

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

DATE: March 6, 2024

TIME: 8:30 AM

LOCATION: Via Microsoft TEAMS

MEETING MINUTES

Name	Member	Present (Y/N)	DPH STAFF	Present (Y/N)
Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, DNSc, Chairperson	RN Member	Y	Tyra Peluso, Board Liaison	Y
Cynthia L. Arpin, EdD, MSN, RN	RN Member	Y	Elizabeth Bannon, AAG	Y
Mary E. Dietmann, EdD, APRN, ACNS-BC, CNE	RN Member	N	Alina Bricklin-Goldstein, AAG	Y
Lisa S. Freeman, BA	Public	Y	Cindy Mahon, AAG	Y
Salvatore Diaz, DNP, MSN, RN	RN Member	Y	Stacy Schulman, DPH	Y
Rebecca Martinez, LPN	LPN Member	Y	Aden Baume, DPH	Y
Gina Reiners, PhD, APRN, PMHNP-BC, PMHCNS-BC	RN Member	Y		
Brett M. Prestia, MD	Public Member	Y 10:00 am		
Camille Payne, MD	APRN Member	Y		
Michael Cartier, Esq.	Public Member	Y		
Cheryl-Ann Resha	Public Member	N		

CALL TO ORDER 8:33AM

Gina Reiners moved to add a Summary Suspension for Samantha Barletta, RN, to the agenda. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. Following vote by roll call the motion was approved.

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 21, 2024, REGULAR MEETING

Gina Reiners moved to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2024, regular meeting, as amended. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion. Michael Cartier and Camille Payne abstained. The remaining members voted to approve the motion.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Tracy L. Rosenzweig, LPN Petition No. 2022-859. Gina Reiners moved to approve the memorandum of decision as presented. Rebecca Martinez seconded the motion. Michael Cartier abstained. The remaining members voted to approve the motion.

CONSENT ORDER

Melissa M. Castelli, RN Petition No. 2023-903. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton appeared for the Department. Respondent was not present. Gina Reiners moved to accept the reinstatement consent order. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. Michael Cartier and Camille Payne abstained. The remaining members voted to deny the motion.

SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Samantha Barletta, RN, Petition Number: 2024-88. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton appeared for the Department. Respondent did not appear. Cynthia Arpin moved to grant the Department's motion to summarily suspend Respondent. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote. Michael Cartier, Camille Payne, and Rebecca Martinez abstained. The remaining members voted to approve the motion.

HEARINGS

Sarah Valentine, LPN Petition No. 2023-335. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton appeared for the Department. Respondent was not present.

Gina Reiners moved to grant the Department's motion to deem allegations admitted. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion. Michael Cartier abstained. The remaining members voted to approve the motion.

Following the close of hearing, the Board conducted fact-finding. Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Salvatore Diaz, that the respondent be found on all charges. The remaining board members voted to approve the motion.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Salvatore Diaz, that respondent's license be revoked. Following vote by roll call the motion was approved..

Candace Staines, RN* Petition No. 2022-470. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton appeared for the Department. Respondent was not present.

Lisa Freeman moved to grant the Department's motion to deem allegations admitted. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. Following vote by roll call the motion was approved.

Following the close of hearing, the Board conducted fact-finding. Rebecca Martinez made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, that the respondent be found on all charges. Following vote by roll call the motion was approved.

Rebecca Martinez made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, that respondent's license be revoked. The remaining board members approved the motion.

Angel Predzimirski, RN* Petition No. 2024-166. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton appeared for the Department. Respondent appeared. Respondent provided a verbal answer to the statement of charges.

Brett Prestia made a motion, seconded by Rebecca Martinez, to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing confidential medical records. The motion was approved by roll call vote. Michael Cartier was not present for the vote. The Board entered executive session at 10:11 a.m. All members of the Board (with the exception of Michael Cartier), Assistant Attorney General Elizabeth Bannon, Alina Bricklin-Goldstein, and Cynthia Mahon, Staff Attorney Stacy Schulman and Aden Baume, Staff Attorney Joelle Newton, Department witness Dr. Fred Brown, the Respondent, Board Liaison Tyra Anne Peluso, and the stenographer were present during executive session. There were no votes taken during the executive session. Public session resumed at 11:06 a.m.

Salvatore Diaz moved to grant the Department motion to deem Dr. Fred Brown an expert witness in Blood Alcohol Testing. Lisa Freeman seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote. Michael Cartier was not present for the vote

Following the close of hearing, the Board conducted fact-finding. Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, that the respondent be found on all charges. The motion was approved by roll call vote. Michael Cartier, Camille Payne, and Brett Prestia abstained.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, that respondent be placed on probation with conditions. The motion was approved by roll call vote. Michael Cartier, Camille Payne and Brett Prestia abstained.

Cynthia Arpin made a motion to vacate the summary suspension, effective immediately. Salvatore Dia seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote. Michael Cartier, Camille Payne and Brett Prestia abstained.

Porter and Chester Institute Waterbury Campus, Evening Group. Salvatore Diaz and Cynthia Arpin recused themselves for this hearing. Attorney Eric DelPozo, Attorney Joan Feldman, Sherry Greifzu, and Heather Mallon appeared for Porter and Chester Institute. Attorney DelPozo made closing arguments.

Following the close of hearing, the Board conducted fact-finding. Gina Reiners made a motion to vacate the finding made during the December 6, 2023, meeting to remove Porter and Chester Institute from the approved LPN programs in the State of

Connecticut. Lisa Freeman seconded the motion. Michael Cartier, Brett Prestia, and Camille Payne abstained. The remaining board members voted to approve the motion.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to remove the program from the approved LPN programs in the State of Connecticut. Michael Cartier and Camille Payne abstained. The remaining board members voted to deny the motion.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to grant conditional approval of one year to the Porter and Chester Institute Waterbury Evening group LPN program. Michael Cartier abstained. The remaining board members voted to approve the motion.

PRE-HEARING REVIEW

Jennifer L. Urbano, LPN Petition No. 2022-1131. Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina appeared for the Department. Respondent was not present. Following a brief discussion a recommendation was provided. No votes were made.

SCHOOL ISSUES

Mitchell College - Organizational Chart. Following brief discussion, requests for additional information be provided on the organizational chart. No votes were made.

Western Connecticut State University – Letter of Appointment for Dr. Jeanette Lupinacci was provided to the Board. No votes were made.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

Gina Reiners made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman. The motion was approved by roll call vote. Camille Payne, Michael Carier and Brett Prestia were not present.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35p.m.