

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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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  
AMY J. DEFRANCO, R.N., A.P.N.P., :  
RESPONDENT. :

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**ORDER 0008809**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance (DLSC) Case No. 22 NUR 754

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

Amy J. DeFranco, R.N., A.P.N.P.  
Black River Falls, WI 56415

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. Amy J. DeFranco, R.N., A.P.N.P. (Respondent), (Year of Birth 1971) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a registered nurse, having license number 1107876-30, with multistate privileges pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact (Compact), first issued on July 27, 2023, and current through February 29, 2024. Respondent is also certified as an advanced practice nurse prescriber, with certificate number 10175-33, first issued on July 7, 2020, and current through September 30, 2024. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Black River Falls, Wisconsin 56415.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION

2. On November 10, 2022, the Board issued Respondent an Administrative Warning in DLSC Case No. 21 NUR 606.

CURRENT BOARD ACTION

3. On February 28, 2020, Respondent obtained Florida licensure as a registered nurse with multistate privileges.

4. Beginning in June 2020, Respondent became a resident of the state of Wisconsin.

5. On November 6, 2020, Respondent was convicted of Driving Under the Influence, a misdemeanor, in Lee County Circuit Court, Florida (Case No. 19-CT-505087).

6. In November 2020, Respondent began working as a nurse practitioner at a facility located in Black River Falls, Wisconsin (Facility).

7. On August 25, 2022, Respondent applied for renewal of her Wisconsin advanced practice nurse prescriber certificate. On that date, she answered “No” to the question of whether since her last renewal, she was the subject of any pending charges or convictions.

8. On November 10, 2022, Respondent applied for a Wisconsin registered nurse license, with multistate privileges. During the application process, Respondent disclosed the November 6, 2020, misdemeanor conviction for the first time.

9. On July 27, 2023, the Board granted Respondent a Wisconsin registered nurse license with multistate privileges.

10. 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. Wisconsin Stat. § 441.51(4)(c)1. requires a nurse who changes their primary state of residence by moving between two party states to apply for licensure in the new home state, as the multistate license issued by the prior home state will be deactivated.

3. Per the Interstate Commission of Nurse Licensure Compact Administrators, Final Rules (effective January 1, 2021), a nurse who changes their primary state of residence to another party state shall apply for a license in the new party state when the nurse declares to be a resident of the state and obtains privileges not ordinarily extended to nonresidents of the state.

4. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent failed to notify the Board of a misdemeanor in writing within 48 hours after the entry of judgment of conviction,

including the date, place, and nature of the conviction of finding within the meaning of Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(1)(h).

5. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent violated Wis. Stat. § 441.51(4)(c)1 by failing to timely apply for licensure in Wisconsin, which is a violation of law substantially related to the practice of nursing within the meaning of Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(2).

6. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent made a material omission in the renewal of her certification as an advanced practice nurse prescriber within the meaning of Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(5)(e).

7. 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 license to practice as a registered nurse (license number 1107876-30) and certificate to practice as an advanced practice nurse prescriber (certificate number 10175-33), and privilege to practice in Wisconsin pursuant to the Compact, are LIMITED as follows:
  - a. Within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order, Respondent shall at her own expense, successfully complete the *Nurse Practice Act -Wisconsin Course* offered by the International Center for Regulatory Scholarship, NCSBN, for a total of 2.1 hours. Respondent shall also, at her own expense, successfully complete 3 hours of education on the topic of ethics. 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 or its designee may change the number of credit hours and/or education topics in response to a request from Respondent. The Board or its designee 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 \$1,011.00.

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://dspsmonitoring.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 credentials (1107876-30 and 10175-33), or Respondent's right to renew her credentials, 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

10/12/2023  
Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

AMY J. DEFRANCO, R.N., A.P.N.P.,  
RESPONDENT.

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STIPULATION

**ORDER 0008809**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 22 NUR 754

Amy J. DeFranco, R.N., A.P.N.P. (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. Respondent is represented by Attorney Maria Schneider.

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

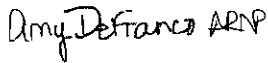
accepted by the Board, the parties agree not to contend that the Board has been prejudiced or biased in any manner by the consideration of this attempted resolution.

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 or Respondent's attorney, 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.

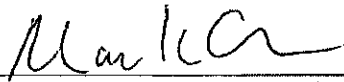
9. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondent in recommending the Board adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.



Amy J. DeFranco, R.N., A.P.N.P., Respondent  
Black River Falls, WI 54615  
Credential Nos. 1107876-30 and 10175-33

9/27/2023

Date



Maria Schneider, Attorney for Respondent  
Gutglass Erickson Larson & Schneider, S.C.  
735 N Water St., Ste 1400  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

9/28/23

Date



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

9/29/2023

Date