# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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## STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE REAL ESTATE EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY

PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

RHONDA ELLENBERGER, RESPONDENT.

ORDER 0006851

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 18 REB 125

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

Rhonda Ellenberger Neenah, WI 54956

Wisconsin Real Estate 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 Wisconsin Real Estate Examining Board (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 Rhonda Ellenberger (DOB xx/xx/1972) is licensed by the State of Wisconsin as a real estate salesperson, having license number 83419-94, first issued on February 3, 2017 and current through December 14, 2020. Respondent Ellenberger's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is located in Neenah, Wisconsin 54956.
- 2. On November 10, 2018, the Department received a complaint alleging that Respondent acted unethically during a real estate transaction. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance (DLSC) subsequently opened Case Number 18 REB 125 for investigation.

- 3. On October 6, 2018, Respondent Ellenberger drafted a WB-11 Residential Offer to Purchase and failed to strike "Agent of Seller/Listing Broker" and "Agent of Buyer and Seller", on line 2.
- 4. On October 7, 2018, Respondent drafted a WB-41 Notice Relating to Offer to Purchase and failed to strike either "Buyer" or "Seller" on line 1.
- 5. In resolution of this matter, Respondent consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Wisconsin Real Estate Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 452.14, 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, Respondent violated Wis. Stat. § 452.133(1)(b) by failing to provide brokerage services with reasonable skill and care pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 452.133(4m)(a).
- 3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent violated Wis. Admin. Code § REEB 16.06(8) by failing to use approved forms and prepare addenda in such a manner as to adequately accomplish the contractual instruction of the person for whom the licensee uses the forms and prepares the addenda.
- 4. As a result of the above violations, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 452.14(3)(L) and (4m)(b).

#### ORDER

- 1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
- 2. Respondent Rhonda Ellenberger is REPRIMANDED.
- 3. The real estate salesperson license (number 83419-94) issued to Rhonda Ellenberger is LIMITED as follows:
  - a. Within 90 days from the date of this Order, Respondent Ellenberger shall successfully complete one remedial education course on the topic of approved forms offered by a provider pre-approved by the Board's monitoring liaison, including taking and passing any exam(s) offered for the course(s).
  - b. Respondent Ellenberger shall submit proof of successful completion of the ordered 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.

- 4. Within 90 days from the date of this Order, Respondent Ellenberger shall pay the COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$747.
- 5. Requests for pre-approval, proof of successful course completion, and payment of costs, made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services, shall be 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

This information may also be submitted online via DSPS' Monitoring Case Management System at: https://app.wi.gov/DSPSMonitoring.

- 6. In the event Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's license (number 83419-94), 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.

WISCONSIN REAL ESTATE EXAMINING BOARD

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by:	Thomas Richiel &	6/18/2020
	A Member of the Board	Date



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# STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE REAL ESTATE EXAMINING BOARD

DIV LEGAL SERVICES & COMPLIANCE DEPT SAFETY & PROFESSIONAL BERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

STIPULATION

RHONDA ELLENBERGER, RESPONDENT.

ORDER 0006851

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 18 REB 125

Respondent Rhonda Ellenberger 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 Real Estate Examining Board (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.

Thord Ellertuger	
Rhonda Ellenberger, Respondent	
Neenah, WI 54956	

Credential No. 83419-94

5/15/20

Date

Zachery Hetfield, Attorney
Division of Legal Services and Compliance
P.O. Box 7190
Madison, WI 53707-7190