AGENDA BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING Department of Public Health 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT

November 17, 2021 - 8:30 AM

Chair Updates
Additional Agenda Items and Reordering of Agenda

Stone Academy - West Haven Campus Day Program

Deputy Associate Attorney General, Daniel Shapiro Assistant Attorney General Elizabeth Bannon

Open Forum National Council of State Boards of Nursing - Update

MINUTES

September 15, 2021

CONNECTICUT LEAGUE FOR NURSING – Monthly Update

REGULATIONS - NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS

Jill Kennedy, Health Program Associate, Department of Public Health

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

• Kristin Brice, LPN Petition No. 2020-1239

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

•	Sara Croteau, LPN	Petition No. 2021-739	Staff Attorney Aden Baume
•	Corey Richmond, RN	Petition No. 2021-48	Staff Attorney Joelle Newton
•	Martine Pyram, RN, APRN	Petition Nos. 2021-70; 2021-17	Staff Attorney Joelle Newton

CONSENT ORDERS

•	Kelly M. Bucci, APRN	Petition No. 2020-1067	Staff Attorney Aden Baume
•	Susan Dunnigan, RN	Petition No. 2020-244	Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina
•	Chenise Harris, RN	Petition No. 2020-1148	Staff Attornev Aden Baume

<u>HEARINGS</u>

•	Donna Duncan, RN	Petition No. 2020-1231	Staff Attorney Aden Baume
•	Stone Academy - West Haver	Campus Day Program	
•	Dazella Peoples, LPN	Petition No. 2020-588	Staff Attorney Joelle Newton
•	Sara Smith, RN	Petition No. 2021-557	Staff Attorney Joelle Newton
•	Chanelle Walker. RN	Petition No. 2021-516	Staff Attorney Diane Wilan

Board of Examiners for Nursing - Meeting/Hearings via Microsoft TEAMS

Join on your computer or mobile app

Click here to join the meeting

Or call in (audio only)

+1 860-840-2075 - Phone Conference ID: 426 661 710#

The following minutes are draft minutes which are subject to revision and which have not yet been adopted by the Board.

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on September 15, 2021 via Microsoft TEAMS.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, D.N.Sc. - (RN Member, Chair)

Cynthia L. Arpin, RN, MSN – (RN Member)

Jason Blando - (Public Member)

Mary E. Dietmann, EdD, APRN, ACNS-BC, CNE - (RN Member)

Lisa S. Freeman, BA - (Public Member)

Jennifer C. Long, APRN, MSN, NNP-BC - (APRN Member)

Geraldine Marrocco, Ed.D., APRN, ANP-BC, FAANP - (RN Member)

Rebecca Martinez, LPN – (LPN Member)

Gina Reiners, PhD, APRN, PMHNP, PMHCNS - (RN Member)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Stacy Schulman, Legal Counsel to the Board, DPH

Dana Dalton, RN, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH

Helen Smith, RN, Nurse Consultant, DPH

Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, DPH Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, DPH Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney, DPH Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, DPH Jeffrey Kardys, Board Liaison, DPH Agnieszka Salek, Hearings Liaison, DPH

The meeting commenced at 8:30 a.m. All participants were present via Microsoft TEAMS.

CHAIR UPDATES

Chair Bouffard discussed Public Act 21-152 which includes a provision for the Department of Public Health to explore licensure compacts for various profession including nursing. The Commissioner of the Department of Public Health will hold meetings with designate Board members of the affected professions. Chair Bouffard and Geraldine Marrocco will participate in the nursing licensure compact discussions.

OPEN FORUM

Nothing to report.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Cynthia Arpin, to approve the reordering of the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

NATIONAL COUNCIL STATE BOARDS OF NURSING

Chair Bouffard and Mary Dietmann provided a report of an Education Consultants Group teleconference held on September 14, 2021.

MINUTES

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Cynthia Arpin, to approve the minutes from July 21, 2021. The motion passed with all in favor.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to approve the minutes from August 11, 2021. The motion passed with all in favor except Jason Blando who abstained.

SCHOOL ISSUES

Lincoln Technical Institute

Patricia DeLucia, Deborah Little and Marie Acker were present from Lincoln Technical Institute. This matter was tabled from the August 11, 2021 meeting to allow for revised information to be presented.

Mary Dietmann made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners to approve the curriculum change request which will increase total hours from 1591 to 1600 and will make changes to program philosophy, course descriptions, and student outcomes and objectives. The motion passed unanimously.

• Porter & Chester Institute – Bridgeport Campus - Site Visit

Nancy Brunet and Vicky Kane were present on behalf of Porter & Chester.

Helen Smith, RN Nurse Consultant, DPH reported on an August 12, 2021 site visit to the Bridgeport campus of Porter & Chester Institute. The Practical Nursing Program at the Stratford campus will be relocating to Bridgeport.

Mary Dietmann made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners to approve the program relocation. The motion passed unanimously.

• St. Vincent's College – Approval of a Chair of the Associate Degree Nursing Program
Maryanne Davidson and Tammey Dickerson were present from St. Vincent's College.
This matter was reviewed at the August 11, 2021 meeting at which time the Board voted to allow St. Vincent's College to refile its request with a detailed description of Ms. Dickerson's teaching responsibilities and administrative workload.

Cynthia Arpin made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman to approve Tammey Dickerson as Chair of the Associate Degree Nursing Program. The motion passed. Jason Blando and Mary Dietmann recused themselves from voting.

Western Connecticut State University – Site Visit

Jeanette Lupinacci and Andrew Hull were present on behalf of Western Connecticut State University. Helen Smith, RN Nurse Consultant, DPH reported on an August 9, 2021 site visit due to relocation of staff offices and the nursing laboratories

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Rebecca Martinez, to approve the relocation. The motion passed unanimously.

Stone Academy – 5 year study

Linda Dahlin, Lisa Palmer and Attorney Aaron Bayer were present on behalf of Stone Academy. Helen Smith, RN Nurse Consultant, DPH provided an overview of Stone Academy's report. Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Cynthia Arpin to approve the five year study. Following discussion the motion failed unanimously.

Lisa Freeman made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to table this matter until revisions to suggested criterions are presented . The motion passed unanimously.

• Stone Academy – Campus Site Visit and Clinical Observations

Helen Smith, RN Nurse Consultant, DPH reported on an August 4, 2021 site visit to Stone Academy's West Haven Campus and clinical observations for the Waterbury, West Haven and East Hartford campus groups. This matter will be revisited when the revisions to the 5 year study are presented.

CONNECTICUT LEAGUE FOR NURSING – Monthly Update

Dawn Bunting provided an update from the Connecticut League for Nursing and the Deans and Directors.

A written report from Marcia Proto will subsequently be presented regarding the Connecticut Center for Nursing Workforce.

SCOPE OF PRACTICE

Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant, DPH provided a summary of 123 nursing scope of practice inquires received by the Department of Public Health during July and August 2021.

MEMORANDA OF DECISION

Nicholas Lewonczyk, LPN - Petition No. 2017-50

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to approve the Amended Memorandum of Decision as written. The motion passed with all in favor except Chair Bouffard who was opposed.

Kimberly Lemire, R.N - Petition No. 2019-1237

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Cynthia Arpin, to approve the Amended Memorandum of Decision as written. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long arrived at 11:44 a.m.

LICENSE REINSTATEMENT REQUEST

Samantha Angelini, RN - Petition No. 2021-758

Dana Dalton, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH, presented a license reinstatement request for Samantha Angelini, RN.

Following review, the Board concurred with the DPH recommendation that Ms. Angelini's license be reinstated to probation for a period of four years with conditions.

REQUEST FOR LICENSE REINSTATEMNT HEARING

Tammy Piccirillo, LPN

Ms. Piccirillo was present but was not represented by counsel.

The Board reviewed a request from Ms. Piccirillo asking for a reinstatement hearing regarding her licensed practical nurse license that was revoked effective May 20, 2020.

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Rebecca Martinez to approve Ms. Piccirillo's request. The motion passed unanimously. A hearing will be scheduled for January or February 2022.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Amy Saunders, LPN - Petition No. 2021-188

Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Amy Saunders. Respondent was not present and was not represented.

Jennifer Long moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension in that respondent's continued practice as a nurse is a clear and immediate danger to public health, safety, and welfare. The motion was seconded by Mary Dietmann and passed unanimously. A hearing will be scheduled for October 20, 2021.

Steven Lamoureux, APRN, RN - Petition Nos. 2021-652; 2021-653

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Steven Lamoureux. Respondent was not present and was not represented.

Jennifer Long moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension in that respondent's continued practice as a nurse is a clear and immediate danger to public health, safety, and welfare. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously. A hearing will be scheduled for October 20, 2021.

Stacey Thompson, LPN - Petition No. 2021-714

Staff Attorney Aden Baume presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Stacey Thompson. Respondent was not present and was not represented.

Jennifer Long moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension in that respondent's continued practice as a nurse is a clear and immediate danger to public health, safety, and welfare. The motion was seconded by Mary Dietmann and passed unanimously. A hearing will be scheduled for October 20, 2021.

Christine Trombino, LPN - Petition No. 2020-895

Staff Attorney Aden Baume presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Christine Trombino. Respondent was not present and was not represented.

Geraldine Marrocco moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension in that respondent's continued practice as a nurse is a clear and immediate danger to public health, safety, and welfare. The motion was seconded by Mary Dietmann and passed unanimously. A hearing will be scheduled for October 20, 2021.

CONSENT ORDERS

Linda Lee, LPN - Petition No. 2019-362

Staff Attorney, Joelle Newton, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Linda Lee, LPN. Attorney Cody Gaurnieri was present with respondent.

Gina Reiners moved, and Jennifer Long seconded, to approve the Consent Order which imposes a reprimand and probation for a period of one year. The motion passed unanimously.

Lashanan Massey, LPN - Petition No. 2019-1192

Staff Attorney, Joelle Newton, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Lashanan Massey, LPN. Respondent was not present and was not represented.

