# 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

: FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

BRENT T. HASSEMER, R.N., RESPONDENT.

ORDER 0006533

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 18 NUR 212

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

Brent T. Hassemer, R.N. 18508 Highway Q Bloomer, WI 54724

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 Brent T. Hassemer, R.N., (DOB May 29, 1968) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a registered nurse, having license number 113926-30, first issued on September 24, 1993, and current through February 28, 2020. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 18508 Highway O, Bloomer, Wisconsin 54724.
- 2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a registered nurse at a Hospital (Hospital).

- 3. On February 16, 2018, the Hospital's Human Resources Representative received an email from Nurse A, stating that on February 14, 2018, Respondent left a rose and anonymous note in the breast pocket of her flight suit.
- 4. Nurse A reported she had received numerous text messages from Respondent for years. She also reported that he would rub her neck, moving her shoulders to reach forward and touch her breast.
- 5. On February 19, 2018, a sexual harassment complaint was filed by Nurse B alleging she had endured the inappropriate behavior by Respondent for ten (10) years. Such behavior included trapping her in corners of rooms, hugging her from behind, rubbing her side/breast area, rubbing her butt and shoulders, kissing her head, smelling her hair, and whispering in her ear.
- 6. Nurse B also stated that Respondent would stare at her frequently and stated he would do anything for her, calling her his "work wife."
- 7. On February 20, 2018, Human Resources had a meeting with Respondent regarding the allegations. While Respondent admitted to leaving a rose in Nurse A's flight suit and calling Nurse B his "work wife," he denied that his intentions were inappropriate.
- 8. On March 13, 2018, Human Resources had a follow-up meeting with Respondent to question him about his computer usage at work as he had been searching "sexy woman wanted", "sexy panties", "sexy woman wanted for adult", "sexting phone sex", and "sexy funn playfull [sic] couple". Respondent replied he searched to "see what's out there" but he does not act on it because it's "more of a curiosity than anything."
  - 9. On March 13, 2018, Respondent was terminated from the Hospital.
- 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 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, Brent T. Hassesmer, R.N., violated Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(4)(d), by engaging in repeated or significant disruptive behavior or interaction with health care personnel, patients, family members, or others that interferes with patient care or could reasonably be expected to adversely impact the quality of care rendered.
- 3. As a result of the above conduct, Brent T. Hassemer, R.N., is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07(1g)(b) and (d).

#### **ORDER**

- 1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
- 2. Respondent Brent T. Hassemer, R.N., is REPRIMANDED.
- 3. The registered nurse license issued to Brent T. Hassemer, R.N., (license number 113926-30) and his privilege to practice in Wisconsin pursuant to the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact (Compact), are LIMITED as follows:
  - a. Within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order, Respondent shall at his own expense, successfully complete four (4) hours of education on the topic of professional accountability and three (3) hours of education on the topic of ethics and professionalism 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 education in the form of verification from the institution providing the education to the Department Monitor at the address stated below. 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.
  - c. 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. Pursuant to Compact regulations, Respondent's nursing practice is limited to Wisconsin during the pendency of this limitation.
- 5. Within 120 days from the date of this Order, Brent T. Hassemer, R.N., shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$903.00.
- 6. 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

<u>DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov</u>

You may also submit this information online via the Department's Monitoring Case

Management System at

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

- 7. In the event Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's license (113926-30), or Respondent's right to renew his 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.
  - 8. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

by:		11/14/19
-	A Member of the Board	Date

OCT 25 2019

## STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

PERT OF SAMELY & PERCESSIONAL SERVICES LOW OF LEGAL SERVICES & COMPLIANCE

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

STIPULATION

BRENT T. HASSEMER, R.N., RESPONDENT.

ORDER 0006533

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 18 NUR 212

Respondent Brent T. Hassemer, 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.

10/28/2019

Brent T. Hassemer, R.N., Respondent

18508 Hwy Q Bloomer, WI 54724

License no. 113926-30

Alicia M. Kennedy, Attorney

Department of Safety and Professional Services

Division of Legal Services and Compliance

P.O. Box 7190

Madison WI 53707-7190