

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR SECTION OF THE MARRIAGE AND  
FAMILY THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING AND SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING  
BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

LAUREN M. PAPE, L.P.C.-I.T.,  
RESPONDENT.

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

**ORDER 0008051**

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case Nos. 20 CPC 053 and 21 CPC 028

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

Lauren M. Pape, L.P.C.-I.T.  
Lodi, WI 53555

Wisconsin Professional Counselor Section of the Marriage and Family Therapy,  
Professional Counseling and Social Work Examining Board  
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 Professional Counselor Section of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling and Social Work Examining Board (Section). The Section has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Section in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Lauren M. Pape, L.P.C.-I.T., (Year of Birth 1985) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a licensed professional counselor-in-training, having license number 3929-226, first issued on June 12, 2018 and current through June 12, 2022.<sup>1</sup> Respondent's most recent

<sup>1</sup> Additionally, Respondent holds a credential as a clinical substance abuse counselor (16121-132) which expired on February 28, 2021. This credential would be eligible for late renewal under Wis. Stat. § 440.02(3)(b) through February 28, 2026 and is being addressed under DSPS Case Numbers 20 RSA 040 and 21 RSA 017.

address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Lodi, Wisconsin 53555.

#### **20 CPC 053**

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a licensed professional counselor in-training working with Client A, a male born in 1984, residing at a recovery center (Center) located in Madison, Wisconsin.

3. Client A's probation and parole agent (Agent) sent a letter to Respondent's manager stating that Client A requested the Agent approve an intimate relationship with Respondent.

4. The Agent denied Client A's request based upon:

- a. There are site checks completed throughout the night at various times and Respondent had stayed overnight at the Center with Client A, a violation of the Center and Client A's supervision. Client A was given a verbal warning.
- b. Two weeks later, Client A's Agent was notified that Respondent was observed at the Center with Client A during a site check on a non-business day. Client A was advised to turn himself into jail due to the violations of his supervision.
- c. Client A admitted to the Agent that Respondent had stayed overnight at the Center with him approximately 5-10 times and they were in an unapproved romantic/sexual relationship.

5. Respondent provided a response to the allegations to the Department in which she admitted to having a brief sexual relationship with Client A.

#### **21 CPC 028**

6. On April 2, 2021, an anonymous individual, purporting to be a previous client of Respondent (Client B), sent an email to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) admitting to having an intimate relationship with Respondent.

7. Respondent provided a response to the allegations to the Department in which she described a violent, domestic relationship that she had ended near the time Client B made the report to DHS. Respondent suspected that Client B was her previous partner rather than a prior client.

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

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. The Section has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26, 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 engaged in sexual contact, sexual conduct, or any other behavior with a client which could reasonably be construed as seductive, in violation of Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 20.02(11).

3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent failed to avoid dual relationships or relationships that may impair the credentialed person's objectivity or create a conflict of interest, in violation of Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 20.02(13).

4. As a result of the above violations, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26.

### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. The VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of Respondent's license to practice as a licensed professional counselor-in-training in the state of Wisconsin (license no. 3929-226), as well as her right to renew such license, is accepted.

3. In the event Respondent petitions the Section for reinstatement of her professional counselor-in-training license in the state of Wisconsin or applies for another credential in the state of Wisconsin under Wis. Stat. chs. 440 through 480, Respondent shall, at her own expense, undergo and complete a fitness for practice evaluation with a pre-approved psychiatrist or psychologist (Evaluator) who has not provided treatment to Respondent and is experienced in evaluating whether a mental health professional is fit for practice:

- a. Prior to evaluation, Respondent shall provide a copy of this Final Decision and Order to the Evaluator.
- b. Respondent shall identify and provide the Evaluator with authorizations to communicate with all physicians, mental health professionals, and facilities at which Respondent has been treated or evaluated.
- c. Within 15 days of completion of the evaluation, a written report regarding the results of the assessment shall be submitted to the Department Monitor at the address below. The report shall address whether Respondent suffers from any condition(s) that may interfere with her ability to practice safely and competently and, if so, shall provide any recommended limitations for safe and competent practice.
- d. Respondent shall execute necessary documents authorizing the Department to obtain records of the evaluation, and to discuss Respondent and her case with the Evaluator. Respondent shall execute all releases necessary to permit disclosure of the final evaluation report to the Section or its designee. Certified copies of the final evaluation report shall be admissible in any future proceeding before the Section.

