

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 DISCIPLINARY	:	
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST	:	
	:	FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
KARI D. JACKSON, C.S.A.C., S.A.C., S.A.C.-I.T.,	:	
RESPONDENT.	:	ORDER 0008596

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 21 RSA 032

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

Kari D. Jackson, C.S.A.C., S.A.C., S.A.C.-I.T.
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 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. Respondent Kari D. Jackson, C.S.A.C., S.A.C., S.A.C.-I.T., (Year of Birth 1984) is certified in the state of Wisconsin as a clinical substance abuse counselor, having certification number 16518-132, granted on April 6, 2021, and current through February 28, 2025. Respondent is also certified in the state of Wisconsin as a substance abuse counselor, having certification number 16417-131, granted on September 25, 2020, and expired as of March 1, 2023. Respondent is also certified in the state of Wisconsin as a substance abuse counselor-in-training, having certification number 18575-130, granted on May 10, 2018, and expired as of March 1, 2021. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.08(3), Respondent retains the right to apply to renew

her substance abuse counselor certification until February 28, 2028, and her substance abuse counselor-in-training certification until February 28, 2026.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as an alcohol and other drug abuse counselor at a state correctional institution in Oshkosh, Wisconsin (Facility).

3. On August 17, 2021, the Department received a complaint from the Wisconsin Department of Corrections (DOC) indicating that on August 27, 2021, Respondent resigned her employment while under investigation for violating several DOC policies, including fraternization with an inmate.

4. On June 9, 2021, staff raised concerns to a DOC Program Supervisor that Respondent was involved in a personal relationship with Inmate A, a male who had been previously assigned to Respondent's caseload. Inmate A was housed at the Facility from February 6, 2019 through January 8, 2020.

5. DOC conducted an investigation of Inmate A's telephone calls and determined the following:

- (a) Inmate A made a total of 52 telephone calls to a telephone number registered to Respondent between September 23, 2019 and March 3, 2020, the day Inmate A was released from prison.
- (b) The DOC Program Supervisor, who knew Respondent for many years, identified Respondent's voice on the telephone calls, and the telephone calls revealed personal information specific to Respondent.
- (c) The content of the telephone calls indicated Respondent and Inmate A were in a personal relationship and were planning a future together after Inmate A's release.

6. Respondent denies engaging in an inappropriate relationship with Inmate A.

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

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.88 and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

2. Based on the Findings of Fact, Respondent engaged in unprofessional conduct by failing to avoid dual relationships or relationships that may impair the substance abuse professional's objectivity or create a conflict of interest, pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 164.01(2)(n).

3. As a result of the above conduct, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.88(6).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. Respondent's certifications to practice as a clinical substance abuse counselor, a substance abuse counselor, and a substance abuse counselor-in-training (certificate numbers 16518-132, 16417-131, and 18575-130 respectively), and Respondent's right to renew such certifications, are **SUSPENDED** for nine (9) months from the date of this Order.

3. Respondent's certifications to practice as a clinical substance abuse counselor, a substance abuse counselor, and a substance abuse counselor-in-training (certificate numbers 16518-132, 16417-131, and 18575-130 respectively), and Respondent's right to renew such certifications, are **LIMITED** as follows:

- (a) Within six (6) months of the date of this Order, Respondent shall, at her own expense, successfully complete six (6) hours of education on the topic of professional boundaries, and six (6) hours of education on the topic of ethics, offered by a provider pre-approved by the Department monitoring liaison, including taking and passing any exams offered for the courses.
- (b) The Department 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.
- (c) 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 Order may be used to satisfy any continuing education requirements that have been or may be instituted by the Department or be used to upgrade a credential.
- (d) This limitation shall be removed from Respondent's certifications after satisfying the Department or its designee that Respondent has successfully completed all the ordered education.

4. Respondent's certifications to practice as a clinical substance abuse counselor, a substance abuse counselor, and a substance abuse counselor-in-training (certificate numbers 16518-132, 16417-131, and 18575-130 respectively), and Respondent's right to renew such certifications, are further **LIMITED** as follows:

- (a) Within six (6) months of the date of this Order, Respondent shall, at her own expense, undergo a fitness for practice evaluation with a pre-approved psychiatrist or psychologist (Evaluator) who has not provided treatment to Respondent and is experienced in evaluating whether a health care professional is fit for practice. The

fitness for practice evaluation shall evaluate Respondent's fitness for practice as a substance abuse counselor.

