

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE SOCIAL WORKER SECTION OF THE WISCONSIN MARRIAGE AND
FAMILY THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING, AND SOCIAL WORK
EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF A RENEWAL OF A
SOCIAL WORKER LICENSE

JESSICA LORUM,
APPLICANT.

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**ORDER GRANTING
LIMITED LICENSE**

ORDER 0007016

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

JESSICA LORUM
HALES CORNERS, WISCONSIN

SOCIAL WORKER SECTION OF THE WISCONSIN MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY,
PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING, AND SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD
P.O. BOX 7190
MADISON, WI 53707-7190

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. JESSICA LORUM (Applicant) has filed an application for renewal of her Wisconsin Social Worker credential (no. 12744-120). Such credential, first issued on July 31, 2018, was scheduled for renewal by February 28, 2019.
2. Applicant's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is located in Hales Corners, Wisconsin.
3. Information received in the application process reflects that the Applicant has the following conviction and discipline on her record:
 - A. On or about September 9, 2018, Applicant was convicted in Milwaukee County Circuit Court case number 18CF2795, of one (1) count of Misconduct/Office-Act/Excess Authority, a class I felony, in violation of Wis. Stat. § 946.12(2).
4. On or about March 13, 2020, Applicant was mailed a letter providing her with an opportunity to provide the Department with evidence of her rehabilitation and fitness to engage in the practice of a social worker, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 111.335(4)(c). Applicant did not submit any documentation.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Social Worker Section of the Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Work Examining Board (Board) has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 457.26, and 440.08(4)(a).

2. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26(2)(b) the Board “may reprimand a credential holder or deny, limit, suspend, or revoke a credential under this chapter if it finds that the applicant or credential holder has done any of the following:...(b) Subject to ss. 111.321, 111.322, and 111.335, been convicted of an offense the circumstances of which substantially relate to the practice of social work...” A substantial relationship occurs where “the tendencies and inclinations to behave a certain way in a particular context are likely to reappear later in a related context, based on the traits revealed.” *County of Milwaukee v. Labor & Industry Review Comm’n*, 139 Wis. 2d 805, 824 (1987). The crux of the inquiry is the circumstances which foster criminal activity, e.g., the opportunity for criminal behavior, the reaction to responsibility, or the character traits of the person. *Id.* Your conviction history calls into question your current competency to transact the business of social work in a manner that protects the public.

3. The facts and circumstances surrounding the above-referenced conviction record substantially relate to the practice of a social worker. Applicant has been convicted in Milwaukee County Circuit court, for Misconduct/Office-Act/Excess Authority, a felony conviction. While employed as a probation agent and public employee, Applicant abused her position of power by engaging in a relationship with a supervisee. This relationship created a conflict of interest, inappropriate dual relationship, and was forbidden by law in Applicant’s official capacity as a public employee. Applicant engaged in sexual contact, sexual conduct, or any other behavior which could reasonably be construed as seductive with a supervisee. According to Probation/Parole Officer, as of February 2019, Applicant has reported for every scheduled office visit and were present for her schedule home visit. Applicant has made herself available for all supervision requirements. Applicant has paid all court obligations in full and made advance payments on her supervision fees. Applicant has completed approximately 20 hours of her required 80 hours of community service.

Applicant’s conviction and violation substantially relate to the practice of social work. At this time, Applicant has failed to show competent evidence of sufficient rehabilitation and fitness to practice as a social worker without limitations, particularly in light of the pattern of behavior and convictions as described above.

4. Limitations upon Applicant’s credential are necessary to protect the public health, safety or welfare, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.08(4).

5. Applicant, by her conduct, is subject to limitations against her license, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 111.335(3)(a)1., 457.26(2)(b), and 440.08(4).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. Limitations upon Applicant's credential are necessary to ensure that she is fit and competent to practice as a social worker.

3. Applicant's application for a renewal of a social worker credential is granted subject to the following limitations.

4. For a period of at least two (2) years from the date of this Order:

- a. Applicant shall provide a copy of this Order and all other subsequent orders immediately to supervisory personnel at all settings where Applicant works as a social worker, currently or in the future. Applicant shall provide Applicant's employer with a copy of this Order before engaging in, or continuing to engage in, any social work employment. Applicant shall provide the Department Monitor with written acknowledgment from each nursing employer that a copy of this Order has been received. Such acknowledgment shall be provided to the Department Monitor within fourteen (14) days of beginning new employment and/or within fourteen (14) days of the date of this Order for employment current as of the date of this Order.
- b. It is Applicant's responsibility to arrange for quarterly written reports to be submitted to the Department Monitor from her supervisor at each setting in which Applicant practiced social work in the previous quarter. These reports shall be submitted as directed by the Department Monitor, and shall assess Applicant's work performance, and shall include the number of hours of active social work practice worked during that quarter. If a report indicates poor performance, the Board may institute additional limitations on Applicant's social work license, or may suspend Applicant's social work license(s), in its discretion.
- c. Applicant shall report to the Board any change of employment status, residence, address or telephone number within five (5) days of the date of change.
- d. Applicant shall commit no new violations of law and shall report all law enforcement contacts leading to arrest, charge or conviction, including DWI/OWI and municipal/ordinance violations, to the Department Monitor within forty-eight (48) hours of any such event, including any convictions resulting from pending charges.
- e. Applicant shall not work with male clients.

