

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE REAL ESTATE EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY :
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :
: FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
CHRISTOPHER F. LAES, :
RESPONDENT. : **ORDER 0008496**

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 21 REB 107

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

Christopher F. Laes
Green Bay, WI 54302

Wisconsin Real Estate 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 Wisconsin Real Estate 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. Respondent Christopher F. Laes (Birth Year 1966) is licensed by the State of Wisconsin as a real estate salesperson, having license number 89594-94, first issued on September 16, 2019 and expired as of December 15, 2022. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Green Bay, Wisconsin 54302.

2. On October 13, 2021, Respondent reported to the Department that he had been convicted for Operating While Intoxicated (OWI). The Division of Legal Services and Compliance (DLSC) subsequently opened Case Number 21 REB 107 for investigation.

3. On January 30, 2021, Respondent was arrested for OWI. Prior to the arrest, the police administered a preliminary breath test which found Respondent's blood alcohol content to be over .17%.

4. On October 5, 2021, Respondent was convicted of OWI 3rd, a misdemeanor U, in Brown County Circuit Court (Case No. 2021CT000138).

5. On October 13, 2021, Respondent reported his conviction to the Department and stated that he wished to relinquish his real estate salesperson license.

6. In resolution of this matter, Respondent consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Real Estate Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 452.14, 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 Wis. Admin. Code §§ REEB 24.17(1) and (2) by violating a law, the circumstances of which substantially relate to the practices of a real estate licensee, and failing to report the conviction to the board within 48 hours after the judgment of conviction.

3. As a result of the above violations, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 452.14(3)(L).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. The VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of Respondent Christopher F. Laes's real estate salesperson license (no. 89594-94) as well as his right to renew such credential is ACCEPTED.

3. In the event Respondent petitions the Board for reinstatement of his license to practice real estate 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 \$191, 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 real estate salesperson, 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 REAL ESTATE EXAMINING BOARD

by: 
A Member of the Board

4/13/2023
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE REAL ESTATE EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

CHRISTOPHER F. LAES,
RESPONDENT.

:
:
:
:
:

STIPULATION

ORDER 0008496

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 21 REB 107

Respondent Christopher F. Laes 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 Real Estate 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. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondent in recommending the Board adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

Christopher Laes
Christopher F. Laes, Respondent
Green Bay, WI 54302
Credential No. 89594-94

1/22/2023
Date

Megan Reed
Megan Reed, Attorney
Division of Legal Services and Compliance
P.O. Box 7190
Madison, WI 53707-7190

1/24/2022
Date