

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE PSYCHOLOGY EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

MARIE M. MILLER-CHRISTENSEN, PSY. D.,
RESPONDENT.

:
:
: FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
: **0005853**
:

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 16 PSY 034

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

Marie M. Miller-Christensen, Psy. D.
1501 Albert St.
Racine, WI 53404

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 Marie M. Miller-Christensen, Psy. D. (dob December 4, 1976) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin to practice psychology, having license number 2831-57, first issued on October 8, 2009, and current through September 30, 2019. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 1501 Albert Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53404.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a psychologist at a secure facility, located in Racine, Wisconsin.

3. In the course of her work as a psychologist, Respondent was responsible for generating clinical notes for inmates and sometimes Respondent used a template method to carry information forward from one inmate's notes to another.

4. Respondent's supervisor had previously directed Respondent on six (6) occasions to discontinue using the template.

5. In July 2016, a psychologist supervisor discovered that Respondent had cut and pasted a mental status examination from Inmate B's notes onto the notes of Inmate A. Additional inaccuracies were later discovered, including that there were two different names in a clinical note, and that information was carried forward in the remainder of the notes that were documented for thirteen visits between 2009 and 2010, perceived discrepancies between client report narratives and mental status exams, and failure to individualize individual notes as well as group notes.

6. Respondent admitted to continuing the use of the template, after being told to discontinue this practice.

7. An audit of Respondent's charts began in July 2016, and revealed five (5) inmate files that did not have the observation follow ups documented on a Clinical Contact Note Form # 3473.

8. Respondent acknowledged that the observation follow up was not documented on a Clinical Contact Note Form # 3473. Respondent recognizes the importance of accurate documentation and has completed an online education course called "Record Keeping for Practitioners".

9. Respondent has also read many articles on writing, the value of proper documentation and ways to improve her overall work.

10. 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, Marie M. Miller-Christensen, Psy. D., engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § Psy 5.01(33), by failing to maintain adequate records relating to services provided to a client in the course of a professional relationship.

3. As a result of the above violations, Marie M. Miller-Christensen, Psy. D., is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 455.09(1)(g).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
2. Respondent Marie M. Miller-Christensen, Psy. D., is REPRIMANDED.
3. The license to practice psychology issued to Marie M. Miller-Christensen, Psy. D., (license number 2831-57) is LIMITED as follows:
 - a. Within one hundred eighty (180) days of the date of this Order, Respondent shall successfully complete six (6) hours of education if taken in person or twelve (12) hours of education if taken online, on the topic of record keeping or documentation and six (6) hours of education if taken in person or twelve (12) hours of education if taken online, on the topic of time management for professionals, offered by a provider pre-approved by the Board'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 Board or Department, and also may not be used in future attempts to upgrade a credential in Wisconsin.
 - d. This limitation shall be removed from Respondent's license after satisfying the Board or its designee that Respondent has successfully completed all of the ordered education.
4. Within one hundred eighty (180) days from the date of this Order, Marie M. Miller-Christensen, Psy. D., shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$972.12.
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. In the event that Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's license (no. 2831-57) 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.

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

WISCONSIN PSYCHOLOGY EXAMINING BOARD

by: *Daniel Aschwell*
A Member of the Board

8.21.2018
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE PSYCHOLOGY EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

MARIE M. MILLER-CHRISTENSEN, PSY.D.
RESPONDENT.

STIPULATION

0005853

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 16 PSY 034

Respondent Marie M. Miller-Christensen, Psy. 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 Christina Katt.

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, 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



Marie M. Miller-Christensen, Psy. D., Respondent
1501 Albert St.
Racine, WI 53404
License No. 2831-57

07.09.18
Date



Christina Katt, Attorney for Respondent
Wilson Elser Moskowitz & Dicker LLP
740 N. Plankinton Avenue, Suite 600
Milwaukee, WI 53203

7/10/18
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

7/10/18
Date