

## 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/wscqa>

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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

AMBER E. FALLS, C.S.A.C., I.C.S.,  
RESPONDENT.

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: FINAL DECISION AND ORDER  
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**ORDER 0006862**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 18 RSA 015

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

Amber E. Falls, C.S.A.C., I.C.S.  
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services  
P.O. Box 8368  
Madison, WI 53708-8368

Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
Wisconsin 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 Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department). The Department has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Department adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Amber E. Falls, C.S.A.C., I.C.S. (DOB XX-XX-1976) is certified in the state of Wisconsin as a clinical substance abuse counselor, having certification number 15313-132, first granted on September 29, 2008 and current through February 28, 2021. Respondent is certified in the state of Wisconsin as an intermediate clinical supervisor, having certification number 15404-134, first granted on January 3, 2013. This certification expired on February 28, 2019 and has not been renewed. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.08(3), Respondent retains the right to renew upon payment of a fee until February 29, 2024.

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2. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin 54729.

3. At all times relevant to this matter, Respondent was employed as Clinic Director at a treatment center in Madison, Wisconsin (Facility).

4. The Department received a complaint that Respondent allegedly stole patient payments from the Facility.

5. In the course of the Department's investigation, Respondent was asked to provide proof she complied with the continuing education (CE) requirements for the 2017-2018 credentialing period.

6. In February 2019, Respondent renewed her clinical substance abuse counselor license and certified she completed 30 hours of board-approved CE during the previous biennium, including at least four (4) hours in professional ethics and boundaries, pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code, Ch. SPS 168.

7. Respondent submitted evidence of completing only four (4) hours of CE during the 2017-2018 biennium and, therefore, failed to demonstrate compliance with the CE requirements for that period.

8. In resolution of this matter, Respondent consents to entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.88, 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 engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined in Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 164.01(2)(b), by violating any law or rule substantially related to practice as a substance abuse professional.

3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent violated Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 168.01(1), which requires a substance abuse counselor or prevention specialist to complete 30 continuing education credit hours in approved continuing education programs during each 2-year credential period and certify on the renewal application that all required continuing education was completed.

4. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent violated Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 168.01(2), which requires that a minimum of 4 continuing education credit hours of the required 30 credit hours be in the area of professional ethics and boundaries.

5. As a result of the violations noted in the Conclusions of Law, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.88(6).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
2. Respondent is hereby REPRIMANDED.
3. Within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$1,300.00.
4. Payment of costs shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services and sent by Respondent to the Department Monitor at the address below:

Department Monitor  
Department of Safety and Professional Services  
Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
4822 Madison Yards Way  
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 DSPS' Monitoring Case Management System, here: <https://dpsmonitoring.wi.gov>.

5. In the event Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's clinical substance abuse counselor license (No. 15313-132), and Respondent's right to renew her intermediate clinical supervisor license (No. 15404-134), may, in the discretion of the Department or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of the Order. The Department 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.
6. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

By: Alo. Rohmeyer  
Aloysius Rohmeyer, Chief Counsel  
On Behalf of the Department

8-11-2020  
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

AMBER E. FALLS, C.S.A.C., I.C.S.,  
RESPONDENT.

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STIPULATION

**ORDER 0006862**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 18 RSA 015

Respondent Amber E. Falls, C.S.A.C., I.C.S., and the Division of Legal Services and Compliance, Department of Safety and Professional Services stipulate as follows:

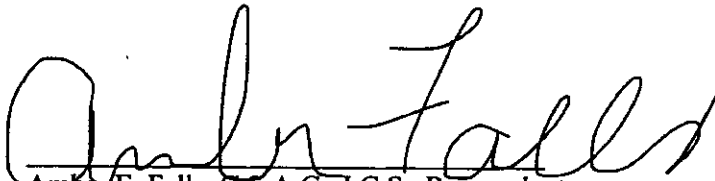
1. This Stipulation is entered into as a result of a pending investigation by the Division of Legal Services and Compliance. Respondent consents to the resolution of this investigation by Stipulation.
2. Respondent understands that by signing this Stipulation, Respondent voluntarily and knowingly waives 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 Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department). 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 Department's Order, if adopted in the form as attached.
5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Department, 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 Department, the parties agree not to contend that the Department 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 may appear before the Department, without the presence of Respondent, for purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that the Department may have in connection with deliberations on the Stipulation.

7. Respondent is informed that should the Department adopt this Stipulation, the Department'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 that the Department adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.



Amber E. Falls, C.S.A.C., I.C.S., Respondent  
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729  
Certificate Nos. 15313-132 and 15404-134

07/17/2020

Date



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

07/17/2020

Date