

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

SAMANTHA L. CASTRO, S.A.C.-I.T.,
RESPONDENT.

:
:
: FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
:
:

0005988

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 17 RSA 004

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

Samantha L. Castro, S.A.C.-I.T.
310 W. Scott Street
Fond du Lac, WI 54937

Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services
P.O. Box 8368
Madison, WI 53708-8368

Division of Legal Services and Compliance
Wisconsin 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 Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department). The Department has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Department adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Samantha L. Castro, S.A.C.-I.T., (DOB November 23, 1980) is certified in the state of Wisconsin to practice as a substance abuse counselor-in-training, having certification number 17635-130, first issued on November 12, 2015. This credential expired on February 28, 2017, and has not been renewed. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.08(3), and Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 165.01(1), Respondent retains the right to renew upon payment of fee until February 27, 2022. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Department is 310 W. Scott Street, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin 54937.

2. Between May 24, 2016, and December 1, 2016, Respondent was employed as a substance abuse counselor-in-training at a treatment center (the Center) located in Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

3. On three (3) occasions between June 20, 2016, and September 2, 2016, Respondent left the Center before her work day was concluded, without making arrangements to cancel or reschedule clients that were scheduled to be seen on the dates in question.

4. In or around October 2016, Respondent's supervisor completed a review of forty (40) of Respondent's case files and found serious delinquencies. In multiple files, treatment plan updates, 90-day staffing reviews, annual paperwork, and physicals were overdue.

5. On approximately October 12, 2016, Respondent spoke about her personal sexual experiences in circumstances such that a client overheard the remarks.

6. Respondent denies all wrong-doing. She explains that she had significant health problems during the period at issue.

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

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.88, 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, Samantha L. Castro, S.A.C.-I.T., engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 164.01(2)(t), by failing to maintain adequate records relating to services provided a patient in the course of a professional relationship.

3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Samantha L. Castro, S.A.C.-I.T., engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 164.01(2)(v), by engaging in a single act of gross negligence or in a pattern of negligence as a substance abuse professional.

4. As a result of the violations noted in the Conclusions of Law, Respondent Samantha L. Castro, S.A.C.-I.T., is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.88(6).

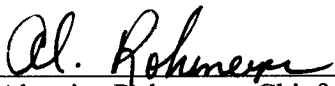
ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. The permanent SURRENDER of the right to renew the certificate to practice as a substance abuse counselor-in- training issued to Samantha L. Castro, S.A.C.-I.T., (certificate no. 17635-130) is accepted.

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

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

By: 
Aloysius Rohmeyer, Chief Counsel
On Behalf of the Department

12-17-18
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

RECEIVED

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

SAMANTHA L. CASTRO, S.A.C.I.T.,
RESPONDENT.

:
:
: STIPULATION

DEC 14 2018

0005988

DEPT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
DIV OF LEGAL SERVICES AND COMPLIANCE

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 17 RSA 004

Respondent Samantha L. Castro, S.A.C.I.T. 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 Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department). 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 Department's Order, if adopted in the form as attached.

5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Department, 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 Department, the parties agree not to contend that the Department has been prejudiced or biased in any manner by the consideration of this attempted resolution.

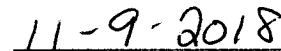
6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance may appear before the Department, without the presence of Respondent, for purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that the Department may have in connection with deliberations on the Stipulation.

7. Respondent is informed that should the Department adopt this Stipulation, the Department'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 that the Department adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.



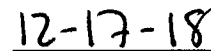
Samantha L. Castro, Respondent
118 E. Merrill Ave #2
Fond Du Lac, WI 54935
Certificate no. 17635-130



Date



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



Date