

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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

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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

ANN R. KARVELAS, R.N.,  
RESPONDENT.

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FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

**ORDER 0006933**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 18 NUR 489

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

Ann R. Karvelas, R.N.  
Franklin, WI 53132

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 Ann R. Karvelas, R.N., (DOB XX-XX-1965) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a registered nurse, having license number 126992-30, first issued on July 28, 1997, and current through February 29, 2020. Applicant timely submitted a renewal application. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Franklin, Wisconsin 53132.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a private-duty registered nurse in Wisconsin.

3. On August 14, 2017, the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHS) received a complaint from the mother of a

private-duty nursing patient, Patient A, alleging that Respondent billed for services not rendered. Based on these allegations, OIG conducted an audit of Respondent.

4. The OIG audit reviewed Respondent's billing claims for Patient A from June 7, 2017 through August 22, 2017. The findings of the audit included:

- i. The respondent billed for six dates when no service was rendered for Patient A.
- ii. Services were not compliant with physician orders.
- iii. There were no documentation of medication administration records or treatment administration records.
- iv. There was no emergency plan for the ventilator-dependent patient.

5. On December 12, 2018, as a result of the OIG findings, Respondent was adjudicated guilty in Dane County Circuit Court case number 2018CF1638 of three counts of Theft by False Representation <=\$2500, a misdemeanor, in violation of Wis. Stat. § 943.20(1)(d). She received a withheld sentence of 1 year of probation, 250 hours of community service, and a prohibition against personally billing Medicaid for private nursing services.

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, Respondent violated Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(4)(b), by obtaining compensation by fraud, misrepresentation, deceit, duress, or undue influence in the course of nursing practice

3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent violated Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(5)(c), by engaging in abusive or fraudulent billing practices, including violations of federal Medicare and Medicaid laws or state laws.

7. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent violated Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(5)(d), by submitting false claims.

5. As a result of the above conduct, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07(1g)(b).

#### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. The license of Respondent (license number 126992-30) to practice nursing in the state of Wisconsin is **SUSPENDED** for ninety (90) days from the date of this Order.

3. The license of Respondent (license number 126992-30) to practice nursing in the state of Wisconsin is LIMITED as follows:

- a. Within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order, Respondent shall at her own expense, successfully complete eight (8) hours of education on the topic of ethics offered by a provider pre-approved by the Board's monitoring liaison, including taking and passing any exam offered for the courses.
- b. Respondent shall submit proof of successful completion of the 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.
- c. The Board's monitoring liaison may change the number of credit hours and/or education topics in response to a request from Respondent. The monitoring liaison may consider the topic availability and/or hours of education when determining if a change to the ordered education should occur.
- d. This limitation shall be removed from Respondent's license after satisfying the Board or its designee that Respondent has successfully completed all of the ordered education.

4. Within 120 days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$503.00.

5. 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](mailto:DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov)

Or they may be submitted online via the Department's Monitoring Case Management System at:

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

7. In the event Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's license (126992-30), 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.

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

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

by:

Peter Kallio  
A Member of the Board

8/13/2020

Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

ANN R. KARVELAS, R.N.,  
RESPONDENT.

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STIPULATION

**ORDER 0006933**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 18 NUR 489

Respondent Ann R. Karvelas, 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.

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.

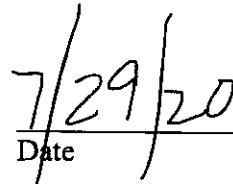
6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance and any member of the Board ever assigned as an advisor in this investigation may appear before the Board in open or closed session, without the presence of Respondent or Respondent's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



Ann R. Karvelas, R.N., Respondent  
Franklin, WI 53132  
License no. 126992-30



Date



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

7/29/2020

Date