- e. If the Evaluator determines that Respondent is not fit for practice or is fit for practice with limitations, the Section or its designee may suspend Respondent's license until Respondent provides proof sufficient to convince the Section or its designee that Respondent is able to practice with reasonable skill and safety of patients and the public and does not suffer from any condition which prevents Respondent from practicing in that manner.
- f. If the Evaluator determines that Respondent is fit for practice or is fit for practice with limitations, the Section or its designee may limit Respondent's license in a manner to address any concerns the Section or its designee has as a result of the conduct set out in the Findings of Fact and to address any recommendations resulting from the evaluation, including, but not limited to:
  - i. Psychotherapy, at Respondent's expense, by a therapist approved by the Section or its designee, to address specific treatment goals, with quarterly reports to the Board by the therapist.
  - ii. Additional professional education in any identified areas of deficiency.
  - iii. Restrictions on the nature of practice, practice setting, or requirements for supervision of practice by a professional approved by the Section, with periodic reports to the Section by the supervisor.
- g. Respondent is responsible for ensuring that the results of the evaluation are sent to the Department Monitor at the address below.

4. In the event Respondent petitions the Section for reinstatement of her professional counselor-in-training license in the state of Wisconsin or applies for another credential in the state of Wisconsin under Wis. Stat. chs. 440 through 480, Respondent shall pay the costs of this matter in the amount of \$950.00, before any petition or application for a credential will be considered by the applicable board or Department.

5. In the event Respondent petitions the Section for reinstatement as a licensed professional counselor-in-training, the Section 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 Section and such decision is not reviewable.

6. 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>.

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

WISCONSIN PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR SECTION OF THE MARRIAGE AND  
FAMILY THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING AND SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING  
BOARD

By:  **DSPS Chief Legal Counsel,** 7-25-2022  
~~A Member of the Section~~ ~~Delegatee~~ Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR SECTION OF THE MARRIAGE AND  
FAMILY THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING AND SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING  
BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

LAUREN M. PAPE, L.P.C.-I.T.,  
RESPONDENT.

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STIPULATION

**ORDER 0008052**

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case Nos. 20 CPC 053 and 21 CPC 028

Lauren M. Pape, L.P.C.-I.T., (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.

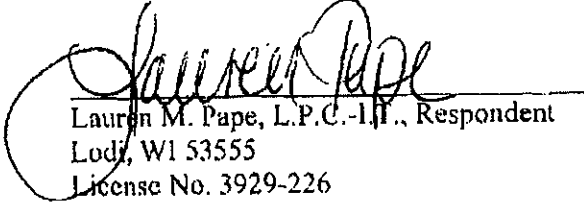
4. Respondent agrees to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Wisconsin Professional Counselor Section of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling and Social Work Examining Board (Section). The parties to the Stipulation consent to the entry of the attached Final Decision and Order without further notice, pleading, appearance or consent of the parties. Respondent waives all rights to any appeal of the Section's order, if adopted in the form as attached.

5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Section 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 Section, the parties agree not to contend that the Section 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 Section ever assigned as an advisor in this investigation may appear before the Section 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 Section may have in connection with deliberations on the Stipulation. Additionally, any such advisor may vote on whether the Section should accept this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

7. Respondent is informed that should the Section adopt this Stipulation, the Section'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 Section adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

  
Lauren M. Pape, L.P.C.-I, Respondent  
Lodi, WI 53555  
License No. 3929-226

5/19/22  
Date

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

5/23/2022  
Date