Gina Reiners moved, and Jennifer Long seconded, to approve the Consent Order which imposes a reprimand and probation for a period of one year. The motion passed unanimously.

Sandra Ring, LPN - Petition No. 2020-1074

Staff Attorney, Diane Wilan, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Sandra Ring, LPN. Respondent was present but was not represented.

Gina Reiners moved, and Geraldine Marrocco seconded, to approve the Consent Order. Following discussion the motion failed unanimously. The Board suggested modifications pertaining to controlled substance access and administration.

Karen Hull, RN - Petition No. 2020-228

Staff Attorney, Linda Fazzina, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Karen Hull, LPN. Attorney Timothy Grady was present with respondent.

Lisa Freeman moved, and Mary Dietmann seconded, to approve the Consent Order which imposes a reprimand and probation for a period of six months. The motion passed with all in favor except Gina Reiners who abstained.

Lisa Freeman left at 12:09 p.m.

FACT-FINDING

Patricia Fryer, RN - Petition No. 2021-572

A hearing in this matter was held on August 11, 2021. Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was present but was not represented.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann that respondent be found on all charges. The motion passed with all in favor except Rebecca Martinez who abstained.

Gina Reiners moved, and Mary Dietmann seconded, that respondent's license be placed on probation for a period of four years with random screening for alcohol and drugs weekly during the first and fourth years of probation and twice monthly during the second and third years; therapist and employer reports monthly during the first and fourth years of probation and quarterly during the second and third years; 8 – 10 support group meetings monthly and prohibition from independent practice and/or home care.

HEARINGS

Colleen Gallagher, LPN - Petition No. 2021-630

Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was present but was not represented.

Respondent orally answered the Statement of Charges.

Respondent requested a continuance to review exhibits submitted by the Department of Public Health and to submit documents on her behalf. Respondent's request was granted. The hearing is continued to January 19, 2022.

Leah Pressley, RN - Petition No. 2021-516

Staff Attorney Diane Wilan was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was not present and was not represented.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to grant the Department's oral motion to deem allegations admitted. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board entered executive session to obtain testimony regarding confidential treatment records. No motions were made and no votes were taken during executive session.

Following close of the hearing the Board conducted fact-finding.

Gina Reiners made a motion seconded by Jennifer Long, that Ms. Pressley be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Gina Reiners made a motion seconded by Jennifer Long, that Ms. Pressley's license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Lisa Freeman it was the unanimous decision to adjourn this meeting at 1:24 p.m.

Patricia C. Bouffard, D.N.Sc., Chair Board of Examiners for Nursing

October 24, 2021

From: Kristin Brice 11 Pine Tree Lane Apt G Fairfield, CT 06825

To: Connecticut Board of Nursing C/O Jeffrey Kardys Department Of Public Health 410 Capitol Avenue, MS 13PHO PO Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134-0308

Dear Board of Nursing Members:

I am writing to Formally request that the timing of my Order be adjusted to include the 7(seven) months since my hearing while I was waiting for the order to be written by the legal department. The timing from when hearing was to when it was written and emailed to me represents 25% of the sentence I was given. I am also requesting this since my previous consent order was already expired when I had my hearing. Though my previous consent order was expired I have done weekly urines, therapy, as well as the doctors doing my controlled substance form sent to Lavita Sookram directly every quarter. The weekly urines do cause a hardship to me especially when I have not been able to get a position as a Licensed Practical Nurse since I have originally been on a consent order in 2017. I have included receipts of what I have paid just to the person who monitors my urines. I am requesting you reconsider the timing to start from March 17, 2021, and end on March 17, 2023.

If I were to have had the same stipulations through Connecticut Superior courts, I don't believe the timing would have doubled for I (one)dirty urine in 2 (two) years. Other than the one dirty urine I have completed everything that was expected of me in the previous 2 (two) years as well as the last 7 (seven) months. I am just asking for reconsideration for the timing between the hearing and when the order was emailed to me. I am not asking for anything except for all the time I was expected to do things to keep my license count which I have done. Thank you for taking the time in this reconsideration request.

Respectfully yours,

Kristin Brice,

Licensed Practical Nurse

Kristin Brice

Transaction details

March 5, 2021 at 2:53:02 PM PST | Transaction ID: 5R510968T40181004

Payment received from Kristin Brice

Payment Status: Completed

Payment Type: Virtual Terminal

Gross amount

\$40.00 USD

We have no postal address on file

Order details		Quantity	Price	Subtot
February 22		1	\$40.00 USD	\$40.00 0/5
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Sales Tax	\$0.00 USD			
Shipping Amount	\$0.00 USD			
Handling Amount	\$0.00 USD			
Insurance Amount	\$0.00 USD			
Gross Amount	\$40.00 USD			
PayPal Fee	-\$1.54 USD			
Net Amount	\$38.46 USD			
Paid by	Kristin Brice	THE PERSON OF TH	Supplementarion	
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Payment Sent to	Pay101@101ScreeningService.c	om		
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Purchase receipt from 101ScreeningService.com

member@paypal.com <member@paypal.com> Reply-To: Pay101@101screeningservice.com

Tue, May 4, 2021 at 10:50 AM

To: "Pay101@101ScreeningService.com" <Pay101@101screeningservice.com>

Hi Kristin,

Please find the receipt for the payment of \$160.00. It was a pleasure doing business with you, thank you.

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1100		

101ScreeningService.com

385 Main St.

Suite 2 - Lower Level

West Haven, CT 06516

Transaction ID

82H3521833627820T

05/04/2021 07:49:27

Billing information

Order information

April 8,14, 20, 26

Amount

\$160.00 USD

Shipping

\$0.00 USD

Tax

\$0.00 USD

Total

\$160.00 USD



member@paypal.com <member@paypal.com>
Reply-To: Pay101@101screeningservice.com
To: "Pay101@101ScreeningService.com" <Pay101@101screeningservice.com>

Sun, Jun 6, 2021 at 11:48 AM

Hi Kristin.

Please find the receipt for the payment of \$160.00. It was a pleasure doing business with you, thank you.

Receipt

101	Screen	ingSe	rvice.c	om
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385 Main St.

06/06/2021 08:48:00

Suite 2 - Lower

Level

West Haven, CT

06516

Transaction ID

Billing information

7EG99657D63179410

Kristin Brice

1

Order information

May 7,12,18,28

Amount

\$160.00 USD

Shipping

Tax

\$0.00 USD \$0.00 USD

Total

\$160.00 USD



member@paypal.com <member@paypal.com> Reply-To: Pay101@101screeningservice.com

Fri, Jul 2, 2021 at 2:49 PM

To: "Pay101@101ScreeningService.com" <Pay101@101screeningservice.com>

Hi Kristin,

Please find the receipt for the payment of \$120.00. It was a pleasure doing business with you, thank you.

Receipt

101ScreeningService.	com
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385 Main St.

Suite 2 - Lower Level

West Haven, CT 06516

Transaction ID

88H68210PD556640K

07/02/2021 11:49:16

Billing information

Kristin Brice

Order information

June 1,3,10

Amount

\$120.00 USD

Shipping

\$0.00 USD

Tax

\$0.00 USD

Total

\$120.00 USD



Fri, Jul 9, 2021 at 11:50 AM

To: "Pay101@101ScreeningService.com" <Pay101@101screeningservice.com>

HI Kristin,

Please find the receipt for the payment of \$120.00. It was a pleasure doing business with you, thank you.

Receipt

101ScreeningService.com

385 Main St.

Suite 2 - Lower Level

West Haven, CT 06516

Transaction ID

3D3247161T021035H

07/09/2021 08:49:28

Billing information

Kristin Brice

Order information

June 17, 21,30

Amount

\$120.00 USD

Shipping

\$0.00 USD

Tax

\$0.00 USD

Total

\$120.00 USD



member@paypal.com <member@paypal.com>
Reply-To: Pay101@101screeningservice.com

Sun, Aug 1, 2021 at 2:04 PM

To: "Pay101@101ScreeningService.com" <Pay101@101screeningservice.com>

Hi Kristin,

Please find the receipt for the payment of \$205.00. It was a pleasure doing business with you, thank you.

Receipt

101ScreeningService.com

385 Main St.

08/01/2021 11:03:14

Suite 2 - Lower Level

West Haven, CT

06516

Transaction ID

Billing information

8N399950S70245153

Kristin Brice

Order information

July 8, 14,20,26

Amount

\$205.00 USD

Shipping

\$0.00 USD

Tax

\$0.00 USD

Total

\$205.00 USD

INVOICE

101ScreeningService.com

158 Center st, West Haven, CT 06516, UNITED STATES Pay101@101ScreeningService.com

Invoice No#: 2016-1345 Invoice Date: Aug 26, 2021

Due Date: Aug 26, 2021

PAID

\$0.00

AMOUNT DUE

BILL TO

#	ITEMS & DESCRIPTION	QTY/HRS	PRICE A	MOUNT(\$)
1	Amount	1	\$100.00	\$100.00
		Subtot	al	\$100.00
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		Amount pai	id	\$100.00
		AMOUNT DU	E śo	.00 USD



member@paypal.com <member@paypal.com>
Reply-To: Pay101@101screeningservice.com
To: "Pay101@101screeningService.com" <Pay101@101screeningService.com" <Pay101@101screeningService.com" <Pay101@101screeningService.com

Fri, Sep 3, 2021 at 6:05 PM

To: "Pay101@101ScreeningService.com" < Pay101@101screeningservice.com>

Hi Kristin,

Please find the receipt for the payment of \$160.00. It was a pleasure doing business with you, thank you.

Receipt

101ScreeningService.com

385 Main St.

09/03/2021 15:05:36

Suite 2 - Lower

Level

West Haven, CT

06516

Transaction ID

Billing information

5XY4901471735441G

Kristin Brice

Order information

1/2 of august

Amount

\$160.00 USD

Shipping

Tax

\$0.00 USD \$0.00 USD

Total

\$160.00 USD



member@paypal.com <member@paypal.com>
Reply-To: Pay101@101screeningservice.com

Mon, Oct 4, 2021 at 2:05 PM

To: "Pay101@101ScreeningService.com" <Pay101@101screeningservice.com>

Hi Kristin,

Please find the receipt for the payment of \$290.00. It was a pleasure doing business with you, thank you.

