WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services Access to the Public Records of the Reports of Decisions

This Reports of Decisions document was retrieved from the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services website. These records are open to public view under Wisconsin's Open Records law, sections 19.31-19.39 Wisconsin Statutes.

Please read this agreement prior to viewing the Decision:

• The Reports of Decisions is designed to contain copies of all orders issued by credentialing authorities within the Department of Safety and Professional Services from November, 1998 to the present. In addition, many but not all orders for the time period between 1977 and November, 1998 are posted. Not all orders issued by a credentialing authority constitute a formal disciplinary action.

• Reports of Decisions contains information as it exists at a specific point in time in the Department of Safety and Professional Services data base. Because this data base changes constantly, the Department is not responsible for subsequent entries that update, correct or delete data. The Department is not responsible for notifying prior requesters of updates, modifications, corrections or deletions. All users have the responsibility to determine whether information obtained from this site is still accurate, current and complete.

• There may be discrepancies between the online copies and the original document. Original documents should be consulted as the definitive representation of the order's content. Copies of original orders may be obtained by mailing requests to the Department of Safety and Professional Services, PO Box 8935, Madison, WI 53708-8935. The Department charges copying fees. *All requests must cite the case number, the date of the order, and respondent's name* as it appears on the order.

• Reported decisions may have an appeal pending, and discipline may be stayed during the appeal. Information about the current status of a credential issued by the Department of Safety and Professional Services is shown on the Department's Web Site under "License Lookup."

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/wscca

•Records not open to public inspection by statute are not contained on this website.

By viewing this document, you have read the above and agree to the use of the Reports of Decisions subject to the above terms, and that you understand the limitations of this on-line database.

Correcting information on the DSPS website: An individual who believes that information on the website is inaccurate may contact <u>DSPS@wisconsin.gov</u>

STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE ACCOUNTING EXAMINING BOARD

	:	
IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY	:	
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST	:	
	:	FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
CORINNE T. THOMPSON,	:	
RESPONDENT.	:	URDERUUD6964

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 18 ACC 018

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

Corinne T. Thompson Anoka, MN 55303-7335

Wisconsin Accounting 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 Accounting 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 Corinne T. Thompson (Birth Year 1981), is certified and licensed by the State of Wisconsin as a certified public accountant, having certification and license number 21199-1, first issued on December 28, 2006 and expired on December 15, 2019. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Anoka, Minnesota 55303-7335.

2. On April 27, 2018, the Department received a complaint from the Brooklyn Center Police Department in Minnesota. The complaint alleged that Respondent had transferred or attempted to transfer \$326,403.52 from her former employer for her personal use. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance (DLSC) subsequently opened DLSC Case No. 18 ACC 018 for investigation.

3. On December 13, 2018, the Brooklyn Center Police Department emailed the Department that criminal charges had been filed against Respondent and attached a copy of the criminal complaint. The criminal complaint filed with the Hennepin County District Court in Minnesota alleged the following:

a. In 2016, Respondent became the Financial Controller and Certified Public Accountant at her former employer's main office in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota.

b. Respondent's former employer was notified that Respondent attempted to wire \$195,647.85 on or around January 28, 2018.

c. Shortly after Respondent's former employer was notified of the attempted transfer, the employer confronted Respondent. Respondent admitted to attempting to take the money for personal uses but stated that she was going to return it. Respondent was terminated from her job that day.

d. An audit of the former employer's account showed that Respondent made eight payments totaling \$166,198.77 from the company account to Respondent's personal American Express account and sent a company check of \$14,556.89 to American Education Services to pay for her personal loans.

e. The total amount Respondent transferred or attempted to transfer was \$326,403.85.

4. On May 2, 2019, Respondent was convicted of three felony counts of Theft by Swindle in violation of Minnesota Stat. § 609.52.2(a)(4) in Hennepin County District Court in Minnesota. Respondent was sentenced to one year and one day in confinement, which was stayed for five years, and five years of monitoring. Respondent was to serve 60 days in local confinement each year between 2019-2023, except 2019, when Respondent was allowed electronic home monitoring.

5. Between July 2018 and February 2020, the Department sent multiple correspondences to Respondent by email, regular mail, and certified mail at her email and physical address of record. Respondent did not reply to any of these correspondences.

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 Accounting Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 442.12, 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 Corinne T. Thompson violated Wis. Admin. Code § Accy 1.401(1) by committing acts discreditable to the profession pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § Accy 1.401(2)(e), conviction of a crime the

2

circumstances of which substantially related to the practice of accounting is an act discreditable to the profession in violation of this section.

3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent Corinne T. Thompson is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § Accy 4.101(2) by knowingly making misleading, deceptive, or untrue representations in the performance of services.

4. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent Corinne T. Thompson is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § Accy 4.101(8) by engaging in conduct reflecting adversely upon licensee's fitness to perform services.

5. As a result of the above, Respondent Corinne T. Thompson is also subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. 442.12(1)(b).

<u>ORDER</u>

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. The VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of Respondent Corinne T. Thompson's right to renew her certified public accountant license and certificate (number 21199-1) is ACCEPTED.

3. This surrender constitutes Respondent Corinne T. Thompson's permanent relinquishment of her Wisconsin certified public accountant certificate and license and her right to practice certified public accounting in the state of Wisconsin. The Board will not, at any time in the future, process or otherwise consider an application or attempt at renewal by Respondent of credentials necessary to practice certified public accounting in the state of Wisconsin.

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

WISCONSIN ACCOUNTING EXAMINING BOARD

by:

9/2/2020

Date

A Member of the Board

STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE ACCOUNTING EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST	
CORINNE T. THOMPSON.	STIPULATION
RESPONDENT.	URDER UUD6964

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 18 ACC 018

Respondent Corinne T. Thompson 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 Accounting 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.

Corinne T. Thompson, Respondent Anoka, MN 55303-7335 Credential No. 21199-1

Rense M. Parton

June 30, 2000

Renee M. Parton, Attorney Division of Legal Services and Compliance P.O. Box 7190 Madison, WI 53707-7190 7/1/2020 Date