WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY

PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

ROSALIND P. SEVERSON, RESPONDENT.

ORDER0008914

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 23 NUR 650

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

Rosalind P. Severson Wautoma, WI 54982

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. Rosalind P. Severson (Respondent), (Year of Birth 1963) is licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a registered nurse, having license number 143613-30, with multistate privileges pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact (Compact), first issued on March 27, 2003, and current through February 29, 2024. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Wautoma, Wisconsin 54982.
- 2. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a registered nurse at a hospital located in King, Wisconsin (Facility).

Prior Board Action

- 3. On October 4, 2007, the Board issued Order No. LS07100414NUR reprimanding Respondent and imposing a limitation on Respondent's credential requiring Respondent to complete education and pay costs. The Board Order related to Respondent's care and treatment of a patient with a critically high INR and Respondent's failure to obtain vital signs, perform an assessment and notify the physician of the patient's condition.
- 4. On December 4, 2008, after complying with the terms of the Board order, the limitations were removed, and Respondent's license was restored to full, unrestricted status.

Current Case

- 5. On September 15, 2023, the Department received a complaint alleging that Respondent diverted fentanyl patches for her own personal use approximately twenty times while working at the Facility.
- 6. The Facility conducted an investigation and found that fentanyl patches were placed in the RX Destroyer bottle on multiple occasions between July 1, 2023, and August 15, 2023, and that Respondent took fentanyl patches from the RX Destroyer bottle for her own personal use on eight occasions.
- 7. On September 20, 2023, Respondent was terminated from her position at the Facility.
- 8. During the Department's investigation, Respondent admitted that she is a recovering drug addict, and following a period of extended sobriety, she "fell off the wagon" and diverted fentanyl patches from the RX Destroyer bottle for her own personal use to treat back pain.
- 9. Respondent has retired from the practice of nursing and wishes to surrender her license.
- 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. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent is unable to practice safely by reason of alcohol or other substance use within the meaning of Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(6)(f).

- 3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent obtained, possessed or attempted to obtain or possess a drug without lawful authority within the meaning of Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(8)(e).
- 4. As a result of the above conduct, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07(1g)(b),(c) and (d), and Wis. Admin. Code. § N 7.03.

ORDER

- 1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
- 2. The VOLUNTARY SURRENDER by Respondent of her license to practice nursing in the state of Wisconsin (license no. 143613-30), or under another state license pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact, as well as her right to renew such license, are hereby accepted.
- 3. In the event Respondent petitions the Board for reinstatement of her license to practice nursing 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 \$759.00, 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 registered nurse, 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://dspsmonitoring.wi.gov.

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

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

By:	Robert Wen	12/14/23	
	A Member of the Board of Nursing	Date	

STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

STIPULATION

ROSALIND P. SEVERSON, RESPONDENT.

ORDER0008914

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 23 NUR 650

Rosalind P. Severson (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.

Rosalind P. Severson, Respondent

Wautoma, WI 54982 License No. 143613-30

Watthe Villey

12/1/2023

Date

Matthew Valley, Prosecuting Attorney

Department of Safety and Professional Services

Division of Legal Services and Compliance

P.O. Box 7190

Madison, WI 53707-7190