Receipt

101ScreeningService.com

385 Main St.

Suite 2 - Lower Level

West Haven, CT 06516

Transaction ID

9KX242813Y9459739

10/04/2021 11:05:05

Billing information

Kristin Brice

Order information

September 1,10,15,21,29

Amount

\$290.00 USD

Shipping

\$0.00 USD

Tax

\$0.00 USD

Total

\$290.00 USD



Manisha Juthani, MD Commissioner



Ned Lamont Governor Susan Bysiewicz Lt. Governor

PUBLIC HEALTH HEARING OFFICE

October 20, 2021

Dennis V. Mancini, Esq. 1290 Silas Deane Hwy, Suite 3F Wethersfield, CT 06109 **VIA EMAIL ONLY**

Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney Department of Public Health 410 Capitol Avenue, MS #12LEG PO Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134-0308 VIA EMAIL ONLY

RE: Kristin Brice, LPN, - Petition No. 2020-1239

Dear Attorney Mancini and Attorney Newton,

Enclosed please find the Memorandum of Decision issued by the **Board of Examiners for Nursing** in the above-referenced matter.

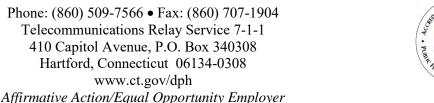
Sincerely,

Isl Jeffrey A. Kardys

Jeffrey A. Kardys Administrative Hearings Specialist Public Health Hearing Office

c: Susan Castonguay, Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General Barbara Cass, Branch Chief, DPH Christian Andresen, Section Chief, Practitioner Licensing and Investigations, DPH Deborah Brown, Health Program Assistant, Department of Public Health Lavita Sookram, RN, DPH Monitoring Unit Kristin Brice, LPN (Via EMAIL)







STATE OF CONNECTICUT BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

Kristin Brice, L.P.N. License No. 038597 Petition No. 2020-1239

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

I

Procedural Background

On February 4, 2021, the Department of Public Health ("Department") filed a Statement of Charges ("Charges") with the Board of Examiners for Nursing ("Board"). Board ("Bd.") Exhibit ("Ex.") 1. The Charges allege that Kristin Brice ("Respondent") violated Chapter 378 of the Connecticut General Statutes ("Conn. Gen. Stat."), subjecting Respondent's licensed practical nurse ("L.P.N.") license number 038597 to disciplinary action pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 19a-17 and 20-99(b), including, but not limited to §§ 20-99(b)(2) and/or 20-99(b)(5).

On February 4, 2021, the Department filed a Motion for Summary Suspension with the Board. Bd. Ex. 2. On February 17, 2021, the Board granted the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension. Bd. Ex. 3.

Based on the allegations in the Charges and the affidavits and reports attached to the Motion, the Board found that Respondent's continued nursing practice presented a clear and immediate danger to public health and safety. Accordingly, on February 17, 2021, pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 4-182(c) and 19a-17(c), the Board ordered that Respondent's L.P.N. license be summarily suspended pending a final determination by the Board of the allegations contained in the Charges ("Summary Suspension Order"). Bd. Ex. 3.

On February 17, 2021, the Summary Suspension Order, Charges and Notice of Hearing ("Notice"), were emailed to Respondent at kristin.brice624@yahoo.com., her email address of record on file with the Department.¹ The Notice informed Respondent that a hearing was scheduled for March 17, 2021. Bd. Ex. 4.

¹ On May 27, 2020, in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order No. 7B, Executive No. 7K, and Executive Order No. 7M, the Commissioner of the Department issued an order modifying Conn. Agencies Regs. § 19a-9-18 to

On March 2, 2021, Respondent, through her attorney, filed an Answer to the Charges Bd. Ex. 5.

The hearing was held on March 17, 2021. Respondent appeared at the hearing and was represented by Attorney Dennis Mancini, from the law firm Ruane Attorneys at Law. Attorney Joelle Newton represented the Department. At the hearing, Respondent orally amended her Answer to the Charges, changing her answer for paragraph 5 from "deny" to "admit." Transcript ("Tr.") pp. 9-10.

The hearing was held on March 17, 2021. Respondent appeared at the hearing and was represented by Attorney Dennis Mancini. Attorney Joelle Newton represented the Department.

Following the close of the record, the Board conducted fact finding.

Each member of the Board involved in this decision attests that he or she was present at the hearing or has reviewed the record, and that this decision is based entirely on the record, the law, and the Board's specialized professional knowledge in evaluating the evidence. *Pet v. Department of Health Services*, 228 Conn. 651 (1994).

II

Allegations

- 1. In paragraph 1 of the Charges, the Department alleges that Respondent of Shelton, Connecticut is, and has been at all times, as referenced in the Charges, the holder of Connecticut L.P.N. license number 038597.
- 2. In paragraph 2 of the Charges, the Department alleges that in November 2017, the Board ordered a Consent Order, Petition No. 2015-1510, based in part, upon Respondent's abuse of controlled substances. The Consent Order placed Respondent's license on probation for two years and prohibited her from obtaining or using controlled substances. It also required her to undergo random urine drug screens which were to be negative for the presence of drugs and alcohol.
- 3. In paragraph 3 of the Charges, the Department alleges that in June 2018, Respondent's license lapsed.
- 4. In paragraph 4 of the Charges, the Department alleges that in December 2019, Respondent's license was reinstated pursuant to Reinstatement Consent Order, Petition No. 2019-1170, which placed Respondent's license on probation for 14 months. The

permit delivery of notices of hearing to be sent solely by email and to deem such notice to be effective and sufficient if sent to the party's last known email address of record on file with the Department.

Page **3** of **11**

Reinstatement Consent Order prohibited Respondent from obtaining or using controlled substances and required her to undergo random urine drug screens which were to be negative for the presence of drugs and alcohol.

- 5. In paragraph 5 of the Charges, the Department alleges that on or about October 16, 2020, Respondent abused and/or utilized opiates and/or hydrocodone to excess.
- 6. In paragraph 6 of the Charges, the Department alleges that on or about October 16, 2020, Respondent's urine drug screen tested positive for opiates and/or hydrocodone.
- 7. In paragraph 7 of the Charges, the Department alleges that Respondent's abuse and/or excessive use of opiates and/or hydrocodone does, and/or may, affect her practice of nursing.
- 8. In paragraph 8 of the Charges, the Department alleges that Respondent's conduct as described constitutes violations of the terms of probation required by the Reinstatement Consent Order and subjects her license to revocation or other disciplinary action authorized by Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 19a-17 and 20-99(b) including, but not limited to, §§ 20-99)(2) and/or 20-99(b)(5).

Ш

Findings of Fact

- 1. Respondent of Shelton, Connecticut is, and has been at all times, as referenced in the Charges, the holder of Connecticut L.P.N. license number 038597. Bd. Ex. 5; Tr. pp. 9-10.
- 2. In November 2017, the Board issued a Consent Order in Petition No. 2015-1510, based in part, upon Respondent's abuse of controlled substances. The Consent Order placed Respondent's license on probation for two years and prohibited her from obtaining or using controlled substances. It also required her to undergo random urine drug screens which were required to be negative for the presence of drugs and alcohol. Bd. Ex. 5; Tr. pp. 9-10; Department ("Dept.") Ex. 1, pp. 32-43.
- 3. In June 2018, Respondent's L.P.N. license lapsed. Bd. Ex. 5; Tr. pp. 9-10.
- 4. In December 2019, Respondent's license was reinstated pursuant to the Reinstatement Consent Order, Petition No. 2019-1170, which placed Respondent's license on probation for 14 months. The Reinstatement Consent Order prohibited Respondent from obtaining or using controlled substances and required her to undergo random urine drug screens which were required to be negative for the presence of drugs and alcohol. Bd. Ex. 5; Tr. pp. 9-10; Dept. Ex. 1, pp. 5-16.
- 5. On or about October 16, 2020, Respondent abused and/or utilized opiates and/or hydrocodone to excess. Bd. Ex. 5; Dept. Ex. 1, pp. 20-21.

Page 4 of 11

- 6. On or about October 16, 2020, Respondent's urine drug screen tested positive for opiates and/or hydrocodone. Dept. Ex. 1, pp. 22-25 (under seal); Tr. p. 10.
- 7. Respondent's abuse and/or excessive use of opiates and/or hydrocodone does, and/or may, affect her practice of nursing.

IV

Discussion and Conclusions of Law

The Department bears the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence in this matter. *Jones v. Connecticut Medical Examining Board*, 309 Conn. 727, 739-740 (2013). The Department sustained its burden of proof with regard to all of the allegations contained in the Charges.

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-99 provides, in pertinent part,

- (a) The Board . . . shall have jurisdiction to hear all charges of conduct which fails to conform to the accepted standards of the nursing profession brought against persons licensed to practice nursing. After holding a hearing . . . said board, if it finds such person to be guilty, may revoke or suspend his or her license or take any of the actions set forth in section 19a-17
- (b) Conduct which fails to conform to the accepted standards of the nursing profession includes, but is not limited to, the following: . . . (2) illegal conduct, incompetence, or negligence in carrying out usual nursing functions; . . . (5) abuse or excessive use of drugs, including alcohol, narcotics, or chemicals; . . .

With respect to the allegations contained in the Charges, Respondent admitted to all of the allegations contained in the Charges, except the allegations contained in paragraph 7 of the Charges. However, the Board finds that the Department established by a preponderance of the evidence that Respondent's abuse and/or excessive use of opiates and/or hydrocodone does, and/or may, affect her practice of nursing. Findings of Fact ("FF") 1-7.

With respect to paragraph 1 of the Charges, Respondent of Shelton, Connecticut is, and has been at all times, as referenced in the Charges, the holder of Connecticut L.P.N. license number 038597. FF 1.

