

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE AUCTIONEER BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

DOUGLAS A. FERRIS,  
RESPONDENT.

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FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

**0005917**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 17 AUC 007

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

Douglas A. Ferris  
1145 County Highway SS  
Chetek, WI 54728

Wisconsin Auctioneer 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 Wisconsin Auctioneer 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 Douglas A. Ferris (DOB April 9, 1959), is registered by the State of Wisconsin as an Auctioneer, having registration number 90-52, first issued on March 1, 1995 and current through December 14, 2018. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 1145 County Highway SS, Chetek, Wisconsin 54728.

2. On January 23, 2013, the Board reprimanded Respondent and ordered he pay a \$1,000 forfeiture for violating Wis. Stat. §§ 480.14(1),(3)(a) and (b), and Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 124.02.

3. On March 8, 2016, the Board reprimanded Respondent and ordered he pay a \$1,000 forfeiture for violating Wis. Admin. Code §§ SPS 124.02(1), (3), and (4).

4. On June 15, 2017, the Department received a complaint regarding Respondent's auctioneer practice and advertising.

5. On June 19, 2017, the Department sent a letter to Respondent notifying him of the complaint and requesting a response no later than July 3, 2017. No response was received.

6. On August 21, 2017, the Department opened Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 17 AUC 007 for investigation.

7. On August 22, 2017, the Department sent a letter to Respondent which requested a response by September 15, 2017. Respondent responded on October 13, 2017.

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

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Auctioneer Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 480.24, 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, Respondent violated Wis. Stat. § 440.20(5) by failing to respond to a request made by the Department within 30 days.

3. As a result of the above violation, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 480.24(2) and 440.20.

#### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. The Auctioneer registration of Respondent Douglas A. Ferris (number 90-52) is hereby SUSPENDED for a period of 5 calendar days, beginning 7 calendar days after the date of this Order.

3. Respondent Douglas A. Ferris shall, within 90 days after the date of this Order, pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$568.00.

4. Payment of costs shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services and 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

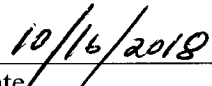
P.O. Box 7190, Madison, WI 53707-7190  
Telephone (608) 267-3817; Fax (608) 266-2264  
DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

5. In the event Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's registration (number 90-52), or Respondent's right to renew his registration, 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.

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

WISCONSIN AUCTIONEER BOARD

by:   
A Member of the Board

  
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE AUCTIONEER BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

DOUGLAS A. FERRIS,  
RESPONDENT.

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STIPULATION

**0005917**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 17 AUC 007

Respondent Douglas A. Ferris 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.

4. Respondent agrees to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Wisconsin Auctioneer 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.

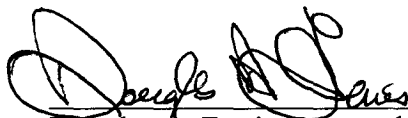
5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Board, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the Division

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 Order.



Douglas A. Ferris, Respondent  
1145 County Highway SS  
Chetek, WI 54728  
Registration no. 90-52

5-7-18  
Date



Renee M. Parton, Attorney  
Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
P.O. Box 7190  
Madison, WI 53707-7190

5/14/2018  
Date