

## 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

KATHRYN A. COFFIN, R.N.,  
RESPONDENT.

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FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

**ORDER 0006800**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case Nos. 18 NUR 711, 19 NUR 095, 19 NUR 498,  
and 19 NUR 645

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

Kathryn A. Coffin, R.N.  
Menomonie, Wisconsin 54751

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 Kathryn A. Coffin, R.N., (DOB XX/XX/1974) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a registered nurse, having license number 137614-30, first issued on March 1, 2001, and expired on February 29, 2020. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.08(3), Respondent retains the right to renew upon payment of a fee until February 28, 2025.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a registered nurse at health care facilities located in the states of Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

3. On September 6, 2018, Respondent entered into an Agreement for Corrective Action with the Minnesota Board of Nursing in resolution of claims, previously unreported to the

Board, of improper narcotic documentation, administration, and destruction while working as a registered nurse in Minnesota.

4. Respondent is currently the subject of investigation in four (4) cases opened by the Division of Legal Services and Compliance (Division).

18 NUR 711

5. Between July 31 and October 1, 2018, while working at a clinic in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, Respondent allegedly dispensed narcotics to patients without orders, failed to document administration of medications to patients, and dispensed medications to patients to which she was not assigned.

6. Respondent submitted to a urine drug screen on October 5, 2018, that was positive for a metabolite of a controlled substance for which she did not have a prescription.

19 NUR 095

7. On April 1, 2019, while working at a hospital in Iowa, Respondent allegedly dispensed a controlled substance for a patient without an order and diverted the controlled substance for personal use.

8. On January 15, 2020, Respondent entered into a Settlement Agreement and Final Order with the Iowa Board of Nursing in case no. 19-143 wherein Respondent's privilege to practice nursing in Iowa was indefinitely suspended.

19 NUR 498

9. Between August 5, 2019 and September 12, 2019, while working at a hospital in New Richmond, Wisconsin, Respondent allegedly diverted controlled substances for personal use.

19 NUR 645

10. On October 11, 2019, while working at a medical center in Osceola, Wisconsin, Respondent allegedly administered a controlled substance to a patient without an order.

11. Respondent denies the allegations above, but to avoid the uncertainty and expense of litigation, Respondent agrees to the entrance of the following Conclusion of Law and Order.

CONCLUSION OF LAW

1. The Board 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).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. Respondent's VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of the right to renew her license (license no. 137614-30) and privilege under another state license pursuant to the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact to practice nursing in the state of Wisconsin are hereby accepted.

3. Respondent shall not petition the Board 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, under the following conditions:

- a. Respondent shall have, at her own expense, undergone a fitness to practice evaluation with a pre-approved psychiatrist or psychologist (Evaluator) experienced in conducting fitness to practice evaluations:
  - i. The Evaluator performing the evaluation must not have previously treated Respondent and shall have been approved by the Board or its designee prior to the evaluation being performed; and
  - ii. Within fifteen (15) days of the completion of the assessment, a written report regarding the results of the assessment shall be submitted to the Department Monitor at the address below. The report shall address whether Respondent suffers from any condition(s) that may interfere with his or her ability to practice safely and, if so, shall provide any recommended limitations for safe practice.
- b. Prior to evaluation, Respondent shall provide a copy of this Final Decision and Order to the Evaluator.
- c. Respondent shall execute necessary documents authorizing the Division to obtain records of evaluation, and to discuss Respondent and her case with the Evaluator. Respondent shall execute all releases necessary to permit disclosure of the final evaluation report to the Board or its designee. Certified copies of the final evaluation report shall be admissible in any future proceeding before the Board.
- d. Respondent shall identify and provide the Evaluator with authorizations to communicate with all physicians, mental health professionals, and facilities at which Respondent has been treated or evaluated.
- e. Respondent shall comply with any and all reasonable requests by the Evaluator for purposes of scheduling and completing the evaluation, including additional testing the examiner deems helpful. Any lack of reasonable and timely cooperation, as determined by the examiner, may constitute a violation of an order of the Board.
- g. Respondent is responsible for timely payment of the costs of the examination. Payment shall be made directly to the Evaluator.

