

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

BILLIE A. LAWLER, R.N., A.P.N.P.,  
RESPONDENT.

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FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

**ORDER 0006578**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 18 NUR 278

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

Billie A. Lawler, R.N., A.P.N.P.  
3620 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kenosha, WI 53144

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 Billie A. Lawler, R.N., A.P.N.P., (DOB November 29, 1958) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin as an advanced practice nurse prescriber, having license number 1488-33, first issued on October 5, 1999, and current through September 30, 2020. Respondent is licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a registered nurse, having license number 77611-30, first issued on August 29, 1980, and current through February 28, 2020. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 3620 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Kenosha, Wisconsin 53144.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as an advanced practice nurse prescriber at a hospital (Hospital), located in Racine, Wisconsin.

3. On May 13, 2018, Respondent self-reported to the Department that she issued prescriptions to friends and family members for controlled substances without conducting an examination of said patients in a clinic setting. These prescriptions included, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. On December 29, 2017, Respondent wrote a prescription of Adderall® 20 mg with instructions to take the medication by mouth, two times a day. The prescription contained sixty tablets and was non-refillable.
- b. On March 1, 2018, Respondent wrote a prescription of Adderall® 30 mg with instructions to take the medication by mouth, two times a day. The prescription contained sixty tablets and was non-refillable.
- c. On March 31, 2018, Respondent wrote a prescription of Adderall® 30 mg with instructions to take the medication by mouth, two times a day. The prescription contained sixty tablets and was non-refillable.

4. In January of 2019, Respondent completed eighteen credits on opioid safety and responsible prescribing as follows: Responsible and Effective Opioid Prescribing, taken on January 9, 2019, three (3) credits; and Optimizing Opioid Safety and Efficacy, taken on January 14, 2019, fifteen (15) credits.

5. Respondent has represented to the Department that she did not directly benefit from the issuance of said prescriptions and that her intent was to assist friends and family members who did not have insurance or access to care. Respondent has represented to the Department that she has not prescribed to an individual without seeing them for an office visit since April of 2018.

6. 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, Billie A. Lawler, R.N., A.P.N.P., violated Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(6)(a), by failing to perform nursing with reasonable skill and safety.

3. As a result of the above conduct, Billie A. Lawler, R.N., A.P.N.P., is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07(1g)(b) and (d).

#### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. Respondent Billie A. Lawler, R.N., A.P.N.P., is REPRIMANDED.

3. The Respondent's ability to practice as an advanced practice nurse prescriber in the state of Wisconsin, and her privilege to practice in Wisconsin pursuant to the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact (Compact), is LIMITED for the period of at least one (1) year from the date of this order as follows:

- a. Respondent shall provide a copy of this Final Decision and Order and all other subsequent orders immediately to supervisory personnel at all settings where Respondent works as a nurse or care giver or provides health care, currently or in the future. Respondent shall provide Respondent's nursing employer with a copy of this Order before engaging in, or continuing to engage in, any nursing employment. Respondent shall provide the Department Monitor with written acknowledgment from each nursing employer that a copy of this Order has been received. Such acknowledgment shall be provided to the Department Monitor within fourteen (14) days of beginning new employment and/or within fourteen (14) days of the date of this Order for employment current as of the date of this Order.
- b. It is Respondent's responsibility to arrange for quarterly written reports to be submitted to the Department Monitor from her supervisor at each setting in which Respondent practiced nursing in the previous quarter. These reports shall be submitted as directed by the Department Monitor, and shall assess Respondent's work performance, including Respondent's prescribing practice, and shall include the number of hours of active nursing practice worked during that quarter. If a report indicates poor performance, the Board may institute additional limitations on Respondent's nursing license, or may suspend Respondent's nursing license(s), in its discretion.
- c. Respondent shall report to the Board any change of employment status, residence, address or telephone number within five (5) days of the date of change.
- d. For employment beginning for Respondent after the date of this Order, such work setting must be preapproved by the Board.

4. Pursuant to the Compact, Respondent may not practice in a Compact state, other than Wisconsin, during the pendency of this limitation(s).

5. Within 120 days from the date of this Order, Billie A. Lawler, R.N., A.P.N.P., shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$1,286.00.

6. Payment of costs shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services and sent 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](mailto:DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov)

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


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

7. In the event Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's licenses (77611-30 and 1488-33), or Respondent's right to renew her licenses, 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:

  
A Member of the Board

12/12/19  
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

BILLIE A. LAWLER, R.N., A.P.N.P.,  
RESPONDENT.

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STIPULATION

ORDER 0006578

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 18 NUR 278

Respondent Billie A. Lawler, R.N., A.P.N.P., 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 Kristen Nelson.

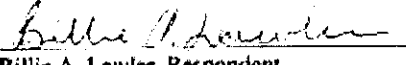
4. Respondent agrees to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Wisconsin Board of Nursing (Board). The parties to the Stipulation consent to the entry of the attached Final Decision and Order without further notice, pleading, appearance or consent of the parties. Respondent waives 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.

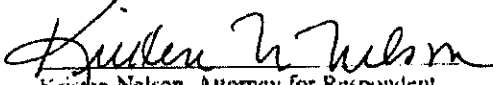
6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance and any member of the Board ever assigned as an advisor in this investigation may appear before the Board in open or closed session, without the presence of Respondent or Respondent's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

  
Billie A. Lawler, Respondent  
3620 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kenosha, WI 53144  
License nos. 1488-33 and 77611-30

11-19-2019  
Date

  
Kristen Nelson, Attorney for Respondent  
Gimbel, Reilly, Guerin, Brown, LLP  
330 E. Kilbourn Avenue, Suite 1170  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

11/20/19  
Date

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

11/20/2019  
Date