

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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The status of an appeal may be found on court access websites at:

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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE HEARING AND SPEECH EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

MICHAEL F. PARKS, S.L.P.,  
RESPONDENT.

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FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

**ORDER 0008212**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 21 HAD 002

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

Michael F. Parks, S.L.P.  
Cuba City, WI 53807

Wisconsin Hearing and Speech 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 Hearing and Speech Examining Board (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. Michael F. Parks, S.L.P. (Respondent), (Year of Birth 1951) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin to practice speech language pathology, having license number 157-154, first issued on July 1, 1993, and expired on January 31, 2021.<sup>1</sup> Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Cuba City, Wisconsin 53807.

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<sup>1</sup> Respondent's license was set to expire January 31, 2021, and it does not appear he has attempted to renew. However, due to 2021 Wisconsin Act 10, all health care provider licenses or certificates will not expire and will remain active until thirty days after the end of the declared national emergency. Pursuant Wis. Stat. § 440.08, Respondent maintains the right to apply to renew his license until January 31, 2026.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a speech language pathologist for a staffing company and worked at a health care center located in Muscoda, Wisconsin.

3. On August 28, 2020, Respondent went to see a female patient (Patient A) for a speech therapy evaluation. Prior to entering Patient A's room, Respondent read Patient A's chart which noted that Patient A was not responding to stimuli. Respondent entered Patient A's room and called her name, but she did not respond. Respondent left without performing the evaluation, with intentions to complete the evaluation at a later date and time.

4. Respondent did not initiate the emergency response system upon finding Patient A unresponsive.

5. Approximately 30 minutes later, nursing staff discovered Patient A unresponsive and not breathing. Patient A was transferred to a local hospital where Patient A was later pronounced deceased.

6. Respondent is retired from the practice of speech language pathology.

7. In order to resolve this matter without further investigation and expenditure of resources, Respondent agrees to surrender his license and right to apply for renewal of such license and 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. § 459.34(2), and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

#### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. The SURRENDER by Respondent of his license to practice speech language pathology in the state of Wisconsin (license no. 157-154), as well as his right to apply to renew such license, is accepted.

3. In the event Respondent petitions the Board for reinstatement of his license to practice speech language pathology 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 \$1,170.00, 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 as a speech language pathologist, 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 HEARING AND SPEECH EXAMINING BOARD

By:  \_\_\_\_\_ Date 10/10/22 \_\_\_\_\_  
A Member of the Board

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE HEARING AND SPEECH EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

MICHAEL F. PARKS, S.L.P.,  
RESPONDENT.

STIPULATION

**ORDER 0008212**

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 21 HAD 002

Michael F. Parks, S.L.P. (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 Hearing and Speech Examining Board (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. Respondent is further informed that should the Board adopt this Stipulation, the Board's Final Decision and Order will be reported as required by the National Practitioner Databank (NPDB) Guidebook and as otherwise required by any licensure compact or any other state or federal law.

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

  
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Michael F. Parks, S.L.P., Respondent  
Cuba City, WI 53807  
License No. 157-154

8/17/22  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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

8/18/2022  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date