- i. Prior to evaluation, Respondent shall provide a copy of this Final Decision and Order to the Evaluator.
- ii. 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.
- iii. Within fifteen (15) days of the completion of the evaluation, a written report regarding the results of the assessment shall be submitted to the Department Monitor at the address below. The report shall address whether Respondent suffers from any condition(s) that may interfere with her ability to practice safely and competently and, if so, shall provide any recommended limitations for safe and competent practice.
- iv. Respondent shall execute necessary documents authorizing the Department to obtain records of the evaluation, and to discuss Respondent and her case with the Evaluator. Respondent shall execute all releases necessary to permit disclosure of the final evaluation report to the Department or its designee. Certified copies of the final evaluation report shall be admissible in any future proceeding before the Department.
- v. If the Evaluator determines that Respondent is not fit for practice or is fit for practice with limitations, the Department or its designee may suspend Respondent's substance abuse counselor credentials until Respondent provides proof sufficient to convince the Department or its designee that Respondent is able to practice with reasonable skill and safety of patients and the public and does not suffer from any condition which prevents Respondent from practicing in such a manner.
- vi. If the Evaluator determines that Respondent is fit for practice or is fit for practice with limitations, the Department or its designee may limit Respondent's substance abuse counselor credentials in a manner to address any concerns the Department or its designee has as a result of the conduct set out in the Findings of Facts and to address any recommendations resulting from the evaluation, including, but not limited to:
 1. Psychotherapy, at Respondent's expense, by a therapist approved by the Department or its designee, to address specific treatment goals, with quarterly reports to the Department by the therapist.
 2. Additional professional education in any identified areas of deficiency.

3. Restrictions on the nature of practice, practice setting, or requirements for supervision of practice by a professional approved by the Department, with periodic reports to the Department by the supervisor.

5. Within 120 days of the date of this Order, Respondent shall pay the COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$1,330.00.

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. In the event Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's certifications to practice as a clinical substance abuse counselor, a substance abuse counselor, and a substance abuse counselor-in-training (certificate numbers 16518-132, 16417-131, and 18575-130 respectively), or Respondent's right to renew such certifications, may, in the discretion of the Department or its designee, be SUSPENDED indefinitely, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of the Order. The Department 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 DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

By: Aloysius Rohmeyer
Aloysius Rohmeyer, Chief Counsel
On Behalf of the Department

6/29/2023

Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

KARI D. JACKSON, C.S.A.C., S.A.C., S.A.C.-I.T.,
RESPONDENT.

STIPULATION

ORDER 0008596

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 21 RSA 032

Respondent Kari D. Jackson, C.S.A.C., S.A.C., S.A.C.-I.T., 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 John Leppanen.

4. Respondent agrees to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department). 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 Department's Order, 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 of Legal Services and Compliance 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 or other agent for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance may appear before the Department, without the presence of Respondent or Respondent's attorney, for purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that the Department may have in connection with deliberations on the Stipulation.

7. Respondent is informed that should the Department adopt this Stipulation, the Department'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 Department adopt this Stipulation, the Department'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.

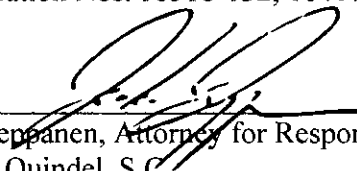
9. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondent in recommending that the Department adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

Kari Jackson

Kari D. Jackson, C.S.A.C., S.A.C., S.A.C.-I.T., Respondent
Appleton, WI 54913
Certification Nos. 16518-132, 16417-131, and 18575-130

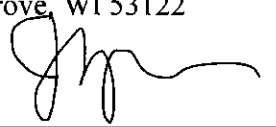
6/5/2023

Date


John Leppanen, Attorney for Respondent
Hawks Quindel, S.C.
500 Elm Grove Road, Suite 205
Elm Grove, WI 53122

06/27/2023

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

06/27/2023

Date