

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/wscga>

- 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 DSPS@wisconsin.gov

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

VIRGINIA M. BLISS, R.N.,
RESPONDENT.

:
:
:
:
:
:

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

ORDER 0007507

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 20 NUR 580

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

Virginia M. Bliss, R.N.
Beloit, WI 53511

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. Virginia M. Bliss R.N. (Respondent), (Year of Birth 1969) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a registered nurse, having license number 149251-30, first issued on January 11, 2005, and current through February 28, 2022. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Beloit, Wisconsin 53511.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a registered nurse at a facility (Facility), located in Beloit, Wisconsin.

3. On December 9, 2020, Respondent's supervisor confronted Respondent about suspected drug use while working at the Facility. Respondent initially denied any drug use. That

evening, Respondent called her supervisor to submit her immediate resignation and stated she was quitting nursing forever. Respondent's supervisor suggested going to counseling or participating in employee assistance instead of resigning, but Respondent declined. Respondent's resignation was not formally accepted at that time.

4. On December 14, 2020,¹ Respondent submitted to a drug screen. Respondent admitted to a coworker that the results would be positive,² and admitted to her supervisor that she had been diverting and using medication from work since November 2019. Respondent would take unused medication home with her for personal use instead of wasting it. The Facility's Omnicell records showed several medication errors indicating diversion of Dilaudid, lorazepam, and fentanyl.

5. Following this incident, Respondent took a leave of absence from her employment and began attending counseling and AA meetings to address her drug addiction. On February 16, 2021, Respondent retired from the Facility. Respondent is not currently employed as a nurse.

6. In resolution of this matter, Respondent consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board 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 was unable to practice safely by reason of substance use within the meaning of Wis. Admin Code § N 7.03(6)(f).

3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent dispensed any drug other than in the course of legitimate practice or as otherwise prohibited by law within the meaning of Wis. Admin Code § N 7.03(8)(b).

4. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent obtained a drug without lawful authority within the meaning of Wis. Admin Code § N 7.03(8)(e).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. The voluntary SURRENDER of the license and privilege of Respondent (license no. 149251-30) to practice nursing in the state of Wisconsin or under another state's license pursuant to the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact are hereby accepted.

3. In the event Respondent petitions the Board for reinstatement as a nurse in the future, the Board may enter an order denying such application without further notice or hearing.

¹ Respondent did not work between December 9 and December 14, 2020.

² The test results were confirmed negative on December 23, 2020.

Whether to grant a license and whether to impose any limitations or restrictions on any license granted shall be in the discretion of the Board.

4. In the event Respondent petitions the Board for reinstatement of her license to practice as a nurse in the state of Wisconsin in the future, or applies for another credential with the Department, Respondent shall pay the costs of this matter in the amount of \$612.00 before any application is considered.

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

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

By:



A Member of the Board

8/12/2021

Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

VIRGINIA M. BLISS, R.N.,
RESPONDENT.

:
:
:
:
:
:

STIPULATION
ORDER 0007507

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 20 NUR 580

Virginia M. Bliss, R.N. (Respondent), 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 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.

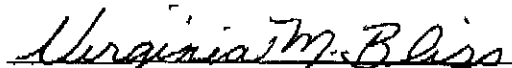
5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Board, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further proceedings. In the event that the Stipulation is not

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.

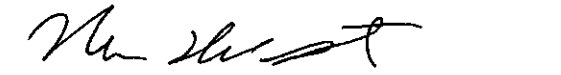
6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance and any member of the Board ever assigned as an advisor in this investigation may appear before the Board in open or closed session, without the presence of Respondent, for purposes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


Virginia M. Bliss, R.N., Respondent
Beloit, WI 53511
License No. 149251-30

6/7/21
Date


Nicholas Dalla Santa, Prosecuting Attorney
Department of Safety and Professional Services
Division of Legal Services and Compliance
P.O. Box 7190
Madison WI 53707-7190

June 17, 2021
Date