

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

LAUREN M. DECHANT, R.N.,
RESPONDENT.

:
:
: FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
:
:

0006100

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 17 NUR 443

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

Lauren M. DeChant, R.N.
1630 Rockland Drive
Austin, TX 78748

Wisconsin Board of Nursing
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 Board of Nursing (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 Lauren M. DeChant, R.N., (DOB: June 10, 1987) is licensed in the State of Wisconsin as a registered nurse, having license number 186780-30, first issued on February 17, 2012, and current through February 28, 2020. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 10001 South 1st Street, Apartment 1234, Austin, Texas 78748.

2. Upon information and belief, Respondent current address is 1630 Rockland Drive, Austin, Texas 78748.

3. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a registered nurse at a residential center (the Center), located in Scottsdale, Arizona.

4. On November 21, 2016, Respondent was working the morning shift at the Center.

5. There were no patients present at the Center during her shift.

6. The lead nurse at the Center informed Respondent, during her shift, that she needed to end her shift and report for a drug and alcohol test.

7. Respondent provided a urine sample, which tested positive for alcohol.

8. Respondent admitted to going out to her car and drinking wine at numerous times during her shift.

9. Respondent was terminated from her position at the Center.

10. On April 17, 2017, Respondent stipulated to an alternative to discipline program with the Arizona Board of Nursing (AZBON). As part of the program, Respondent was not allowed to continue practicing nursing until approved by the AZBON.

11. On May 17, 2017, Respondent admitted to a relapse in November 2016.

12. On August 15, 27, and 30, 2018, Respondent tested positive on a random drug test for an "unauthorized substance."

13. On September 4, 2018, Respondent admitted to the AZBON that she had another relapse.

14. On September 24, 2018, Respondent requested to voluntarily surrender her Arizona license.

15. On October 23, 2018, the AZBON accepted the surrender.

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

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Board of Nursing has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07, 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, Lauren M. DeChant, R.N., violated Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(1)(b), by having a license to practice nursing or a nurse licensure compact privilege to practice denied, revoked, suspended, limited, or having the credential holder otherwise disciplined in another state, territory, or country.

3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Lauren M. DeChant, R.N., violated Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(6)(f), by being unable to practice safely by reason of alcohol or other substance use.

4. As a result of the above conduct, Lauren M. DeChant, R.N., is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07(1g)(b) and (d).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. The SURRENDER of the license and privilege of Lauren M. DeChant, R.N., (license no. 186780-30) to practice nursing in the State of Wisconsin or under another state license pursuant to the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact is hereby accepted.

3. Respondent shall not petition the Board of Nursing for reinstatement for at least one (1) year from the date of this Order. After the one (1) year period, Respondent may or may not be granted reinstatement, but may petition for reinstatement.

4. In the event Respondent petitions the Board for reinstatement of her license to practice professional nursing in the state of Wisconsin or applies for another credential with the Department, Respondent shall pay the costs of this matter in the amount of \$ 399.00, before any application is considered.

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

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

By: Samela Kuchta
A Member of the Board

3/14/19
Date

RECEIVED

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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY & PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES & COMPLIANCE

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

LAUREN M. DECHANT, R.N.,
RESPONDENT.

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:
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:
:

STIPULATION

0006100

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 17 NUR 443

Respondent Lauren M. DeChant, R.N., 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 Board of Nursing (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.

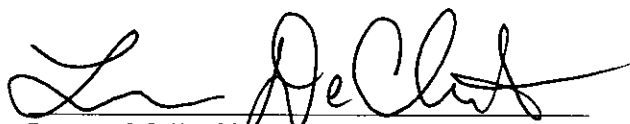
5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Board, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the Division

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.



Lauren M. DeChant, Respondent
1630 Rockland Drive
Austin, TX 78748
License no. 186780-30

2/18/19
Date



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

3/4/19
Date

