#### WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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#### STATE OF WISCONSIN

# BEFORE THE SOCIAL WORKER SECTION OF THE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING, AND SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

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#### Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 17 SOC 013

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

Michaele L. Shipway, L.C.S.W. 824 Broadway Ave. Wausau, WI 54403

Social Worker Section of the Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Work 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 Social Worker Section of the Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Work Examining Board (Section). The Section has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Section in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Michaele L. Shipway, L.C.S.W., (DOB 06/11/1958) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin to practice social work, having license number 305-123, first granted on August 3, 1993, and current through February 28, 2019. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 824 Broadway Avenue, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403. There have been no prior disciplinary actions against the Respondent.

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2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a licensed clinical social worker at a counseling center (Center) located in Wausau, Wisconsin.

3. On or about May 10, 2016, Patient A completed an intake interview and evaluation at the Center.

4. Respondent reviewed the intake interview and evaluation and diagnosed Patient A with Intermittent Explosive Disorder (I.E.D.).

5. In her response to the present complaint, Respondent stated that, as Patient A's treatment progressed, it became clear that Patient A's symptoms were not related to P.T.S.D. or a traumatic brain injury and that the diagnosis of I.E.D. was appropriate.

6. On or about October 8, 2016, Patient B, Patient A's wife, spoke with Respondent and asked that she change Patient A's diagnosis as Patient B believed that the correct diagnosis should be a traumatic brain injury and P.T.S.D.

7. Patient B was concerned that Patient A's diagnosis of I.E.D. would affect the Wisconsin Board of Nursing's decision to grant a nursing license to Patient A.

8. Respondent consulted with two co-facilitators at the Center about whether amending Patient A's diagnosis was appropriate. Respondent also believed that Patient B's opinion was important as she is a licensed professional counselor.

9. Respondent did not create an amended diagnosis for Patient A. Instead, Respondent revised the original assessment and saved the new assessment over the original document.

10. In her response to the present complaint, Respondent stated that the original document was modified, and not amended, to prevent the first diagnosis of I.E.D. from negatively affecting Patient A's ability to become a licensed nurse. Respondent believed that if she had amended the diagnosis, the Wisconsin Board of Nursing would still see the original diagnosis.

11. After replacing the original assessment with the new assessment, Respondent called Patient B, advised Patient B of the modification of the original assessment, and asked Patient B to return Patient A's original intake assessment so that it could be replaced with the new assessment.

12. Respondent believed her actions were in the best interest of Patient A.

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

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Social Worker Section of the Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Work Examining Board is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

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2. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Michaele L. Shipway, L.C.S.W., violated Wis. Admin. Code § 20.02(7).

3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Michaele L. Shipway, L.C.S.W., violated Wis. Admin. Code § 20.02(22).

4. As a result of the above violations, Michaele L. Shipway, L.C.S.W., is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26(2)(f).

#### <u>ORDER</u>

- 1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
- 2. Respondent Michaele L. Shipway, L.C.S.W., is REPRIMANDED.

3. The license to practice social work in the state of Wisconsin issued to Michaele L. Shipway, L.C.S.W., (license number 305-123) is LIMITED as follows:

- a. Within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order, Respondent shall successfully complete three (3) hours of education on the topic of ethics and three (3) hours of education on the topic of documentation.
- b. Each course attended in satisfaction of this Order must be pre-approved by the Section or its designee. Respondent shall be responsible for locating course(s) satisfactory to the Section and for obtaining the required approval of the courses from the Section or its designee. Respondent must take and pass any exam offered for the course(s).
- c. Respondent 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.
- d. 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 Section or Department.

4. Within 120 days from the date of this Order, Michaele Shipway, L.C.S.W., shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$1,697.29.

5. Payment of costs (made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services), request for approval of courses, and proof of successful course completion 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

You may also submit this information online via DSPS' Monitoring Case Management System, here:

#### https://app.wi.gov/DSPSMonitoring

6. In the event Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's license (305-123), or Respondent's right to renew her license, 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.

SOCIAL WORKER SECTION OF THE WISCONSIN MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING, AND SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

by:

A Member of the Section

7/23/ Date

Date

#### STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE SOCIAL WORKER SECTION OF THE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING, AND SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

#### IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

#### MICHAELE L. SHIPWAY, L.C.S.W., RESPONDENT.

#### STIPULATION

### ORDER 0006316

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 17 SOC 013

Respondent Michaele L. Shipway, L.C.S.W. 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 Frederick Strampe.

4. Respondent agrees to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Social Worker Section of the Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Work Examining Board (Section). 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 Section's order, if adopted in the form as attached.

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

The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the 6. Division of Legal Services and Compliance and any member of the Section ever assigned as an advisor in this investigation may appear before the Section in open or closed session, without the presence of Respondent or Respondent's attorney, for purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that any member of the Section may have in connection with deliberations on the Stipulation. Additionally, any such advisor may vote on whether the Section should accept this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

Respondent is informed that should the Section adopt this Stipulation, the 7. Section's Final Decision and Order is a public record and will be published in accordance with standard Department procedure.

The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondent in 8. recommending the Section adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

Michaele L. Shipway, L.C.S.W., Despondent

824 Broadway Ave. Wausau, WI 54403 License no. 305-123

Frederick Strampe, Attorney for Respondent Borgelt Powell Peterson & Frauen, S.C. 1243 N. 10th St., Ste 300 Milwaukee, WI 53205

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

2/11/2019 Date

2-12.19

Date

2-13-19 Date

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