

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
ERICA Y. SAAVEDRA, R.N., :
RESPONDENT. : **ORDER 0008467**

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 22 NUR 294

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

Erica Y. Saavedra, R.N.
Belle Glade, FL 33430

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 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 Erica Y. Saavedra, R.N., (Year of Birth 1992) is not and has never been licensed as a nurse in the state of Wisconsin.
2. Respondent is licensed as a registered nurse in the state of Florida (license no. RN9573832) with multistate privileges pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact (Compact), first issued on August 10, 2021 and current through April 30, 2025. Respondent is also licensed as a registered nurse in the state of New York (license no. 821707), first issued on July 26, 2021 and current through June 30, 2024.
3. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Belle Glade, Florida 33430.

4. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent worked as a traveling registered nurse for a healthcare staffing agency and was contracted to work at a healthcare facility in Marshfield, Wisconsin (Facility), pursuant to the Compact.

5. On April 29, 2022, the Florida Department of Health referred a complaint to the Department from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Inspector General, alleging that Respondent provided a fake COVID-19 vaccination card to her employer in order to be placed at the Facility as a traveling nurse.

6. Respondent worked two shifts at the Facility from March 14 – 16, 2022 without being vaccinated for COVID-19 before the Facility reviewed her COVID-19 vaccination card and noticed odd lot numbers and the misspelling of “Morderna.” Moderna’s Falsified Medicines Team confirmed the lot numbers were not in the Moderna database.

7. Respondent said she stopped working at the Facility and returned to Florida to get vaccinated in her home state. Respondent subsequently submitted a legitimate COVID-19 vaccination card showing she received her first dose on March 21, 2022.

8. Respondent denies engaging in unprofessional conduct but agrees to surrender her privilege to practice nursing in Wisconsin to resolve this matter.

9. 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. Stats. §§ 441.07, 441.51(3)(d) and (e), and 441.51(5)(a)1., 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 violated or aided and abetted a violation of any law substantially related to the practice of nursing, pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(2). Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1017, whoever fraudulently or wrongfully affixes or impresses the seal of any department or agency of the United States, to or upon any certificate, instrument, commission, document, or paper or with knowledge of its fraudulent character, with wrongful or fraudulent intent, uses any such certificate, instrument, commission, document, or paper, to which or upon which said seal has been so fraudulently affixed or impressed, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.

3. As a result of the above violation, Respondent is subject to adverse action against her multistate privilege to practice nursing in Wisconsin, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 441.07(1g)(b) and (d), 441.51(3)(d) and (e), 441.51(5)(a)1., and Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03.

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. The VOLUNTARY SURRENDER by Respondent of her privilege to practice nursing in the state of Wisconsin pursuant to her multistate licensure in Florida (license no. RN9573832) or any other Compact member state, is accepted.

3. In the event Respondent petitions the Board for reinstatement of her privilege to practice nursing in the state of Wisconsin, or applies for a nursing license or any other 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 \$523.00, 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 privilege to practice as a nurse in the state of Wisconsin, the Board may enter an order denying such application without further notice or hearing. Whether to grant a privilege to practice and whether to impose any limitations or restrictions on any privilege to practice 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
DPSMonitoring@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: Robert Weirman
A Member of the Board

4/13/23
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

ERICA Y. SAAVEDRA, R.N.,
RESPONDENT.

:
:
:
:
:

STIPULATION

ORDER 0008467

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 22 NUR 294

Respondent Erica Y. Saavedra, 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 Michael B. Cohen.

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.

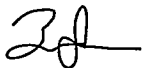
5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Board, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further proceedings. In the event that the Stipulation is not accepted by 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. 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.



Address : 108 nw ave H PL
BELLE GLADE FL 33430

2/23/2023

Erica Y. Saavedra, R.N., Respondent
Belle Glade, FL 33430
Florida Multistate License No. RN9573832

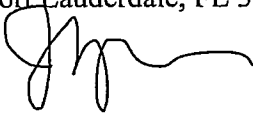
Date



Michael B. Cohen, Attorney for Respondent
Michael B. Cohen Law Firm
6400 N. Andrews Ave., #505
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309

February 23, 2023

Date



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

2/23/2023

Date