## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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# STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

LINDSEY A. STONE, S.A.C.-I.T., RESPONDENT.

ORDER 0007345

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 19 RSA 018

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

Lindsey A. Stone, S.A.C.-I.T. DePere, WI 54115

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. Lindsey A. Stone, S.A.C.-I.T. (Respondent), (Year of Birth 1990) is certified in the state of Wisconsin as a substance abuse counselor in-training, having certificate number 18487-130, first issued on February 13, 2018. Respondent's certification expired on March 19, 2021, 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 28, 2026.
- 2. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Department is in DePere, Wisconsin 54115.

- 3. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a substance abuse counselor in-training at a drug and alcohol treatment facility (Facility) located in Green Bay, Wisconsin.
- 4. The Facility served over 600 patients and had approximately fifteen (15) counselors on staff.
- 5. On May 1, 2019, Respondent became aware that the person with whom she had been in an intimate relationship for approximately one (1) month was also a patient (Patient A) at the Facility.
- 6. Respondent was not Patient A's counselor and she was not directly involved in Patient A's treatment.
- 7. The Facility's Employee Handbook defined "patient" as any individual who receives treatment at the Facility and/or any individual who has received treatment within the past two (2) years at the Facility. The Handbook stated that any previous non-professional, social, and/or sexual relationship between an employee and patient must be disclosed to the employee's supervisor immediately upon knowledge of the patient's acceptance or admission into the clinic. Respondent had acknowledged receipt of the Handbook by signature dated April 5, 2018.
- 8. On May 9, 2019, Respondent reported the relationship with Patient A to her supervisor and resigned her position with the Facility.
- 9. Between May 1 and May 9, 2019, Respondent knowingly engaged in an intimate relationship with Patient A and did not report this information to her supervisor.
  - 10. Respondent and Patient A continued their relationship and are currently married.
- 11. In resolution of this matter, Respondent consents to the 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 by Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 164.01(2)(n), by failing to avoid dual relationships or relationships that may impair the substance abuse professional's objectivity or create a conflict of interest.
- 3. 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 REPRIMANDED.
- 3. Respondent's right to renew her certificate to practice as a substance abuse counselor in-training (certificate no. 18487-130) is LIMITED as follows:
  - a. Prior to the Department or its designee acting upon Respondent's renewal application, Respondent shall successfully complete eight (8) hours of education on the topic of boundaries and dual relationships offered by a provider pre-approved by the Department's monitoring liaison, including taking and passing any exam offered for the courses.
  - b. Respondent shall submit proof of successful completion of the ordered education in the form of verification from the institution providing the education to the Department Monitor at the address stated below.
  - c. 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 Department, and also may not be used in future attempts to upgrade a credential in Wisconsin.
  - d. The Department may change the number of credit hours and/or education topics in response to a request from Respondent. The Department may consider the topic availability and/or hours of education when determining if a change to the ordered education should occur.
  - e. This limitation shall be removed from Respondent's right to renew her certificate after satisfying the Department or its designee that Respondent has successfully completed all of the ordered education.
- 4. Within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$1,294.00.
- 5. Request for approval of courses, proof of successful course completion and 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

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

- 6. In the event that Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's certificate (no. 18487-130) to practice as a substance abuse counselor in-training in the state of Wisconsin, or her right to renew that certificate, 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.
- 7. In the event that Respondent, at any time, applies with the Department for a certificate to practice as a substance abuse counselor, the Department may consider the facts and circumstances of this matter and Respondent's compliance with this Order when determining whether to issue a license to Respondent and/or whether to impose limitations on any such license.
  - 8. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

By: Aloysius Rohmeyer Chief Counse

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Aloysius Rohmeyer, Chief Counsel

On Behalf of the Department

## STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

STIPULATION

LINDSEY A. STONE, S.A.C.-I.T., RESPONDENT.

ORDER 0007343

### Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 19 RSA 018

Respondent Lindsey A. Stone, S.A.C.-I.T., 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 eyent that the Stipulation is not accepted by the Department, the parties agree not to contend that the has been prejudiced or blased in any manner by the consideration of this attempted resolution.

- 6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other egent 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 diestions that the Department may have in connection with deliberations on the Stipulation.
- 7. Respondent is informed that should the Department adopt this Slipulation 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 Supulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Onies.

Lindsey A. Stigne, S.A.C.-I.T. Respondent DePere, WI 54115

Certificate No. 18487-130

Carly & Berkiten

Carley Peich Kiesling, Prosecuting Attorney
Department of Safety and Professional Services
Division of Legal Services and Compliance
P.O. Box 7190
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