With respect to the allegations contained in paragraph 2 of the Charges, the record establishes, and Respondent admits that in November 2017, the Board issued a Consent Order in Petition No. 2015-1510, based in part, upon Respondent's abuse of controlled substances. The Consent Order placed Respondent's license on probation for two years and prohibited her from

Page **5** of **11**

obtaining or using controlled substances. It also required her to undergo random urine drug screens which were required to be negative for the presence of drugs and alcohol. FF 2.

With respect to the allegations contained in paragraph 3 of the Charges, Respondent admits that in June 2018, her license lapsed. FF 3.

With respect to the allegations contained in paragraph 4 of the Charges, the record establishes, and Respondent admits that in December 2019, Respondent's license was reinstated pursuant to the Reinstatement Consent Order, Petition No. 2019-1170, which placed Respondent's license on probation for 14 months. The Reinstatement Consent Order prohibited Respondent from obtaining or using controlled substances and required her to undergo random urine drug screens which were required to be negative for the presence of drugs and alcohol. FF 4.

With respect to the allegations contained in paragraph 5 of the Charges, the record establishes, and Respondent admits that on or about October 16, 2020, Respondent abused and/or utilized opiates and/or hydrocodone to excess. FF 5.

With respect to the allegations contained in paragraph 6 of the Charges, the record establishes, and Respondent admits, that on or about October 16, 2020, Respondent's urine drug screen tested positive for opiates and/or hydrocodone. FF 6. Respondent credibly testified that on or about October 16, 2020, she was out with her elderly mother-in-law, helping her with her daily living activities. Tr. pp. 19-20. Respondent testified that she suffers from fibromyalgia pain, which is worse in her hip area. Tr. pp.18-19, 23. Due to the amount of walking Respondent did while assisting her mother-in-law, Respondent testified that she started to experience excruciating pain and was having difficulty walking. Tr. p. 18.

Respondent further testified that she did not have her pain medication with her and was in so much pain that she was almost in tears. Tr. pp. 18-19. As a result, Respondent took someone else's medication to alleviate her pain and to enable her to complete her errands with her elderly mother-in-law. Tr. pp. 19-20. Respondent took hydrocodone, a controlled substance which pursuant to the terms of her Reinstatement Consent Order, she is not permitted to ingest. On October 17, 2020, her drug screen result was positive for hydrocodone. Dept. Ex. 1, p. 24 (under seal). The Department met its burden of proof with respect to the allegations contained in paragraph 6 of the Charges.

Page **6** of **11**

With respect to the allegations contained in paragraph 7 of the Charges, the Department established by a preponderance of the evidence that Respondent's abuse and/or excessive use of opiates and/or hydrocodone does, and/or may, affect her practice of nursing. FF 7. In her testimony, Respondent denied that her positive test for hydrocodone does and/or may affect her nursing practice, claiming that the October 16, 2020 incident in which she ingested someone else's medication to alleviate her pain from excessive walking was a "one-time, one-off thing," which she would not repeat. However, the Board questioned Respondent's judgment in intentionally ingesting someone else's pain medication. Tr. pp. 20, 22-23 (under seal). Respondent acknowledged that taking someone else's pain medication was a mistake and was wrong. She also testified that she now brings her own pain medication with her when she is out so that an incident similar to the October 16, 2020 incident will not happen again. Tr. p. 20. She further testified that before doing a lot of walking, she now does leg lifts and stretches to manage her hip pain. Tr. pp. 26-27.

Despite Respondent's denial of the allegations in paragraph 7 of the Charges, the Department established by a preponderance of the evidence that Respondent's use or abuse of opiates and/or hydrocodone does, and/or may affect her practice of nursing.

The record establishes that since October 24, 2020, Respondent has had all negative urine screens. Resp. Ex. A, pp. 2-29 (under seal); Resp. Ex. B, pp. 2-3. As discussed above, Respondent has taken full responsibility for her poor judgment in October 2020, and credibly testified that she has taken measures to prevent a future lapse in judgment.

The record establishes that Respondent's use or abuse of hydrocodone on October 16, 2020 constitutes a violation of her December 18, 2019 Reinstatement Consent Order and Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-99(b)(5), which prohibits the "abuse or excessive use of drugs, including alcohol, narcotics or chemicals." The conduct admitted, in conjunction with the Department sustaining its burden of proof, renders Respondent's license subject to sanctions, including, among others, revocation, suspension, or probation. *See*, Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 19a-17(a)(1), (2) and (5). Nonetheless, based on the totality of the evidence, and Respondent's subsequent negative urine drug screens since October 24, 2020, the Board finds that Respondent can practice nursing with reasonable skill and safety under the terms of this Order.

V

Order

Based on the record in this case, the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, and pursuant to the authority vested in it by Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 19a-17(a)(1), (2) and (5) and 20-99(b), the Board finds that the conduct alleged and proven warrants the disciplinary action imposed by this Order. Therefore, the Board hereby issues the following orders with respect to Respondent's L.P.N. license number 038597:

- 1. Respondent's license shall be on probation for two years. This Order replaces the December 18, 2019 Reinstatement Consent Order in Petition No. 2019-1170, in its entirety. Respondent's license will be subject to the terms and conditions listed below. If any of the conditions of probation are not met, Respondent's L.P.N. license may be subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 19a-17.
 - A. During the probationary period, the Department shall pre-approve Respondent's employment and/or change of employment within the nursing profession.
 - B. Respondent shall not be employed as a nurse for a personnel provider service, assisted living services agency, homemaker-home health aide agency, or home health care agency, and shall not be self-employed as a nurse for the first year of the probationary period.
 - C. Respondent shall not administer, count, or have access to controlled substances, or have responsibility for such activities in the course of nursing duties during the first year of working as a nurse during the probationary period.
 - D. Respondent shall provide a copy of this Decision to any and all employers if employed as a nurse during the probationary period. The Department shall be notified in writing by any employer(s), within 30 days of the commencement of employment, as to receipt of a copy of this Decision.
 - E. If employed as a nurse, Respondent shall cause employer reports to be submitted to the Department, by her immediate supervisor during the entire probationary period. Employer reports shall be submitted commencing with the report due on

Page 8 of 11

- the first business day of the month following employment as a nurse. Employer reports shall be submitted every two months for the entire probationary period.
- F. The employer reports cited in Paragraph E above shall include documentation of Respondent's ability to practice nursing safely and competently. Employer reports shall be submitted directly to the Department at the address cited in Paragraph Q below.
- G. If Respondent's employment as a nurse is involuntarily terminated or suspended, Respondent and her employer shall notify the Department within 72 hours of such termination or suspension.
- H. If Respondent pursues further training in any subject area that is regulated by the Department, Respondent shall provide a copy of this Decision to the educational institution or, if not an institution, to Respondent's instructor. Such institution or instructor shall notify the Department in writing as to receipt of a copy of this Decision within 15 days of receipt. Said notification shall be submitted directly to the Department at the address cited in Paragraph Q below.
- I. At her expense, Respondent shall engage in therapy and counseling for chemical dependency with a licensed or certified therapist, approved by the Department, during the entire probationary period.
- J. Respondent shall provide a copy of this Decision to her therapist. The Department shall be notified in writing by her therapist, within 30 days of the effective date of this Decision, as to receipt of a copy of this Decision.
- K. Respondent shall cause evaluation reports to be submitted to the Department by her therapist during the entire probationary period. Therapist reports shall be submitted quarterly for the first year and monthly for the second year of probation.
- L. The therapist reports cited in Paragraph K above shall include documentation of dates of treatment, and an evaluation of Respondent's progress, including alcohol and drug free status, and ability to practice nursing safely and competently.

 Therapist reports shall be submitted directly to the Department at the address cited in Paragraph Q below.

Page 9 of 11

M. Observed random urine screens

- (1) At her expense, Respondent shall be responsible for submitting to observed, random chain of custody urine screens for alcohol and drugs for the entire probationary period, at a testing facility approved by the Department. Random alcohol/drug screens shall be legally defensible in that the specimen donor and chain of custody can be identified throughout the screening process.
- (2) Respondent shall be responsible for notifying the laboratory, her therapist, the Department, and her prescribing practitioner of any drug(s) she is taking. For any prescription of a controlled substance(s) for more than two consecutive weeks, Respondent shall cause the provider prescribing the controlled substance(s) to submit quarterly reports to the Department until such time as the controlled substance(s) are no longer prescribed. The reports shall include the following:
 - a. A list of controlled substances prescribed by this provider;
 - b. A list of controlled substance(s) prescribed by other providers;
 - c. An evaluation of Respondent's need for the controlled substances; and
 - d. An assessment of Respondent's continued need for the controlled substance(s).
- (3) There must be at least one such observed, random alcohol/drug screen as follows: on a *weekly* basis for the first 6 months of the probationary period, on a *monthly* basis for the next 12 months of the probationary period, and *weekly* for the last 6 months of the probationary period, for a total of 24 months.
- (4) Random alcohol/drug screens shall be negative for the presence of alcohol and drugs, excluding the drugs that Respondent's providers prescribe. All urine screens for alcohol will be tested for Ethyl Glucuronide (EtG) and Ethyl Sulfate (EtS) metabolites. All positive screen results shall be confirmed by the Gas Chromatograph Mass Spectrometer (GC/MS) testing method. Chain of custody documentation must accompany all

Page 10 of 11

laboratory reports and/or the laboratory reports must indicate that chain of custody procedures have been followed.

(5) Random alcohol/drug screens must include testing for the following substances:

Amphetamines
Barbiturates
Benzodiazepines

Cannabinoids (THC Metabolites)

Cocaine Meperidine (Demerol)

Fentanyl

Tramadol

Methadone Methaqualone

Opiates (Metabolites)
Phencyclidine (PCP)

Propoxyphene Ethanol (alcohol)

Stadol

(6) Laboratory reports of random alcohol and drug screens shall be submitted directly to the Department, at the address cited in Paragraph Q below by Respondent's therapist, personal physician, or the testing laboratory.

