

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

CATHERINE L. HEDGES, L.P.N.,
RESPONDENT.

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:
:

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

ORDER 0007546

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 19 NUR 323

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

Catherine L. Hedges, L.P.N.
Hartford, WI 53027

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 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. Catherine L. Hedges, L.P.N. (Respondent), (Year of Birth 1955) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a licensed practical nurse, having license number 307007-31, first issued on February 22, 2006 and current through April 30, 2023. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Hartford, Wisconsin 53027.
2. At all times relevant to these proceedings, Respondent was employed as a licensed practical nurse at a facility in Cedarburg, Wisconsin (Facility).
3. On June 3, 2019, the Facility discovered Respondent's license had lapsed on April 30, 2017. The Facility suspended Respondent until she renewed her license.

4. Respondent renewed her license on June 4, 2019 and she is currently in good standing.

5. On March 23, 2021, Respondent emailed a response to the Department from her work email address stating that allowing her license to lapse was unintentional and that she was unaware that it had until the Facility informed her.

6. During the time her license was expired, Respondent wore an identification badge that stated "L.P.N." Additionally, "L.P.N." was appended to all of Respondent's electronic signatures in patient charts.

7. 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 held herself out as a licensed practical nurse and used the title or letters "Licensed Practical Nurse" or "L.P.N.", while her license was expired within the meaning of Wisconsin Stat. § 441.10(7).

3. As a result of the above conduct, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07(1g)(b).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. Respondent is REPRIMANDED.

3. Within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$253.00

4. Any requests, petitions, payments of costs (made payable to Department of Safety and Professional Services), and other information required by this Order shall be submitted to:

Department Monitor
Division of Legal Services and Compliance
Department of Safety and Professional Services
P.O. Box 7190, Madison, WI 53707-7190
Telephone (608) 266-2112; Fax (608) 266-2264
DPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

Respondent may also submit this information online at: <https://dpsmonitoring.wi.gov>

5. Should Respondent have a Wisconsin multistate license pursuant to the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact (Compact), Respondent may not practice in any Compact state, other than Wisconsin, while Respondent's license is encumbered by any term(s) of this Order.

6. In the event Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's license (307007-31), or Respondent's right to renew her 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.

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

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

By:



A Member of the Board of Nursing

8/12/2021

Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

CATHERINE L. HEDGES, L.P.N.,
RESPONDENT.

STIPULATION

ORDER 0007546

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 19 NUR 323

Catherine L. Hedges, L.P.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 Wisconsin 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.

Catherine L. Hedges L.P.N.
Catherine L. Hedges, L.P.N., Respondent
Hartford, WI 53027
License No. 307007-31

6-17-21
Date

Alicia Kennedy
Alicia Kennedy, Prosecuting Attorney
Division of Legal Services and Compliance
P.O. Box 7190
Madison, WI 53707-7190

6/21/21
Date