6-1-18  
Date

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

6/1/18  
Date