- N. Respondent shall not obtain for personal use and/or use alcohol or any drug that has not been prescribed for her for a legitimate purpose by a licensed health care practitioner authorized to prescribe medications. Respondent shall not abuse and/or excessively use any drugs that are prescribed for a legitimate medical purpose.
- O. Respondent is hereby advised that the ingestion of poppy seeds may produce a positive drug screen result indicating the presence of opiates/morphine. The ingestion of mouthwash, over the counter cough suppressants and cold/flu remedies may produce a positive result indicating the presence of alcohol. For that reason, any food substance containing poppy seeds, mouthwash and over the counter cough suppressants and cold/flu remedies should be avoided during the probationary period. In the event that a drug/alcohol screen is positive for opiates/morphine and/or alcohol, the ingestion of poppy seeds, mouthwash and over the counter cough suppressants and/or cold/flu remedies shall not constitute a defense to such positive screen.
- P. The Department must be informed in writing prior to any change of address.
- Q. All communications, payments if required, correspondence, and reports are to be addressed to:

Lavita Sookram, RN, Nurse Consultant
Practitioner Monitoring and Compliance Unit
Department of Public Health
Division of Health Systems Regulation
Board of Examiners for Nursing
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #12HSR
P. O. Box 340308
Hartford, CT 06134-0308

- 2. Any deviation from the terms of probation, without prior written approval by the Board, shall constitute a violation of probation, which will be cause for an immediate hearing on charges of violating this Order. Any finding that Respondent has violated this Order will subject Respondent to sanctions under Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 19a-17(a) and (c), including but not limited to, the revocation of her license. Any extension of time or grace period for reporting granted by the Board shall not be a waiver of or preclude the Board's right to take subsequent action. The Board shall not be required to grant future extensions of time or grace periods. Notice of revocation or other disciplinary action shall be sent to Respondent's address of record which is deemed to be the most current address reported to the Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section of the Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch of the Department.
- This document has no bearing on any criminal liability without the written consent of the
 Director of Medicaid Fraud Control Unit or the Bureau Chief of the Division of Criminal
 Justice's Statewide Prosecution Bureau.

This Order is effective on the date it is signed by the Board.

The Board hereby informs Respondent, Kristin Brice, and the Department of this decision.

Dated at Waterbury, Connecticut this _____ day of October 2021.

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

Patricia C. Bouffard, D.N.Sc., Chair

SUMMARY SUSPENSION COVER SHEET

In re: Sara Croteau, L.P.N. Petition No. 2021-739

- 1. Sara Croteau of Sandy Hook, Connecticut (hereinafter "respondent") was issued license number 025849 on July 28, 1995. She graduated from Henry Abott Technical School in 1995.
- 2. At all relevant times, respondent was employed as a nurse at The Curtis Home in Meriden, Connecticut.
- 3. On or about July 18, 2021, while working as a nurse at The Curtis Home in Meriden, Connecticut, respondent:
 - a. diverted 30 tablets of oxycodone;
 - b. failed to completely, properly and/or accurately document medical or hospital records; and/or,
 - c. falsified one or more Controlled Substance Receipt Records.
- 4. The above facts constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to the General Statutes of Connecticut, §20-99(b), including but not limited to:
 - a. $\S 20-99(b)(2)$; and/or,
 - b. §20-99(b)(6).
- 5. Past discipline: on March 21, 2007, the Nursing board ordered a one-year Consent Order and a reprimand as a result of respondent failing to document doses of controlled substances and signing out more doses than other nurses in her unit.
- 6. For the foregoing reasons, the Department believes that respondent's continued practice as a nurse represents a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety. The Department respectfully requests that this Board summarily suspend respondent's license until a full hearing on the merits can be held.

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Summary 6/98 11-1

In re: Sara Croteau, L.P.N. Petition No. 2021-739

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

The Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") hereby moves in accordance with the General Statutes of Connecticut §§4-182(c) and 19a-17(c) that the Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing summarily suspend the license of Sara Croteau to practice nursing in Connecticut. This motion is based on the attached Statement of Charges, Affidavits and on the Department's information and belief that the continued practice of nursing represents a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this	21st	day of	October	2021.
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Christian D. Andresen, MPH, CPH, Section Chief Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch

SOC2 5/98 6B-4

In re: Sara Croteau, L.P.N. Petition No. 2021-739

STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Pursuant to the General Statutes of Connecticut, §§19a-10 and 19a-14, the Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") brings the following charges against Sara Croteau:

- 1. Sara Croteau of Sandy Hook, Connecticut (hereinafter "respondent") is, and has been at all times referenced in this Statement of Charges, the holder of Connecticut Licensed Practical Nurse license number 025849.
- 2. At all relevant times, respondent was employed as a nurse at The Curtis Home in Meriden, Connecticut.
- 3. On or about July 18, 2021, while working as a nurse at The Curtis Home in Meriden, Connecticut, respondent:
 - a. diverted 30 tablets of oxycodone;
 - b. failed to completely, properly and/or accurately document medical or hospital records; and/or,
 - c. falsified one or more Controlled Substance Receipt Records.
- 4. The above facts constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to the General Statutes of Connecticut, §20-99(b), including but not limited to:
 - a. $\S 20-99(b)(2)$; and/or
 - b. §20-99(b)(6).

THEREFORE, the Department prays that:

The Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing, as authorized by the General Statutes of Connecticut, §§20-99(b) and 19a-17, revoke or order other disciplinary action against the license of Sara Croteau as it deems appropriate and consistent with law.

	11 1			
Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this	21st	day of	October	2021.
		Churt	an Olndusen	
			, MPH, CPH, Sec	

Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch

SOC2 5/98 6B-5

In re: Corey L. Richmond, RN Petition No. 2021-48

SUMMARY SUSPENSION COVER SHEET

- 1. Corey L. Richmond of Bethel, Connecticut ("respondent") graduated from the University of Connecticut and was issued a registered nurse license in 2008.
- 2. Respondent has not been previously disciplined.
- 3. From approximately 2010 through 2020, respondent abused and/or utilized cocaine, oxycodone, marijuana and/or heroin to excess.
- 4. From approximately January 2008 through to the present, respondent has or had emotional disorders and/or mental illnesses.
- 5. On or about September 20, 2021, respondent abused and/or utilized alcohol to excess.
- 6. Respondent's emotional disorders, mental illnesses and/or abuse or excessive use of cocaine, oxycodone, heroin, alcohol and/or marijuana, does, and/or may, affect his practice of nursing.
- 7. For the foregoing reasons, the Department believes that respondent's continued practice as a registered nurse represents a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety. The Department respectfully requests that this Board summarily suspend respondent's nursing license until a full hearing on the merits can be held.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This document and all attachments may contain information that is confidential or privileged. Please do not disseminate, distribute, or copy the contents or discuss with parties who are not directly involved in this petition. Thank you.

In re: Corey L. Richmond, RN

Petition No. 2021-48

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

The Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") moves, in accordance with

Connecticut General Statutes §§4-182(c) and 19a-17(c), the Connecticut Board of Examiners for

Nursing to summarily suspend Corey L. Richmond's Connecticut registered nurse license. This

motion is based on the attached Statement of Charges, records and on the Department's

information and belief that respondent's continued nursing practice represents a clear and

immediate danger to the public health and safety.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut on October 25th, 2021.

Christian D. Andresen, MPH, CPH, Section Chief Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section

Churtian Olindusen

Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch

AMENDED STATEMENT OF CHARGES

In re: Corey L. Richmond, RN

Petition No. 2021-48

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §§19a-10 and 19a-14, the Department of Public Health ("the Department") brings the following charges against Corey L. Richmond:

- 1. Corey L. Richmond ("respondent") of New Haven, Connecticut holds Connecticut registered nurse license number 086560.
- 2. From approximately 2010 through 2020, respondent abused and/or utilized cocaine, oxycodone, marijuana and/or heroin to excess.
- 3. From approximately January 2008 through to the present, respondent has or had emotional disorders and/or mental illnesses.
- 4. On or about September 20, 2021, respondent abused and/or utilized alcohol to excess.
- Respondent's emotional disorders, mental illnesses and/or abuse or excessive use of cocaine, oxycodone, heroin, alcohol and/or marijuana, does, and/or may, affect his practice of nursing.
- 6. The above-described facts constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to of Connecticut General Statutes §20-99(b), including but not limited to:
 - a. §20-99(b)(4); and/or
 - b. §20-99(b)(5).

THEREFORE, the Department prays that:

The Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing as authorized by Connecticut General Statutes §§20-99(b) and 19a-17, revoke or order other disciplinary action against respondent's nursing license as it deems appropriate and consistent with law.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this 25th day of October 2021.

Christian D. Andresen, MPH, CPH, Section Chief Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch

Christian Olindusen

SUMMARY SUSPENSION COVER SHEET

Petition No. 2021-70

Petition No. 2021-71

1. Martine Pyram of Burlington, New Jersey ("respondent") received her Connecticut registered

nursing license and advanced practice registered nurse license in 2020. She graduated from Cuya-

hoga Community College in 2012 and Ohio University in 2015. She has no prior discipline.

2. Respondent holds unencumbered registered nurse licenses in Georgia, New York, Ohio, and Penn-

sylvania and a certified nurse practitioner license in Ohio.

3. From approximately November 2020 through the present, respondent has or had one or more

emotional disorders and/or mental illnesses that does and/or may affect her ability to practice

nursing.

In Re: Martine Pyram, APRN, RN

4. On multiple occasions from approximately November 2020 through January 2021, while

practicing nursing and/or while on the premises of Natchaug Hospital, respondent engaged in

inappropriate, unprofessional, and/or disruptive conduct.

5. For the foregoing reasons, the Department believes that respondent's continued nursing practice

represents a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety. The Department respect-

fully requests that the Board summarily suspend respondent's registered and advanced practice

registered nurse licenses until a full hearing on the merits can be held.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This document and all attachments may contain information that is confidential or privileged. Please do not disseminate, distribute or copy the contents or discuss with parties who are not directly

involved in this petition. Thank you.

