

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
THOMAS S. SURA, R.N., :
RESPONDENT. : **ORDER 0008486**

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case Nos. 21 NUR 694 & 22 NUR 496

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

Thomas S. Sura, R.N.
Racine, WI 53402

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. Respondent Thomas S. Sura, R.N., (Year of Birth 1964) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a registered nurse, with multistate privileges pursuant to the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact (Compact), having license number 105569-30, first issued on September 9, 1990 and current through February 29, 2024. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Racine, Wisconsin 53402.

Prior Discipline

2. On November 11, 2021, Respondent was issued a Reprimand (Order Number 0007683) by the Board of Nursing (Board) regarding a failure to cooperate in a timely manner with the Board's investigation of two complaints filed against him.

Current Discipline

3. At all times relevant to these proceedings, Respondent worked as a registered nurse at a facility located in Racine, Wisconsin (Facility).

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4. On November 18, 2021, the Department received a complaint alleging Respondent was abrupt with and yelled at a female patient at the Facility.¹

5. On November 19 and November 29, 2021, the Department, on behalf of the Board, emailed Respondent's email address on file with the Department requesting that he provide a response to the complaint. Respondent did not respond.

6. On December 7, 2021, the Department sent a letter to Respondent's mailing address on file with the Department requesting that he provide a response to the complaint. Respondent did not respond.

7. On December 29, 2021, the Department sent an email and certified mail to Respondent's email address and mailing address on file with the Department requesting that he provide a response to the complaint. Respondent did not respond.

8. On January 13 and January 18, 2022, the Department called Respondent's telephone number on file with the Department and left voicemails requesting that he provide a response to the complaint. Respondent did not respond.

9. On January 19, 2022, the Department called the Facility to request that Respondent schedule a time to speak with the Department regarding the complaint and his lack of response. On January 24, 2022, Respondent emailed and left a voicemail message with the Department addressing the substance of the complaint, but not his failure to respond.

10. The Department attempted to contact Respondent on the following occasions regarding his failure to respond to the Department's attempts to obtain his response to the complaint:

- a. On January 25 and February 1, 2022, the Department sent emails to Respondent's email address on file with the Department.

¹ The Department investigated these allegations and found that they did not warrant disciplinary action.

- b. On February 4, 2022, the Department called and left a voicemail message at his telephone number on file with the Department.
- c. On February 7, 2022, the Department contacted the Facility to request that Respondent schedule a phone call to discuss his failure to timely respond to the Department's requests.

11. On February 10, 2022, Respondent emailed and left a voicemail message to the Department outside of business hours confirming he did receive the Department's voicemails, but did not respond to them.

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12. On July 27, 2022, the Department received a complaint alleging Respondent roughly handled a resident at the Facility.²

13. On July 29 and August 8, 2022, the Department, on behalf of the Board, emailed Respondent's email address on file with the Department requesting that he provide a response to the complaint. Respondent did not respond.

14. On August 16, 2022, the Department sent a letter to Respondent's mailing address on file with the Department requesting that he provide a response to the complaint. On September 18, 2022, Respondent emailed a response from his email address on file with the Department.

15. 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 failed to respond, to the satisfaction of the department, credentialing board, or other board in the department, within 30 days to a request for information from the department, credentialing board, or other board in the department in connection with an investigation of alleged misconduct of the credential holder within the meaning of Wis. Stat. § 440.20(5)(a).

3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent failed to cooperate in a timely manner with the board's investigation of a complaint filed against a license holder within the meaning of Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(1)(c).

4. As a result of the above conduct, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 440.20(5)(a), 441.07(1g)(b) and (d), and Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03.

² The Department investigated these allegations and found that they did not warrant disciplinary action.

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
2. Respondent is REPRIMANDED.
3. Respondent's license to practice as a registered nurse (license number 105569-30), and privilege to practice in Wisconsin pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact (Compact), are LIMITED as follows:
 - a. Within 90 days of the date of this Order, Respondent shall at his own expense successfully complete one of the following:
 - i. The "Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know" continuing education course offered by the International Center for Regulatory Scholarship (<https://catalog.icrsncsbn.org/browse/public/continuing-ed/nurse-ces/courses/disciplinary-actions>); OR
 - ii. Five hours of education on the topic of disciplinary actions related to nursing practice from a provider pre-approved by the Board 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 90 days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$850.00.
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. 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.

7. In the event Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's license (number 105569-30), or Respondent's right to renew his 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.

8. 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

THOMAS S. SURA, R.N.,
RESPONDENT.

:
:
:
:
:
:

STIPULATION

ORDER 0008486

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case Nos. 21 NUR 694 & 22 NUR 496

Respondent Thomas S. Sura, 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.

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

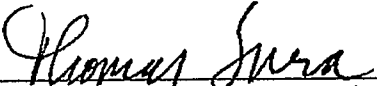
of Legal Services and Compliance for further proceedings. In the event that the Stipulation is not accepted by the Board, the parties agree not to contend that the Board has been prejudiced or biased in any manner by the consideration of this attempted resolution.

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.

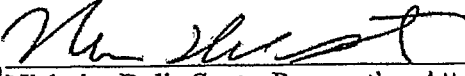
8. Respondent is further informed that should the Board adopt this Stipulation, the Board's Final Decision and Order will be reported as required by the National Practitioner Databank (NPDB) Guidebook and as otherwise required by any licensure compact or any other state or federal law.

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.



Thomas S. Sura, R.N., Respondent
Racine, WI 53402
License No. 105569-30

2-3-23
Date



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

2/14/23
Date