- h. Respondent must provide proof sufficient to convince the Board that Respondent is able to practice with reasonable skill and safety of patients and the public and does not suffer from any condition which prevents Respondent from practicing in that manner.
  - i. If the Board determines that Respondent is fit to practice, the Board may nonetheless limit Respondent's license in a manner to address any concerns the Board has as a result of the conduct set out in the Findings of Fact and to address any recommendations resulting from the assessment, including, but not limited to:
    - i. Psychotherapy, at Respondent's expense, by a therapist approved by the Board or its designee, to address specific treatment goals, with periodic reports to the Board by the therapist.
    - ii. Additional professional education in any identified areas of deficiency.
    - iii. Restrictions on the nature of practice or practice setting or requirements for supervision of practice, by a professional approved by the Board, with quarterly reports to the Board by the supervisor.
  - j. If the Board determines that Respondent is not fit to practice, the Board may deny Respondent's reinstatement until Respondent provides proof sufficient to convince the Board that Respondent is able to practice with reasonable skill and safety of patients and the public and does not suffer from any condition which prevents Respondent from practicing in that manner. In the alternative, the Board may limit Respondent's license in a manner to address any concerns the Board has as a result of the conduct set out in the Findings of Fact and to address any recommendations resulting from the assessment, including, but not limited to:
    - i. Psychotherapy, at Respondent's expense, by a therapist approved by the Board or its designee, to address specific treatment goals, with quarterly reports to the Board by the therapist.
    - ii. Additional professional education in any identified areas of deficiency.
    - iii. Restrictions on the nature of practice or practice setting or requirements for supervision of practice, by a professional approved by the Board, with periodic reports to the Board by the supervisor.
4. In the event Respondent petitions the Board for reinstatement of his or her license to practice 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 \$886.00, before any application is considered.

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

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

by: Peter Kallio  
A Member of the Board

5/14/2020  
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

KATHRYN A. COFFIN, R.N.,  
RESPONDENT.

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STIPULATION

**ORDER 0006800**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case Nos. 18 NUR 711, 19 NUR 095, 19 NUR 498,  
and 19 NUR 645

Respondent Kathryn A. Coffin, 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 Michael Cohen.

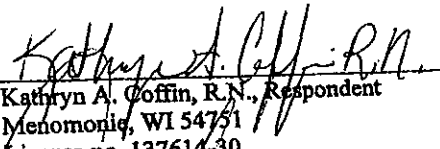
4. Respondent agrees to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by  
the Wisconsin Board of Nursing (Board). The parties to the Stipulation consent to the entry of  
the attached Final Decision and Order without further notice, pleading, appearance or consent of  
the parties. Respondent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

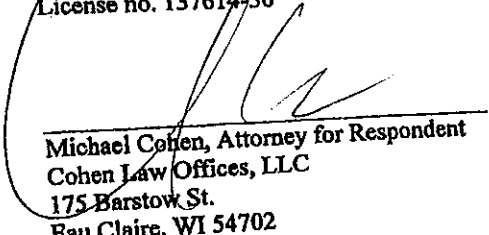
6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance and any member of the Board over assigned as an advisor in this investigation may appear before the Board in open or closed session, without the presence of Respondent or Respondent's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

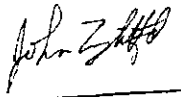
8. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondent in recommending the Board adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

  
Kathryn A. Coffin, R.N., Respondent  
Menomonee, WI 54751  
License no. 137614-30

4-28-2020  
Date

  
Michael Cohen, Attorney for Respondent  
Cohen Law Offices, LLC  
175 Barstow St.  
Eau Claire, WI 54702

4-29-2020  
Date

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

04/29/2020  
Date