In Re: Martine Pyram, APRN, RN

Petition No. 2021-70

Petition No. 2021-71

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

The Department of Public Health ("the Department") moves, in accordance with Connecticut General

Statutes §§4-182(c) and 19a-17(c), the Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing to summarily

suspend respondent's Connecticut registered nurse license number 174480 and advanced practice

registered nurse license number 009206. This motion is based on the attached Statement of Charges,

affidavits, records and the Department's information and belief that respondent's continued nursing

practice represents a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this __10th_ day of November 2021.

Christian D. Andresen, MPH, CPH, Section Chief Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section

Churtian Olindusen

Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH

In Re: Martine Pyram, APRN, RN

Petition No. 2021-70

Petition No. 2021-71

STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §§19a-10 and 19a-14, the Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") brings the following charges against Martine Pyram:

- Martine Pyram of Burlington, New Jersey ("respondent") holds
 Connecticut registered nurse license number 174480 and advanced practice registered nurse license number 009206.
- 2. From approximately November 2020 through the present, respondent has or had one or more emotional disorders and/ or mental illnesses that does and/or may affect her ability to practice nursing.
- 3. On multiple occasions from approximately November 2020 through January 2021, while practicing nursing and/or while on the premises of Natchaug Hospital, respondent engaged in inappropriate, unprofessional, and/or disruptive conduct.
- 4. The above facts constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §20-99 (b), including, but not necessarily limited to:
 - a. §20-99(b)(2); and/or
 - b. §20-99(b)(4).

THEREFORE, the Department prays:

The Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing as authorized by Connecticut General Statutes §§20-99(b) and 19a-17, revoke, or order other disciplinary action against respondent's nursing licenses as it deems appropriate and consistent with law.

Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this	10th	day of November 2021.
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$\overline{ ext{C}}$	Christian D. An	dresen, MPH, CPH, Section Chief
P	ractitioner Lic	ensing and Investigations Section

CONSENT ORDER COVER SHEET

In re: Kelly M. Bucci, A.P.R.N. Petition No. 2020-1067

- 1. Kelly M. Bucci, of Fairfield, Connecticut (hereinafter "respondent") was issued license number 001809 to practice as an advance practice registered nurse in 1998.
- 2. Respondent graduated from Fairfield University in 1996.
- 3. Respondent has no past disciplinary history.
- 4. From approximately May 2019 to October 2020, respondent failed to generate and review patients' prescription history, and failed to conduct and/or document that she conducted an assessment and evaluation for one or more patients, including an examination of the patient's medical history and an in-person physical examination. From approximately July 2018 to October 2020 respondent prescribed, dispensed, or administered a controlled substance to an immediate family member.
- 5. The proposed Consent Order provides for:
 - a. a reprimand;
 - b. civil penalty of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00); and
 - c. permanent restriction of respondent's license in that respondent shall not certify or recertify any patients for the palliative use of marijuana.
- 6. Respondent completed coursework in clinical documentation and prescribing practices.
- 7. The Department and respondent respectfully request that the Board accept the proposed Consent Order.
- 8. On April 2, 2021, respondent entered into an agreement with the Department of Consumer Protection concerning her controlled substance registration certificate.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH

In re: Kelly M. Bucci, A.P.R.N.

Petition No. 2020-1067

CONSENT ORDER

WHEREAS, Kelly M. Bucci, A.P.R.N. (hereinafter "respondent") of Fairfield, Connecticut, has been issued license number 001809 to practice as an advanced practice registered nurse by the Connecticut Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") pursuant to Chapter 378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended; and,

WHEREAS, respondent hereby admits and acknowledges that:

- 1. From approximately May 2019 to October 2020, respondent certified and/or recertified patients for the palliative use of marijuana, and failed to meet the standard of care in one or more of the following ways, in that:
 - a. she failed to generate and review said patients' prescription history, in violation of §21a-254(j)(9) of the Connecticut General Statutes and/or §§21a-408-2(a)(4) or 21a-408-2(b)(2) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (hereinafter "the Regulations"); and/or
 - b. respondent failed to conduct and/or document that she conducted an assessment and evaluation for one or more patients, including an examination of the patient's medical history and an in-person physical examination, in violation of §21a-408-2(b)(2) of the Regulations.

- 2. From approximately July 2018 to October 2020, respondent prescribed, dispensed, or administered a controlled substance to an immediate family member, in violation of §21a-252(j)(1) of the Connecticut General Statutes.
- 3. The above described facts constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to the General Statutes of Connecticut, §20-99, including but not limited to §20-99(b)(2).

WHEREAS, respondent, in consideration of this Consent Order, has chosen not to contest the above-admitted violations or allegations at a hearing before the Board of Examiners for Nursing (hereinafter "the Board"). Respondent agrees that for the purpose of this or any future proceedings before the Board this Consent Order shall have the same effect as if ordered after a full hearing pursuant to §§19a-9, 19a-10, and 20-99(a) of the General Statutes of Connecticut.

WHEREAS, respondent proactively and successfully completed coursework in clinical documentation and prescribing practices, and provided the Department with proof to the Department's satisfaction of the successful completion of these courses prior to effective date of this Consent Order.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to §19a-17 and §20-99(a) of the General Statutes of Connecticut, respondent hereby stipulates and agrees to the following:

- 1. Respondent waives respondent's right to a hearing on the merits of this matter.
- 2. Respondent shall comply with all federal and state statutes and regulations applicable to respondent's profession.

- 3. Respondent's license number 001809 to practice as an advanced practice registered nurse in the State of Connecticut is hereby reprimanded.
- 4. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) by certified or cashier's check payable to "Treasurer, State of Connecticut." The check shall reference the Petition Number on the face of the check, and shall be payable at the time respondent submits the executed Consent Order to the Department.
- 5. Respondent's advanced practical registered nurse license is permanently restricted in that respondent shall not certify or recertify any patients for the palliative use of marijuana under Chapter 420f of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended and/or any regulations adopted thereunder.
- 6. All correspondence and reports shall be addressed to:

Lavita Sookram, R.N., Nurse Consultant
Practitioner Compliance and Monitoring Unit
Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #12HSR
P.O. Box 340308
Hartford, CT 06134-0308

- 7. Any violation of the terms of this Consent Order may result in the following procedures at the discretion of the Department:
 - a. The Department shall notify respondent in writing by first-class mail that the term(s) of this Consent Order have been violated, provided that no prior written consent for deviation from said term(s) has been granted.
 - Said notification shall include the acts or omission(s) which violate the term(s) of this
 Consent Order.

- c. Respondent shall be allowed fifteen (15) days from the date of the mailing of notification required in paragraph 8a above to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Department that respondent has complied with the terms of this Consent Order or, in the alternative, that respondent has cured the violation in question.
- d. If respondent does not demonstrate compliance or cure the violation within the fifteen (15) days specified in the notification of violation to the satisfaction of the Department, respondent shall be entitled to a hearing before the Board which shall make a final determination of the disciplinary action to be taken.
- e. Evidence presented to the Board by either the Department or respondent in any such hearing shall be limited to the alleged violation(s) of the term(s) of this Consent Order.
- 8. Any extension of time or grace period for reporting granted by the Department shall not be a waiver or preclude the Department's right to take action at a later time. The Department shall not be required to grant future extensions of time or grace periods.
- 9. Legal notice of any action shall be deemed sufficient if sent to respondent's last known address of record reported to the Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section of the Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch of the Department.
- 10. This Consent Order is effective on the first day of the month immediately following the month in which this Consent Order is approved and accepted by the Board.
- 11. Respondent understands this Consent Order is a matter of public record.
- 12. Respondent understands and agrees that this Consent Order shall be deemed as evidence of the above-admitted violations in any proceeding before the Board in which (1) respondent's compliance with this same Consent Order is at issue, or (2) respondent's compliance with §20-99(b) of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended, is at issue. Further, respondent

- understands that any discipline imposed by this Consent Order shall be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank maintained by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.
- 13. In the event respondent violates a term of this Consent Order, respondent agrees immediately to refrain from practicing as a nurse, upon request by the Department, for a period not to exceed forty-five 45 days. During that time period, respondent further agrees to cooperate with the Department in its investigation of the violation and that failure to cooperate with the Department in its investigation during said forty-five (45) day period shall constitute grounds for the Department to seek a summary suspension of respondent's license. In any such summary action, respondent stipulates that failure to cooperate with the Department's investigation shall be considered by the Board and shall be given due weight by the Board in determining whether respondent's conduct constitutes a clear and immediate danger as required pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes, sections 4-182(c) and 19a-17(c). The Department and respondent understand that the Board has complete and final discretion as to whether a summary suspension is ordered.
- 14. In the event respondent violates any term of this Consent Order, said violation may also constitute grounds for the Department to seek a summary suspension of respondent's license before the Board.
- 15. This Consent Order and terms set forth herein are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review under any form or in any forum. Respondent agrees that this Consent Order shall not be subject to modification as a result of any claim that the terms contained herein may result in action by third parties, including, but not limited to, healthcare facilities and/or credentialing or licensure boards and respondent waives any right to seek

reconsideration or modification of this Consent Order pursuant to §4-181a of the General Statutes of Connecticut without the express consent and agreement of the Department. Respondent assumes all responsibility for assessing such actions prior to the execution of this document. Further, this Consent Order is not subject to appeal or review under the provisions of Chapters 54 and 368a of the General Statutes of Connecticut, provided that this stipulation shall not deprive respondent of any other rights that respondent may have under the laws of the State of Connecticut or of the United States.

