

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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The status of an appeal may be found on court access websites at:

<http://ccap.courts.state.wi.us/InternetCourtAccess> and <http://www.courts.state.wi.us/wscga>

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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

CONNER A. RUOSCH, R.N.,
RESPONDENT.

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:

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

ORDER 0006576

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 19 NUR 013

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

Conner A. Ruosch, R.N.
3023 Maple Valley Dr., #301
Madison, WI 53719

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 Conner A. Ruosch, R.N., (DOB March 4, 1994) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a registered nurse, having license number 228622-30, first issued on June 8, 2016 and current through February 28, 2020. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 3023 Maple Valley Drive, Apartment 301, Madison, Wisconsin 53719.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a registered nurse at a hospital (Hospital), located in Madison, Wisconsin.

3. On January 10, 2019, Respondent was interviewed by staff of the Hospital due to concern with his controlled substance administration practice.

4. During the interview, Respondent did not admit to diverting any medications from the Hospital and stated he never documented a medication as administered when it was not given. He attributed his higher dispensing of controlled substances to medicating more patients than his peers.

5. Respondent denied having issues with substance abuse.

6. Following the interview, Respondent was given a fitness for practice urine drug screen.

7. While Respondent was completing the urine drug screen, Respondent's backpack was searched, and many items were discovered: used and unused needles, tablets and packaging of controlled medications, vial caps consistent with Hospital packaging, and a syringe containing a clear liquid. With the exception of the syringe containing the clear liquid, an officer from the UW Police Department was given custody of the backpack's contents.

8. The syringe with the clear liquid was sent to the UW Health toxicology lab which confirmed the liquid was fentanyl.

9. On January 23, 2019, the results of the urine drug screen were forwarded to the Hospital and found to be positive for fentanyl.

10. Respondent has since voluntarily sought treatment by an Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (AODA) counselor and has been diagnosed with a substance abuse disorder.

11. Respondent entered into an impairment program, separate from this Order, and signed the impairment program contract on September 16, 2019.

12. 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, Conner A. Ruosch, R.N., violated Wis. Admin Code § N 7.03(8)(e), by obtaining, possessing, or attempting to obtain or possess a drug without lawful authority.

3. As a result of the above conduct, Conner A. Ruosch, 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 registered nursing license issued to Respondent Conner A. Ruosch, R.N., (license number 228622-30) is SUSPENDED for fourteen (14) days. This suspension will be in effect from December 13, 2019 through December 26, 2019 (inclusive).
3. The credential to practice registered nursing issued to Respondent Conner A. Ruosch, R.N., (license number 228622-30) is LIMITED as follows:
 - a. Respondent Conner A. Ruosch, R.N., must comply with the impairment program contract, dated September 16, 2019.
 - b. Any violation of the terms of the impairment program contract, dated September 16, 2019, is a violation of this Order.
 - c. Respondent may petition for termination of the limitation upon successful completion of the impairment program.
4. In the event Respondent is unsuccessfully discharged from the impairment program, Respondent's license may, in the discretion of the Board or its designee, be immediately suspended. In addition to, or instead of, the suspension, the Board may impose additional limitations to address any concerns with the conduct surrounding the Findings of Fact and Respondent's unsuccessful discharge from the impairment program.
5. Within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, Conner A. Ruosch, R.N., shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$720.00.
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:

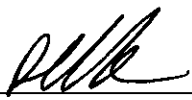
Department Monitor
Division of Legal Services and Compliance
Department of Safety and Professional Services
P.O. Box 7190, Madison, WI 53707-7190
Telephone (608) 267-3817; Fax (608) 266-2264
DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

You may also submit this information online via the Department's Monitoring Case Management System at:

<https://app.wi.gov/DSPSMonitoring>

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

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

By: 
A Member of the Board

12/12/19
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

CONNER A. RUOSCH, R.N.,
RESPONDENT.

STIPULATION

ORDER 0006576•

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 19 NUR 013

Respondent Conner A. Ruosch, 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. Respondent is represented by Attorney Mario Mendoza.
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.

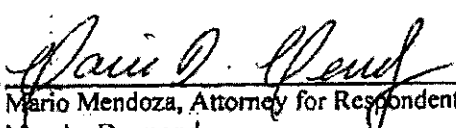
6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance and any member of the Board ever assigned as an advisor in this investigation may appear before the Board in open or closed session, without the presence of Respondent or Respondent's attorney, 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.

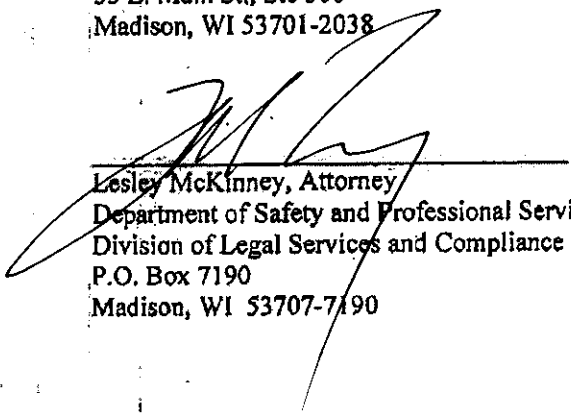
8. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondent in recommending the Board adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.


Conner A. Ruosch, R.N., Respondent
3023 Maple Valley Dr. #301
Madison, WI 53719
License no. 228622-30

Date 11/4/19


Mario Mendoza, Attorney for Respondent
Murphy Desmond
33 E. Main St., Ste 500
Madison, WI 53701-2038

Date 11/6/19


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

Date 11/7/19