5. Within sixty (60) days of the date of this Order, Applicant shall, at her own expense, undergo a fitness for practice evaluation with a pre-approved psychiatrist or psychologist (Evaluator) who has not provided treatment to Applicant and is experienced in evaluating whether a health care professional is fit for practice:

- a. Prior to evaluation, Applicant shall provide a copy of this Final Decision and Order to the Evaluator.
- b. Applicant shall identify and provide the Evaluator with authorizations to communicate with all physicians, mental health professionals, and facilities at which Applicant has been treated or evaluated.
- c. Within fifteen (15) days of completion of the evaluation, 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 Applicant suffers from any condition(s) that may interfere with her ability to practice safely and competently and, if so, shall provide any recommended limitations for safe and competent practice.
- d. Applicant shall execute necessary documents authorizing the Department to obtain records of the evaluation, and to discuss Applicant and her case with the Evaluator. Applicant 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.
- e. If the Evaluator determines that Applicant is not fit for practice or is fit for practice with limitations, the Board or its designee may suspend Applicant's license until Applicant provides proof sufficient to convince the Board or its designee that Applicant is able to practice with reasonable skill and safety of patients and the public and does not suffer from any condition which prevents Applicant from practicing in that manner.
- f. If the Evaluator determines that Applicant is fit for practice or is fit for practice with limitations, the Board or its designee may limit Applicant's license in a manner to address any concerns the Board or its designee has as a result of the conduct set out in the Findings of Fact and to address any recommendations resulting from the evaluation, including, but not limited to:
 - i. Psychotherapy, at Applicant'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, practice setting, or requirements for supervision of practice by a professional approved by the Board, with periodic reports to the Board by the supervisor.
 - iv. Applicant is responsible for ensuring that the results of the evaluation are sent to the Department Monitor at the address below.

6. After the first year from the date of this Order, Applicant may petition the Board on an annual basis for a modification of the terms of this Order. After two (2) consecutive years of successful compliance, the Applicant may petition the Board for return of full licensure. The Board may grant or deny any petition, in its discretion, or may modify this Order as it sees fit.

7. Any requests, petitions, reports and other information required by this Order shall be mailed, e-mailed, faxed or delivered to:

DEPARTMENT MONITOR
Department of Safety and Professional Services
Division of Legal Services & Compliance
P.O. Box 7190, Madison, WI 53707-7190
Telephone: (608) 267-3817; Fax: (608) 266-2264
dpsmonitoring@wi.gov

You may also submit this information online via DSPS Monitoring Case management System here:
<https://dpsmonitoring.wi.gov>

8. In the event Applicant violates any term of this Order, Applicant's license, or Applicant's right to renew her license, may, in the discretion of the Board or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing. The Board or its designee may terminate the suspension if provided with sufficient information that Applicant is in compliance with the Order and that it is appropriate for the suspension to be terminated. Whether to terminate the suspension shall be wholly in the discretion of the Board or its designee. 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.

9. Applicant shall be responsible for all costs and expenses associated with compliance with the terms of this Order.

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

By: Candace Coates L.P. 9/16/2020
A Member of the Social Worker Section
of the Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy,
Professional Counseling, and Social Work Examining Board

APR 25 2020

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE SOCIAL WORKER SECTION OF THE WISCONSIN MARRIAGE AND
FAMILY THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING, AND SOCIAL WORK
EXAMINING BOARD

DIV LEGAL SERVICES & COMPLIANCE
DEPT SAFETY & PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF A RENEWAL OF
SOCIAL WORKER LICENSE

JESSICA LORUM,
APPLICANT.

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STIPULATION

ORDER 0007016

It is hereby stipulated between the above-referenced Applicant and the Social Worker Section of the Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Work Examining Board (Board) as follows:

1. The Applicant has filed an application to renew a Social Worker license.
2. Information received by the Board reflects a basis for denial of the renewal of licensure.
3. Based upon the information of record herein, the Board agrees to issue, and the Applicant agrees to accept, an Order granting a renewal of license, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the attached Order adopting the Stipulation.
4. Applicant understands that by signing this Stipulation, Applicant voluntarily and knowingly waives the following rights:
 - The right to request a hearing related to the denial of the application;
 - assuming a hearing takes place wherein the Applicant has the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence;
 - the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against Applicant;
 - the right to call witnesses on Applicant's behalf and to compel their attendance by subpoena;
 - the right to testify on Applicant'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 Applicant under the United States Constitution, the Wisconsin Constitution, the Wisconsin Statutes, the Wisconsin Administrative Code, and other provisions of state or federal law.
5. Applicant is aware of Applicant's right to seek legal representation and has been provided an opportunity to obtain legal counsel before signing this Stipulation.

6. Applicant agrees to the adoption of the attached Order Granting Limited License by the Board. The parties to the Stipulation consent to the entry of the attached Order Granting Limited License without further notice, appearance, or consent of the parties.

7. Applicant waives all rights to any appeal of the Board's Order, as adopted in the form as attached.

8. Applicant is informed that the Order Granting Limited License is a public record and will be published in accordance with standard procedure.

Jessica Lorum
Jessica Lorum Applicant
License no. 12744-120

8/21/2020
Date

Candace Carter LP
A Member of the Social Worker Section of the
Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional
Counseling, and Social Work Examining Board
Department of Safety and Professional Services
P.O. Box 7190
Madison, WI 53707-7190

9/16/2020
Date