- 16. Respondent permits a representative of the Department to present this Consent Order and the factual basis for this Consent Order to the Board. The Department and respondent agree that the Board has complete and final discretion as to whether an executed Consent Order is approved or accepted. Respondent hereby waives any claim of error that could be raised that is related to or arises during the course of the Board's discussions regarding whether to approve or reject this Consent Order and/or a Board member's participation during this process, through the Board member's review or comments, including but not limited to bias or reliance on evidence outside the administrative record if this matter proceeds to a hearing on a statement of charges resulting in a proposed decision and/or final decision by the Board.
- 17. This Consent Order is a revocable offer of settlement, which may be modified by mutual agreement or withdrawn by the Department at any time prior to its being executed by the last signatory.
- 18. Respondent has had the opportunity to consult with an attorney prior to signing this document.
- 19. The execution of this document has no bearing on any criminal liability without the written consent of the Director of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit or the State's Attorney's Office where the allegation occurred or Bureau Chief of the applicable unit in the Chief State's

Attorney's Office. The purpose of this Consent Order is to resolve the pending administrative license disciplinary petition only, and is not intended to affect any civil or criminal liability or defense.

20. This Consent Order embodies the entire agreement of the parties with respect to this case. All previous communications or agreements regarding the subject matter of this consent order, whether oral or written, between the parties are superseded unless expressly incorporated herein or made a part hereof.

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therein. I further declare the execution of t	this Consent Order to be my free act and deed.
	Kelly M. Bucci, A.P.R.N.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this	18 th day of <u>Octobe√</u> , 2021.
	Thus.)
	Notary Public or person authorized
	by law to administer an oath or affirmation
The above Consent Order having been pre-	sented to the duly appointed agent of the Commissioner of
the Department of Public Health on the	20th day of October , 2021, it is
hereby accepted.	
	Churtian Olindusen
Pract	stian D. Andresen, MPH, CPH Section Chief citioner Licensing and Investigations Section thcare Quality and Safety Branch
The above Consent Order having been pre	sented to the duly appointed agent of the Connecticut
Board of Examiners for Nursing on the	, 2021, it is
hereby ordered and accepted.	
BY:	
	Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing

I, Kelly Bucci, A.P.R.N., have read the above Consent Order, and I agree to the terms set forth

CONSENT ORDER COVER SHEET

In re: Susan M. Dunigan, R.N. Petition No. 2020-244

- 1. Susan M. Dunigan of Shelton, Connecticut (hereinafter "respondent") was issued license number E49878 to practice as a registered nurse on March 30, 1978. Respondent also holds an advanced practice registered nurse license which is not the subject of this petition.
- 2. Respondent graduated from the University of Bridgeport, Bridgeport, Connecticut in 1986.
- 3. Respondent has no disciplinary history.
- 4. The Department's Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section opened this petition involving respondent's registered nursing license after receiving a complaint from a nursing supervisor for Shelton, Connecticut public schools.
- 5. The Department alleges, that while respondent was working as a registered nurse at Elizabeth Shelton Elementary School during the 2019-2021 school year, respondent failed to: appropriately or timely address a report from a teacher on February 20, 2020 that a student had lice; appropriately address incomplete or noncompliant immunization records for one or more students; ensure that each enrolled student had the health assessment required by Connecticut General Statues §10-206 in the student's chart; conduct and/or document the results of vision or audiometric screenings required by Connecticut General Statutes §10-214 in one or more student's charts; and/or in connection with the administration of medication to one or more students: respondent administered medication without the written order of an authorized prescriber; administered medication without the authorization of a guardian or parent; failed to completely, properly or accurately document the administration of medication; and failed to maintain a proper count of medication.
- 6. The proposed Consent Order provides for a reprimand and a one-year probationary period that includes quarterly employer reports as well as coursework in documentation, medication administration and time management, pre-approved by the Department. Respondent may not be self-employed or work for a personnel provider service during the probationary period; however, she may be employed by a homemaker-home health aide agency or home health care agency, at the Department's discretion and with written pre-approval from the Department.
- 7. The Department and respondent respectfully request that the Board accept the proposed Consent Order.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This document and all attachments may contain information that is confidential or privileged. Please do not disseminate, distribute or copy the contents or discuss with parties who are not directly involved in this petition.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH

In re: Susan M. Dunigan, R.N.

Petition No. 2020-244

CONSENT ORDER

WHEREAS, Susan M. Dunigan (hereinafter "respondent") of Shelton, Connecticut has been issued license number E49878 to practice as a registered nurse by the Connecticut Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") pursuant to Chapter 378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended; and,

WHEREAS, the Department alleges that:

- From in or about September 2017 through February 2020, respondent was employed as a school nurse at Elizabeth Shelton Elementary School in Shelton, Connecticut.
- 2. On or about February 20, 2020, respondent failed to appropriately and/or timely address a report from a teacher that a student had lice.
- 3. During the 2019-2020 school year, respondent failed to:
 - (a) appropriately address incomplete and/or non-compliant immunization records for one or more students;
 - (b) ensure that each enrolled student had a health assessment required pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §10-206 in the student's medical chart;
 - (c) conduct and/or document the results of vision and/or audiometric screenings required pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §10-214 in one or more student's medical chart; and/or

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- (d) completely, properly and/or accurately document medical records for one or more students.
- 4. On numerous occasions during the 2019-2020 school year, in connection with the administration of medication to one or more students, respondent:
 - (a) administered medication without the written order of an authorized prescriber;
 - (b) administered medication without the authorization of a student's parent or guardian;
 - (c) failed to completely, properly and/or accurately document the administration of medication; and/or
 - (d) failed to maintain a proper count of medication.
- 5. The above-described facts constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to the General Statutes of Connecticut, §20-99(b), including but not limited to §20-99(b)(2).

WHEREAS, respondent, in consideration of this Consent Order, has chosen not to contest the above allegations of wrongdoing but, while admitting no guilt or wrongdoing, agrees that for purposes of this or any future proceedings before the Board of Examiners for Nursing (hereinafter "the Board"), this Consent Order shall have the same effect as if proven and ordered after a full hearing held pursuant to §§19a-9, 19a-10, and 20-99(a) of the General Statutes of Connecticut.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to §19a-17 and §20-99(a) of the General Statutes of Connecticut, respondent hereby stipulates and agrees to the following:

- 1. Respondent waives respondent's right to a hearing on the merits of this matter.
- 2. Respondent shall comply with all federal and state statutes and regulations applicable to respondent's profession.

- Respondent's license number E49878 to practice as a registered nurse in the State of Connecticut is hereby reprimanded.
- 4. Respondent's Connecticut registered nurse license number E49878 is hereby placed on probation for one year, subject to the following terms and conditions:
 - A. Respondent shall provide a copy of this Consent Order to all current and future employers for the duration of probation.
 - B. Respondent shall be responsible for the provision of quarterly written reports directly to the Department from respondent's nursing supervisor (i.e., Director of Nursing, Local or Regional Board of Education Nursing Supervisor) if practicing nursing. Respondent shall provide a copy of this Consent Order to any and all employers if employed as a registered nurse during the probationary period. The Department shall be notified in writing by any employer(s) within fifteen (15) days of the commencement of employment as to the receipt of a copy of this Consent Order. Employer reports shall include documentation of respondent's ability to safely and competently practice nursing and shall be issued to the Department at the address cited in paragraph 4H below. A report indicating that respondent is not practicing with reasonable skill and safety shall be deemed to be a violation of this Consent Order.
 - C. Respondent shall attend and successfully complete coursework, pre-approved by the Department, in documentation standards, medication administration, and time management. Each course must be at least 3.0 continuing education units and must be successfully completed within the first ninety (90) days of the probationary period.

 Within fourteen (14) days of the completion of each course, respondent shall provide the

- Department with proof, to the Department's satisfaction, of the successful completion of each course.
- D. Respondent shall not be employed as a nurse for a personnel provider service, assisted living services agency, homemaker home health aide agency, or home health care agency, and shall not be self-employed as a nurse for the period of probation.

 Respondent may be employed by a homemaker home health aide agency or home health care agency at the Department's discretion and with written pre-approval from the Department.
- E Respondent shall notify the Department in writing of any change of employment within fifteen (15) days of such change.
- F. Respondent shall notify the Department of any change in respondent's home or business address within fifteen (15) days of such change.
- G. All reports required by the terms of this Consent Order shall be due according to a schedule to be established by the Department of Public Health.
- H. All correspondence and reports shall be addressed to:

Lavita Sookram, R.N., Nurse Consultant
Practitioner Compliance and Monitoring Unit
Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #12HSR
P.O. Box 340308
Hartford, CT 06134-0308

5. Any violation of the terms of this Consent Order without prior written approval by the

Department shall constitute grounds for the Department to seek revocation of respondent's

nursing license following notice and an opportunity to be heard. Respondent shall pay all costs

necessary to comply with this Consent Order.

- 6. Any extension of time or grace period for reporting granted by the Department shall not be a waiver or preclude the Department's right to take action at a later time. The Department shall not be required to grant future extensions of time or grace periods.
- 7. Legal notice of any action shall be deemed sufficient if sent to respondent's last known address of record reported to the Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section of the Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch of the Department.
- 8. This Consent Order is effective on the first day of the month immediately following the month in which this Consent Order is approved and accepted by the Board.
- 9. Respondent understands this Consent Order is a matter of public record.
- 10. Respondent understands and agrees that the Department's allegations as contained in this

 Consent Order shall be deemed true in any subsequent proceeding before the Board in which

 (1) respondent's compliance with this same Consent Order is at issue, or (2) respondent's

 compliance with §20-99(b) of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended, is at issue.

 Further, respondent understands that any discipline imposed by this Consent Order shall be

 reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank maintained by the United States Department of

 Health and Human Services.
- 11. In the event respondent violates a term of this Consent Order, respondent agrees immediately to refrain from practicing as a nurse, upon request by the Department, for a period not to exceed forty-five (45) days. Respondent further agrees that failure to cooperate with the Department in its investigation during said forty-five (45) day period shall constitute grounds for the Department to seek a summary suspension of respondent's license. In any such summary action, respondent stipulates that failure to cooperate with the Department's investigation shall be considered by the Board and shall be given due weight by the Board in

determining whether respondent's conduct constitutes a clear and immediate danger as required pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes, sections 4-182(c) and 19a-17(c). The Department and respondent understand that the Board has complete and final discretion as to whether a summary suspension is ordered.

