WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE PHARMACY EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

CARL D. BELOW, R.PH., RESPONDENT.

ORDER 0007242

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 19 PHM 026

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

Carl D. Below, R.Ph. Waukesha, WI 53188

Wisconsin Pharmacy 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 Pharmacy 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 Carl D. Below, R.Ph., (DOB xx-xx-1960) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin to practice pharmacy, having license number 10572-40, first issued on June 27, 1984, and current through May 31, 2022. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Waukesha, Wisconsin 53188.
- 2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a pharmacist at a pharmacy located in Wales, Wisconsin (Pharmacy).
- 3. On January 9, 2019, the Pharmacy received a prescription for 45 methylphenidate 5mg tablets for Customer A from his physician.

- 4. When the methylphenidate 5mg stock bottle was pulled, it had insufficient quantity in it, so a stock bottle containing methadone 5mg was inadvertently pulled and counted.
- 5. On January 10, 2019, Respondent was the pharmacist of record who filled and sold the prescription to Customer A. Customer A's prescription was filled in two (2) separate vials: one vial of methylphenidate 5mg tablets and one vial of methylphenidate.
- 6. Respondent failed to make a final check of the accuracy and correctness of Customer A's prescription before filling it.
- 7. On February 3, 2019, the Pharmacy discovered the error, Customer A and his physician were notified, and Customer A was provided the correct prescription. Customer A had to be weaned off the methadone over a period of six days.
- 8. In resolution of this matter, Respondent consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Wisconsin Pharmacy Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 450.10(1), 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 § Phar 10.03(2), by engaging in any pharmacy practice which constitutes a danger to the health, welfare, or safety of patient or public, including but not limited to, practicing in a manner which substantially departs from the standard of care ordinarily exercised by a pharmacist which harmed or could have harmed a patient.
- 3. As a result of the above conduct, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stats. § 450.10(1)(b).

ORDER

- 1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
- 2. Respondent is REPRIMANDED.
- 3. Within 120 days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$500.00.
- 4. Payment of costs shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services and 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 <u>DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov</u>

Respondent may also submit this information online at: https://dspsmonitoring.wi.gov.

- 5. In the event Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's license (no. 10572-40), or Respondent's right to renew his 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.
 - 6. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

WISCONSIN PHARMACY	EXAMINING BOARD
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By:	Wut	4 March 2021
-	A Member of the Board	Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE PHARMACY EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

STIPULATION

CARL D. BELOW, R.PH., RESPONDENT.

ORDER 0007242

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 19 PHM 026

Respondent Carl D. Below, R.Ph., 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 Pharmacy 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.

Carl Bolow	02/11/2021	
Carl D. Below, R.Ph., Respondent	Date	
Waukesha, WI 53188		
License No. 10572-40		
M	02/11/2021	
Julie Zimmer, Prosecuting Attorney	Date	
Department of Safety and Professional Services		
Division of Legal Services and Compliance		
P.O. Box 7190		

Madison, WI 53707-7190