# 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

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

AUDRA A. ROBERTS, R.N., RESPONDENT.

ORDER 0007583

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 19 NUR 374

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

Audra A. Roberts, R.N. Madison, WI 53704

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. Audra A. Roberts, R.N. (Respondent), (Year of Birth 1981) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a registered nurse with multistate privileges pursuant to the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact (Compact), having license number 238171-30, first issued on October 2, 2017. Respondent's license expired on February 29, 2020 and has not been renewed. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.08(3), Respondent retains the right to renew her license upon payment of a fee until February 28, 2025.
- 2. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Department of Safety and Professional Services is located in Madison, Wisconsin 53704.

- 3. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a registered nurse at a mental health facility located in Madison, Wisconsin (Facility).
- 4. On April 18, 2019, Respondent was reminded by Facility supervisors not to touch patients unless completing a medical assessment.
- 5. On May 9, 2019, Respondent was reminded by Facility supervisors to maintain boundaries with patients.
- 6. On May 12, 2019, the Facility discovered that Respondent made physical contact with Patient A by feeding him popcorn.
  - 7. Respondent was placed on administrative leave pending a Facility investigation.
- 8. The Facility's investigation revealed that Respondent received numerous telephone calls from Patient A between March 31 and May 13, 2019.
- 9. The Facility also discovered security camera footage that shows Patient A lifting Respondent's sweater and touching her lower back on two separate occasions on May 11, 2019. This incident occurred in a common room with approximately twenty other patients and staff. Respondent indicates that she was wearing a loose-knit sweater with a shirt on underneath, and Patient A lifted her sweater in order to try to fix a snag in the yarn
  - 10. Respondent has resigned from the Facility.
  - 11. On August 6, 2021, Respondent completed the following NCSBN courses:
  - a. "Professional Boundaries in Nursing" for three (3) contact hours; and
  - b. "Righting a Wrong: Ethics & Professionalism in Nursing" for three (3) contact hours.
- 12. While Respondent denies engaging in an improper relationship with Patient A, in resolution of this matter, Respondent consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Wisconsin Board of Nursing 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 violated principles of professional boundaries by failing to establish, maintain, or communicate professional boundaries with the patient within the meaning of Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(4)(e)1.a.

3. As a result of the above conduct, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07(1g)(b), and (d), and Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03.

#### **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 \$828.00.
  - 4. Payment of costs shall be 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) 266-2112; Fax (608) 266-2264
DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

Respondent may also submit this information online at: https://dspsmonitoring.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 (238171-30), 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:	Acres & Jolataniski	9/9/2021	
	A Member of the Board	Date	

## STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

AUDRA A. ROBERTS, R.N., RESPONDENT.

STIPULATION

ORDER 0007583

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 19 NUR 374

Audra A. Roberts, 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. Respondent is represented by Attorney Stacie Rosenzweig.
- 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.

- 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.
- The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division 6. 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 or Respondent's attorney, 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.
- Respondent is informed that should the Board adopt this Stipulation, the Board's 7. Final Decision and Order is a public record and will be published in accordance with standard Department procedure.
- The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondent in 8.

recommending the Board adopt this Stipulation and issue	the attached Final Decision and Order.
auha a Adverto	8/19/2021
Audra A. Roberts, R.N., Respondent Madison, WI 53704 License No. 238171-30	Date
About 12	8/20/21
Stacie Rosenzweig, Attorney for Respondent	Date
Hailing & Cayo, SC 320 E. Buffalo Street, Suite 700	
Milwaukee, WI 53202	
Of Alle	8/24/2021
Colleen Meloy, Attorney	Date
Department of Safety and Professional Services	
Division of Legal Services and Compliance	
P.O. Box 7190	

Madison, WI 53707-7190