

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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<http://ccap.courts.state.wi.us/InternetCourtAccess> and <http://www.courts.state.wi.us/wscga>

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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

DANA L. TAFT, R.N.
RESPONDENT.

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FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

ORDER 0008477

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 22 NUR 501

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

Dana L. Taft, R.N.
Kenosha, WI 53144

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 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. Dana L. Taft, R.N. (Respondent), (Year of Birth 1973) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a registered nurse, having license number 144803-30, first issued on July 31, 2003 and current through February 28, 2022¹. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Kenosha, Wisconsin 53144.

¹ Respondent applied for renewal of her license on February 14, 2022, however, was referred to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance to begin an investigation. Therefore, Respondent's license remains active until the Division's investigation has been completed.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent worked as a registered nurse through an agency (Agency) and was placed with a clinic & rehabilitation facility located in Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin (Facility).

3. On March 31, 2022, Respondent was convicted of a 3rd OWI, in Kenosha County Circuit Court, Case Number 21CT0093, in Kenosha County Circuit Court.

4. On July 19, 2022, Respondent had worked the evening shift. Around 11:00 p.m., she gave report to another nurse working the night shift.

5. Respondent was taking the keys out of her pocket and Nurse A noted that a pill fell out of Respondent's pocket on to the floor. Nurse A picked up the pill after Respondent left, noted that it was lorazepam 2 mg. In addition, she found a 2nd pill, picked it up and noted it to be clonazepam 1mg. Nurse A reported what she found.

6. The Facility began an investigation and immediately suspended Respondent. They conducted a review of med counts and did not find any discrepancies. The Facility's investigation was inconclusive; however Respondent was terminated from the Facility for precautionary reasons and the Agency was notified.

7. 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 obtained, possessed, or attempted to obtain or possess a drug without lawful authority within the meaning of Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(8)(e).

3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent failed to notify the board of a felony or misdemeanor in writing within 48 hours after the entry of judgment of conviction, including the date, place, and nature of the conviction or finding within the meaning of Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(1)(h).

4. As a result of the above conduct, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07(1g)(b), (d), and (g) 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 (license number 144803-30), and privilege to practice in Wisconsin pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact (Compact), are LIMITED as follows:

- a. Within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order, Respondent shall at their own expense, successfully complete three (3) hours of education on the topic of safe handling of narcotics 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 sixty (60) days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall, at her own expense, undergo an AODA assessment with an evaluator pre-approved by the Board its designee who has experience conducting these assessments.

- a. Prior to the assessment, Respondent shall provide a copy of this Order to the evaluator. Respondent shall provide the Department Monitor with written acknowledgment from the evaluator that a copy of this Order has been received by the evaluator. Such acknowledgment shall be provided to the Department Monitor prior to the assessment.
- b. Respondent shall provide and keep on file with the evaluator current releases complying with state and federal laws. The releases shall allow the Board, its designee, and any employee of the Department to obtain a copy of the assessment. Copies of these releases shall immediately be filed with the Department Monitor.
- c. 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.
- d. The Board, or its designee, may impose additional limitations upon Respondent's license based on the results of the assessment and/or the evaluator's recommendations.

e. Respondent shall comply with the evaluator's recommendations.

5. Within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$703.00.

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://dspsmonitoring.wi.gov>.

7. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.51(5)(b), Respondent's multistate licensure privilege to practice in all Compact states besides Wisconsin is deactivated during the pendency of this Order.

8. In the event Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's license (number 144803-30), 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.

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

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

By: 
A Member of the Board of Nursing

4-13-23
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

DANA L. TAFT, R.N.,
RESPONDENT.

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STIPULATION

ORDER 0008477

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 22 NUR 501

Dana L. Taft, R.N. (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 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.

Dana L. Taft, R.N., Respondent
Kenosha, WI 53144
License No. 144803-30

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

Date

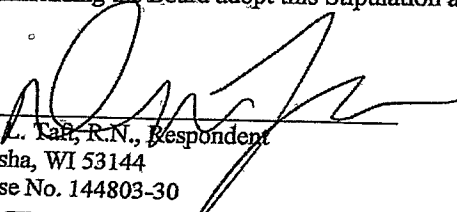
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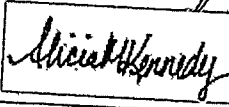
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8. Respondent is further informed that should the Board adopt this Stipulation, the Board's Final Decision and Order will be reported as required by the National Practitioner Databank (NPDB) Guidebook and as otherwise required by any licensure compact 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.


Dana L. Falt, R.N., Respondent
Kenosha, WI 53144
License No. 144803-30

3/1/23
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

March 6, 2023
Date