

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE SOCIAL WORKER SECTION OF THE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY  
THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING AND SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

DANIEL D. COUSINS, SR, A.P.S.W., C.S.A.C.,  
C.S.-I.T.,  
RESPONDENT.

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: FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

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: **ORDER 0008657**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 20 SOC 014

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

Daniel D. Cousins, Sr., A.P.S.W., C.S.A.C., C.S.-I.T.  
Hayward, WI 54843

Wisconsin Social Worker Section of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional  
Counseling and Social Work 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 Social Worker Section of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling and Social Work Examining Board (Section). The Section has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Section in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Daniel D. Cousins, Sr., A.P.S.W., C.S.A.C., C.S.-I.T., (Year of Birth 1976) is certified in the state of Wisconsin as an advanced practice social worker, having certificate number 130318-121, first issued on July 26, 2016. This certificate is suspended as of April 8, 2020, and expired on March 1, 2021, and has not been renewed. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.08(3),

Respondent may apply to renew his certificate through February 28, 2026.<sup>1</sup> Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Hayward, Wisconsin 54843.

#### Prior Board Action

2. On April 8, 2020, the Section issued Order Number 0006765 in DLSC Case Numbers 17 SOC 030 and 18 SOC 017, which suspended Respondent's advanced practice social worker and social worker certificates and placed conditions on Respondent's ability to remove the suspension. This order was issued after Respondent failed to participate in formal disciplinary proceedings and was found in default. The Section found that Respondent provided substance abuse and mental health counseling services without proper supervision, training, or certification, and fraudulently advertised himself as being properly qualified to provide those services.

#### Current Case

3. On April 2, 2020, a deputy with the Sawyer County Sheriff's Department executed a search warrant of Respondent's home and vehicles. Law enforcement discovered methamphetamine in multiple bags and drug paraphernalia including meth pipes, hot rail tubes, and glass mirrors. Respondent was arrested for possession of methamphetamine with intent to deliver, maintaining a drug dwelling, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

4. On April 29, 2022, Respondent entered a guilty plea in Sawyer County Case Number 2020CF000097 to one count of Possession with Intent to Delivery Methamphetamine, Second and Subsequent Offense, a felony, contrary to Wis. Stat. §§ 961.41(1m)(e)3. and 961.48(1)(b). These charges stemmed from the April 2, 2020 arrest. The Court withheld judgment and approved a three-year Deferred Judgment of Conviction agreement between Respondent and the Sawyer County District Attorney.

5. On June 1, 2020, a deputy from the Sawyer County Sheriff's Department was dispatched to Respondent's home for a drug complaint. The deputy conducted a search of Respondent's shed and found a meth pipe with burn marks on it and a substance that tested positive for methamphetamine inside the pipe. The deputy also found a white and green paper bundle, which

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<sup>1</sup>Respondent was certified in the state of Wisconsin as a social worker, having certificate number 10897-120, first issued on March 14, 2014. This certificate expired on March 1, 2017, and has not been renewed. During the pendency of the Department's investigation, this certificate fell outside of the 5-year right to renewal period under Wis. Stat. § 440.08(3).

Respondent is also certified as a clinical substance abuse counselor, having certificate number 15605-132, first issued on August 4, 2011. This certificate is suspended as of April 8, 2020, and expired on March 1, 2021, and has not been renewed. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.08(3), Respondent may apply to renew his certificate through February 28, 2026.

Respondent is also certified as a clinical supervisor in-training, having certificate number 15659-133, first issued on February 8, 2017. This certificate is suspended as of April 8, 2020, and expired on March 1, 2021, and has not been renewed. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.08(3), Respondent may apply to renew his certificate through February 28, 2026.

also tested positive for methamphetamine, inside of Respondent's vehicle. Respondent was arrested.

6. On April 29, 2022, Respondent was convicted in Sawyer County Case Number 2020CF000233 of one count of Misdemeanor Bail Jumping, a misdemeanor, contrary to Wis. Stat. § 946.49(1)(a), one count of Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, a misdemeanor, contrary to Wis. Stat. § 961.573(1), and one count of Possession of Amphetamine, a misdemeanor, contrary to Wis. Stat. § 961.41(3g)(d). These charges stemmed from the June 1, 2020 arrest. Respondent was placed on 3 years of probation.

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

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Section has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26 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 a law of any jurisdiction, the circumstances of which substantially relate to the practice under the credential within meaning of Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 20.02(2).

3. As a result of the above violations, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.26.

#### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. Respondent's certificate (certificate no. 130318-121) to practice as an advanced practice social worker in the state of Wisconsin and any appurtenant right to renew said certificate are REVOKED.

3. In the event Respondent petitions the Section for reinstatement of his certificate to practice as an advanced practice social worker 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 \$2,350.90, before any petition or application for a credential will be considered by the applicable board, section, or Department.

4. Respondent shall not apply to the Section for reinstatement of his certificate for at least two years from the date of this Order. If Respondent petitions the Section for reinstatement as an advanced practice social worker, whether to grant a certificate and whether to impose any limitations or restrictions on any certificate granted shall be in the sole discretion of the Section 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:

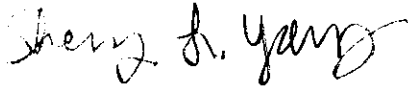
Department Monitor  
Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
Department of Safety and Professional Services  
P.O. Box 7190, Madison, WI 53707-7190  
Telephone (608) 266-2112; Fax (608) 266-2264  
DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

Respondent may also submit this information online at: <https://dspsmonitoring.wi.gov>.

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

WISCONSIN SOCIAL WORKER SECTION OF THE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY  
THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING AND SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

By:



A Member of the Section

Date

7/19/2023

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE SOCIAL WORKER SECTION OF THE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY  
THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING AND SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

DANIEL D. COUSINS, SR., A.P.S.W., C.S.A.C.,  
C.S.-I.T.,  
RESPONDENT.

STIPULATION

ORDER 0008657

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 20 SOC 014

Respondent Daniel D. Cousins, Sr., A.P.S.W., C.S.A.C., C.S.-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.
4. Respondent agrees to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Wisconsin Social Worker Section of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling and Social Work Examining Board (Section). The parties to the Stipulation consent to the entry of the attached Final Decision and Order without further notice, pleading, appearance or consent

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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, 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.



Daniel D. Cousins, Sr., A.P.S.W., C.S.A.C., C.S.-I.T.,  
Respondent  
Hayward, WI 54843  
Certificate Nos. 15605-132 and 15659-133

6-19-23  
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

June 20, 2023  
Date