# 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

LISA A. ZIMMERMAN, R.N., RESPONDENT.

ORDER 0007827

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 21 NUR 326

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

Lisa A. Zimmerman, R.N. Franklin, WI 53132

Wisconsin Board of Nursing P.O. Box 8366 Madison, W1 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 Lisa A. Zimmerman, R.N., (Year of Birth 1981) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a registered nurse, having license number 227213-30, first issued on March 17, 2016, 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 Franklin, Wisconsin 53132.
- 2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a registered nurse at a healthcare facility in Milwaukee, Wisconsin (Facility).
- 3. On May 17, 2021, Patient A, the ex-wife of Respondent's boyfriend, filed a complaint with the Department alleging that Respondent inappropriately accessed her medical

records at the Facility without a medical reason. This case was opened to investigate the allegations.

- 4. The Facility conducted an investigation and found that Respondent accessed Patient A's medical records on five separate occasions: May 3, 2020; September 3, 2020; November 19, 2020; March 4, 2021; and March 30, 2021, all outside the scope of her employment.
  - 5. The Facility accepted Respondent's resignation on May 6, 2021.
- 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 committed confidentiality, patient privacy, consent, or disclosure violations including failing to safeguard the patient's dignity or the right to privacy, which is grounds for taking disciplinary action pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(3)(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. Respondent's license to practice as a registered nurse in the state of Wisconsin (license number 227213-30) is LIMITED as follows:
  - a. Within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order, Respondent shall at her own expense, successfully complete four (4) hours of education on the topic of patient privacy and two (2) hours of education on the topic of ethics offered by a provider pre-approved by the Board's monitoring liaison, including taking and passing any exam offered for the courses.
  - b. Respondent shall submit proof of successful completion of the education in the form of verification from the institution providing the education to the Department Monitor at the address stated below. 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 Board or Department, and also may not be used in future attempts to upgrade a credential in Wisconsin.

- c. The Board's monitoring liaison may change the number of credit hours and/or education topics in response to a request from Respondent. The monitoring liaison may consider the topic availability and/or hours of education when determining if a change to the ordered education should occur.
- d. This limitation shall be removed from Respondent's license after satisfying the Board or its designee that Respondent has successfully completed all 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 \$493.00.
- 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://dspsmonitoring.wi.gov.

- 6. In the event Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's license (number 227213-30), 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

		2/10/2022	
Ву:		2/10/2022	
	A Member of the Board of Nursing	Date	

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

STIPULATION

LISA A. ZIMMERMAN, R.N., RESPONDENT.

ORDER 0007827

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 21 NUR 326

Respondent Lisa A. Zimmerman, 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.
- 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.

	1/10/2022	
Lisa A. Zimmerman, R.N., Respondent	Date	
Franklin, WI 53132		
License No. 227213-30		
Am	1/18/2022	
Julie Zimmer, Prosecuting Attorney	Date	
Department of Safety and Professional Services		

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