WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF

ADMINISTRATIVE INJUNCTION

PINGMEI XIA, RESPONDENT.

ORDER 0008386

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 21 UNL 084

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

Pingmei Xia Appleton, WI 54913

Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services P.O. Box 8368
Madison, WI 53708-8368

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Wisconsin 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 Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department). The Department has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Department adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Pingmei Xia (Respondent), (Year of Birth: 1976) is not and has never been licensed as a massage therapist in the state of Wisconsin.
- 2. At all times relevant, Respondent was employed as a massage therapist at a massage therapy business located in Oshkosh, Wisconsin (Facility).
- 3. Between October 18 and 21, 2021, police officers of the Oshkosh Police Department (Oshkosh PD) entered the Facility after receiving multiple complaints of prostitution at the Facility.

- 4. On October 27, 2021, Oshkosh PD executed a search warrant at the Facility as part of an ongoing investigation of prostitution occurring at the Facility. During the search warrant execution and subsequent interviews, the following was established:
 - a. The owner of the Facility confirmed that Respondent was one of two employees employed at the Facility and that Respondent worked at the Facility for approximately twenty days.
 - b. Respondent confirmed to Oshkosh PD that she was employed at the Facility.
 - c. Client X informed Oshkosh PD that Respondent provided massage therapy to him at the Facility on October 16, 2021.
- 5. On May 31, 2022, Respondent was charged in Outagamie County Circuit Court, Case Number 22CM370, with one (1) count of Provide Massage/Bodywork Therapy or Purport to be a Massage/Bodywork Therapist without a License, a class U Misdemeanor, in violation of Wis. Stat. § 460.02. This case is pending.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code ch. SPS 3 and Wis. Stat. § 440.21, and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5) and Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 3.11.
- 2. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 460.02, no person may provide massage therapy or bodywork therapy, designate himself or herself as a massage therapist or bodywork therapist or masseur or masseuse, or use or assume the title "massage therapist and bodywork therapist" or "massage therapist" or "bodywork therapist" or "masseuse" or any title that includes "massage therapist," "bodywork therapist," or "bodyworker," or append to the person's name the letters "M.T.," "R.M.T.," "L.M.T.," "C.M.T.," "B.T.," "B.W.," "L.B.W.," "R.B.W.," or "C.B.W.," or use any other title or designation that represents or may tend to represent that he or she is licensed under this chapter, unless the person is licensed under this chapter.
- 3. The conduct described in the Findings of Fact constitutes the unlicensed practice of massage therapy or bodywork therapy, contrary to Wis. Stat. § 460.02.
- 4. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.21, the Department is authorized to enforce laws requiring a credential.

ORDER

1. The attached stipulation is accepted.

- 2. Unless and until Respondent is properly licensed as a massage therapist or bodywork therapist by the Wisconsin Massage Therapy and Bodywork Therapy Affiliated Credentialing Board, Respondent is enjoined and prohibited from the practice of massage therapy and bodywork therapy in the state of Wisconsin.
- 3. Unless and until Respondent is properly licensed as a massage therapist or bodywork therapist by the Wisconsin Massage Therapy and Bodywork Therapy Affiliated Credentialing Board, Respondent is enjoined and prohibited from providing massage therapy or bodywork therapy, designating herself as a massage therapist or bodywork therapist or masseur or masseuse, or using or assuming the title "massage therapist and bodywork therapist" or "massage therapist" or "masseuse" or any title that includes "massage therapist," "bodywork therapist," or "bodyworker," or appending to her name the letters "M.T.," "R.M.T.," "L.M.T.," "C.M.T.," "B.T.," "B.W.," "L.B.W.," "R.B.W.," or "C.B.W.," or use any other title or designation that represents or may tend to represent that he or she is licensed under Wis. Stat. ch. 460.
- 4. Violation of this special order may result in a forfeiture of up to \$10,000 for each day of violation. See Wis. Stat. § 440.21(4)(a).
- 5. If the Department determines there is probable cause to believe Respondent has violated any terms of this Administrative Injunction, the Department may refer the violations covered by this Injunction and Stipulation to the appropriate prosecutorial unit for review for possible criminal charges.

2/2/2023

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

By: W. Kalmeyer Chief Legal Cov

Aloysius Rohmeyer, Chief Legal Counsel

On behalf of the Department

IN THE MATTER OF

PINGMEI XIA, RESPONDENT. STIPULATION

ORDER 0008386

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 21 UNL 084

Pingmei Xia (Respondent), and the Division of Legal Services and Compliance (Division), Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department), stipulate as follows:

- 1. This Stipulation is entered into as a result of a pending investigation by the Division. 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 Administrative Injunction by the Department. The parties to the Stipulation consent to the entry of the attached Administrative Injunction without further notice, pleading, appearance or consent of the parties. Respondent waives all rights to any appeal of the Department's Administrative Injunction, if adopted in the form as attached.
- 5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Department, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the Division for further proceedings. In the event that the Stipulation is not accepted by the

Department, the parties agree not to contend that the Department 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 for the Department may appear before the Department for the purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that the Department may have in connection with deliberations on this Stipulation.
- 7. Respondent is informed that should the Department adopt this Stipulation; the Department's Administrative Injunction is a public record and will be published in accordance with standard Department procedure.
- 8. Respondent is further informed that should the Department adopt this Stipulation, the Department's Administrative Injunction 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 joins Respondent in recommending the Department adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Administrative Injunction.

Pingmei Xia, Respondent Oshkosh, WI 54901	1-15-2023 Date
Slicia Mikennedy	February 1, 2023
Alicia Kennedy, Prosecuting Attorney Department of Safety and Professional Services	Date

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