

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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The status of an appeal may be found on court access websites at:

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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY :  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :  
 : FINAL DECISION AND ORDER  
RENAE J. TUFTE, R.N. :  
RESPONDENT. :

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**ORDER0008807**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 22 NUR 713

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

Renae J. Tufte, R.N.  
Minneapolis, MN 55409

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. Renae J. Tufte, R.N. (Respondent), (Year of Birth 1979) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a registered nurse, having license number 258225-30, first issued on January 27, 2021. This license expired on March 1, 2022, and has not been renewed. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.08(3), Respondent retains the right to apply to renew upon payment of a fee until February 28, 2027. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Minneapolis, Minnesota 55409.

2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent worked as a registered nurse at a hospital located in Minneapolis, Minnesota (Facility).<sup>1</sup>

3. On June 27, 2020, Respondent received a call from Emergency Medical Dispatch while she was working at the Facility. The caller informed Respondent that he was bringing a patient who had altered mental status and was on a hold to the Facility. Respondent refused the patient and said they should go to a different facility.

4. The Facility investigated the incident and terminated Respondent on July 17, 2020, for violating the Emergency Medical Services policy related to the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA).

5. Respondent submitted an application for Wisconsin licensure on November 10, 2020. On the application, Respondent answered no to the question “have you ever been terminated from any employment related to nursing?”

6. On October 6, 2022, the Minnesota Board of Nursing issued a Consent Order which reprimanded Respondent and imposed a fine of \$1,500.

7. On October 12, 2022, the Department received notification that Respondent’s Minnesota license was limited.

8. On October 14, 2022, and October 24, 2022, the Department sent emails to Respondent requesting a response to the complaint. Respondent did not respond.

9. On November 1, 2022, the Department sent a request for a response to Respondent via USPS mail to Respondent’s address on file with the Department. Respondent did not respond.

10. On December 7, 2022, the Department sent a request for a response to Respondent via USPS certified mail. This request was returned to sender.

11. A Department investigator contacted Respondent by phone on December 20, 2022, and Respondent stated that she did not realize she needed to respond but would do so. Respondent did not send a response to the Department until July 28, 2023.

12. 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 had a license to practice nursing or a nurse licensure compact privilege to practice denied, revoked, suspended,

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<sup>1</sup> Respondent is also licensed in the state of Minnesota as a registered nurse, having license number 2122407. This license is active through November 30, 2023.

limited, or having the credential holder otherwise disciplined in another state, territory, or country within the meaning of Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(1)(b).

3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent, after a request of the board, 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. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent engaged in fraud, deception, or misrepresentation, including fraud, deceit, or material omission in obtaining a license or certification or in the renewal of the license or certification within the meaning of Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(5)(e).

5. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent departed from or failing to conform to the minimal standards of acceptable nursing practice that may create unnecessary risk or danger to a patient's life, health, or safety. Actual injury to a patient need not be established within the meaning of Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(6)(c).

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

#### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
2. Respondent is REPRIMANDED.
3. Respondent's right to renew her license to practice as a registered nurse (license number 258225-30), 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 her own expense, successfully complete three (3) hours of education on the topic of EMTALA and/or Emergency Response. Each course attended in satisfaction of this Order must be pre-approved by the Board or its designee. Respondent shall be responsible for locating course(s) satisfactory to the Board and for obtaining the required approval of the course(s) from the Board or its designee. Respondent must take and pass any exam offered for the course(s).
  - 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 ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$1,861.00.

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  
DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

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

6. In the event Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's right to renew her license (number 258225-30), 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.

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

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

By:   
A Member of the Board of Nursing

10/12/2023  
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

RENAE J. TUFTE, R.N.,  
RESPONDENT.

:  
:  
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:  
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STIPULATION

**ORDER0008807**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 22 NUR 713

Renae J. Tuftte, 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

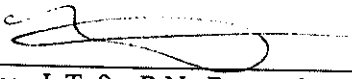
of Legal Services and Compliance for further proceedings. In the event that the Stipulation is not accepted by the Board, the parties agree not to contend that the Board has been prejudiced or biased in any manner by the consideration of this attempted resolution.

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.

  
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Renae J. Tuft, R.N., Respondent  
Minneapolis, MN 55409  
License No. 258225-30

9/26/23  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
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Brian J. Juch, Prosecuting Attorney  
Department of Safety and Professional Services  
Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
P.O. Box 7190  
Madison, WI 53707-7190

10/4/23  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date