

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY :  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :  
 : FINAL DECISION AND ORDER  
PATRICIA A. BIRKS, R.N., :  
RESPONDENT. :

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**ORDER 0007734**

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 20 NUR 297

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

Patricia A. Birks, R.N.  
Rockford, IL 61108

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. Respondent Patricia A. Birks, R.N., (Year of Birth 1957) 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 174757-30, first issued on September 14, 2010 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 Rockford, Illinois 61108.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a registered nurse at a nursing home in Watertown, Wisconsin.

3. The Department's Division of Legal Services and Compliance (DLSC) opened this case to investigate allegations that Respondent violated standards of professional conduct, including failure to properly assess and report a patient's condition to the appropriate provider.

4. Respondent no longer practices nursing in Wisconsin.

5. Respondent does not admit or deny the allegations. In lieu of contested disciplinary proceedings, Respondent offers to resolve this case by voluntarily surrendering her credential and consents to the entry of the following Conclusion of Law and Order.

#### CONCLUSION OF LAW

1. The Board is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

#### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. Respondent's VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of her license to practice as a registered nurse in the state of Wisconsin (license no. 174757-30), as well as her right to renew such license, is accepted.

3. In the event Respondent petitions the Board for reinstatement of her license to practice as a registered nurse in the state of Wisconsin, or applies for another credential under Wis. Stat. Chs. 440 through 480, Respondent shall pay the costs of this matter in the amount of \$556.00, before any petition or application for a credential will be considered by the applicable board or Department.

4. In the event Respondent petitions the Board for reinstatement of her license to practice as a registered nurse, the Board may enter an order denying such application without further notice or hearing. Whether to grant a license and whether to impose any limitations or restrictions on any license granted shall be in the sole discretion of the Board and such decision is not reviewable.

5. 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  
DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

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

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

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

By: *Gregory J. Jolota*  
A Member of the Board of Nursing

12/9/2021  
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

PATRICIA A. BIRKS, R.N.,  
RESPONDENT.

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:  
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:  
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STIPULATION

**ORDER 000773!**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 20 NUR 297

Respondent Patricia A. Birks, R.N., 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 Ellison Hitt.

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.

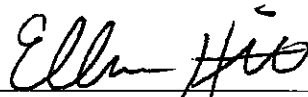
8. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondent in recommending the Board adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

Patricia A Birks


11/4/2021

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Patricia A. Birks, R.N., Respondent  
Rockford, IL 61108  
License No. 174757-30

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
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Ellison Hitt, Attorney for Respondent  
Siesennop & Sullivan, LLP  
111 W. Pleasant St., Suite 110  
Milwaukee, WI 53212

11/13/21  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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

11/16/2021

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date