- 12. In the event respondent does not practice as a registered nurse for periods of thirty (30) consecutive days or longer, respondent shall notify the Department in writing. Such periods of times shall not be counted in reducing the probationary period covered by this Consent Order and such terms shall be held in abeyance. During such time period, respondent shall not be responsible for complying with the terms of probation of this Consent Order. In the event respondent resumes practicing as a registered nurse, respondent shall provide the Department with thirty (30) days prior written notice. Respondent shall not return to the practice of a registered nurse without written pre-approval from the Department. Respondent agrees that the Department, in its complete discretion, may require additional documentation from respondent and/or require respondent to satisfy other conditions or terms as a condition precedent to respondent's return to practice as a registered nurse.
 - Respondent agrees that any return to practicing registered nursing without pre-approval from the Department shall constitute a violation of this Consent Order and may subject the respondent to further disciplinary action.
- 13. If, during the period of probation, respondent practices nursing outside Connecticut, respondent shall provide written notice to the Department concerning such practice. During such time period, respondent shall not be responsible for complying with the terms of probation of this Consent Order, and such time period shall not be counted in reducing the probationary period covered by this Consent Order. Respondent may comply with the terms

- of probation while practicing outside Connecticut if pre-approved by the Department. In the event respondent intends to return to the practice of nursing in Connecticut, respondent shall provide the Department with thirty (30) days prior written notice and agrees to comply with all terms and conditions contained in paragraph 4 above.
- 14. In the event respondent violates any term of this Consent Order, said violation may also constitute grounds for the Department to seek a summary suspension of respondent's license before the Board.
- 15. This Consent Order and terms set forth herein are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review under any form or in any forum. Respondent agrees that this Consent Order shall not be subject to modification as a result of any claim that the terms contained herein may result in action by third parties, including, but not limited to, healthcare facilities and/or credentialing or licensure boards and respondent waives any right to seek reconsideration or modification of this Consent Order pursuant to §4-181a of the General Statutes of Connecticut without the express consent and agreement of the Department. Respondent assumes all responsibility for assessing such actions prior to the execution of this document. Further, this Consent Order is not subject to appeal or review under the provisions of Chapters 54 and 368a of the General Statutes of Connecticut, provided that this stipulation shall not deprive respondent of any other rights that respondent may have under the laws of the State of Connecticut or of the United States.
- 16. Respondent permits a representative of the Department to present this Consent Order and the factual basis for this Consent Order to the Board. The Department and respondent agree that the Board has complete and final discretion as to whether an executed Consent Order is approved or accepted. Respondent hereby waives any claim of error that could be raised that is

related to or arises during the course of the Board's discussions regarding whether to approve or reject this Consent Order and/or a Board member's participation during this process, through the Board member's review or comments, including but not limited to bias or reliance on evidence outside the administrative record if this matter proceeds to a hearing on a statement of charges resulting in a proposed decision and/or final decision by the Board.

- 17. This Consent Order is a revocable offer of settlement, which may be modified by mutual agreement or withdrawn by the Department at any time prior to its being executed by the last signatory.
- 18. Respondent has consulted with her attorney prior to signing this document.
- 19. The execution of this document has no bearing on any criminal liability without the written consent of the Director of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit or the State's Attorney's Office where the allegation occurred or Bureau Chief of the applicable unit in the Chief State's Attorney's Office. The purpose of this Consent Order is to resolve the pending administrative license disciplinary petition only and is not intended to affect any civil or criminal liability or defense.
- 20. This Consent Order embodies the entire agreement of the parties with respect to this case. All previous communications or agreements regarding the subject matter of this consent order, whether oral or written, between the parties are superseded unless expressly incorporated herein or made a part hereof.

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further declare the execution of this Conse	nt Order to be my free a	ct and deed.
	Susan M. Dunigan	Dunigan
Subscribed and sworn to before me this	27 th day of <u>(</u>	August , 2021.
	Notary Public or perso by law to administer ar	n authorized noath or affirmation out
The above Consent Order having been pre		<i>'</i>
the Department of Public Health on the	21st day of	September , 2021, it is
hereby accepted.		
	Churtian D	andusen
Pract	stian D. Andresen, MPH titioner Licensing and In thcare Quality and Safet	vestigations Section
The above Consent Order having been pre	sented to the duly appoin	nted agent of the Connecticut
Board of Examiners for Nursing on the	day of	, 2021, it is
hereby ordered and accepted.		
	en e	
BY:	Connecticut Board of I	Examiners for Nursing

I, Susan M. Dunigan, have read the above Consent Order, and I agree to the terms set forth therein. I

CONSENT ORDER COVER SHEET

In re: Chenise Harris, R.N. Petition No. 2020-1148

- 1. Chenise Harris, of Montgomery, Alabama (hereinafter "respondent") was issued license number 152387 to practice as a registered nurse in 2018.
- 2. Respondent graduated from Troy University in 2014.
- 3. Respondent has no disciplinary history.
- 4. On or about November 13, 2020, the Alabama Board of Nursing issued a Consent Order in ABN Case Number 2020-0621 ("Consent Order") that ordered a reprimand and a three hundred dollar fine. The Consent Order was based upon respondent leaving her shift at a hospital without notification after receiving report on four patients.
- 5. Respondent failed to notify the Department of the disciplinary action within 30 days, as required by Connecticut General Statutes §19a-12e(e).
- 6. The proposed Consent Order provides for a reprimand.
- 7. The Department and respondent respectfully request that the Board accept the proposed Consent Order.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH

In re: Chenise Harris, R.N.

Petition No. 2020-1148

CONSENT ORDER

WHEREAS, Chenise Harris (hereinafter "respondent") of Montgomery, Alabama, has been issued license number 152387 to practice as a registered nurse by the Connecticut Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") pursuant to Chapter 378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended; and,

WHEREAS, respondent hereby admits and acknowledges that:

- 1. On or about November 13, 2020, the Alabama Board of Nursing issued a Consent Order in ABN Case Number 2020-0621 ("Consent Order") that ordered a reprimand and a three hundred dollar fine. The Consent Order was based upon respondent leaving her shift at a hospital without notification after receiving report on four patients.
- Respondent failed to notify the Department of the disciplinary action within 30 days, as required by Connecticut General Statutes §19a-12e(e).
- 3. The above-described facts constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to the General Statutes of Connecticut §19a-17(f) and/or §20-99(b), including but not limited to §20-99(b)(2)

WHEREAS, respondent, in consideration of this Consent Order, has chosen not to contest the above-admitted violations or allegations at a hearing before the Board of Examiners for Nursing (hereinafter "the Board"). Respondent agrees that for the purpose of this or any future proceedings

before the Board, this Consent Order shall have the same effect as if ordered after a full hearing pursuant to §§19a-9, 19a-10, and 20-99(a) of the General Statutes of Connecticut.

WHEREAS, respondent does not currently reside or practice nursing in the State of Connecticut.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to §19a-17 and §20-99(a) of the General Statutes of Connecticut, respondent hereby stipulates and agrees to the following:

- 1. Respondent waives respondent's right to a hearing on the merits of this matter.
- Respondent's license number 152387 to practice as a registered nurse in the State of Connecticut is hereby reprimanded.
- Respondent shall comply with all federal and state statutes and regulations applicable to her profession.
- 4. Legal notice of any action shall be deemed sufficient if sent to respondent's last known address of record reported to the Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section of the Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch of the Department.
- 5. This Consent Order is effective on the date this Consent Order is approved and accepted by the Board.
- 6. Respondent understands this Consent Order is a matter of public record.
- 7. Respondent understands and agrees that this Consent Order shall be deemed as evidence of the above-admitted violations in any proceeding before the Board in which (1) respondent's compliance with this same Consent Order is at issue, or (2) respondent's compliance with §20-99(b) of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended, is at issue. Further, respondent

- understands that any discipline imposed by this Consent Order shall be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank maintained by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.
- 8. This Consent Order and terms set forth herein are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review under any form or in any forum. Respondent agrees that this Consent Order shall not be subject to modification as a result of any claim that the terms contained herein may result in action by third parties, including, but not limited to, healthcare facilities and/or credentialing or licensure boards and respondent waives any right to seek reconsideration or modification of this Consent Order pursuant to §4-181a of the General Statutes of Connecticut. Respondent assumes all responsibility for assessing such actions prior to the execution of this document. Further, this Consent Order is not subject to appeal or review under the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes, Chapters 54 and 368a, provided that this stipulation shall not deprive respondent of any other rights that respondent may have under the laws of the State of Connecticut or of the United States.
- 9. Respondent permits a representative of the Department to present this Consent Order and the factual basis for this Consent Order to the Board. The Department and respondent understand that the Board has complete and final discretion as to whether an executed Consent Order is approved or accepted. Respondent hereby waives any claim of error that could be raised that is related to or arises during the course of the Board's discussions regarding whether to approve or reject this Consent Order and/or a Board member's participation during this process, through the Board member's review or comments, including but not limited to bias or reliance on evidence outside the administrative record if this matter proceeds to a hearing on a statement of charges resulting in a proposed decision and/or final decision by the Board.

- 10. This Consent Order is a revocable offer of settlement, which may be modified by mutual agreement or withdrawn by the Department at any time prior to its being executed by the last signatory.
- 11. Respondent has had the opportunity to consult with an attorney prior to signing this document.
- 12. The execution of this document has no bearing on any criminal liability without the written consent of the Director of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit or the State's Attorney's Office where the allegation occurred or Bureau Chief of the applicable unit in the Chief State's Attorney's Office. The purpose of this Consent Order is to resolve the pending administrative license disciplinary petition only, and is not intended to affect any civil or criminal liability or defense.
- 13. This Consent Order embodies the entire agreement of the parties with respect to this case. All previous communications or agreements regarding the subject matter of this consent order, whether oral or written, between the parties are superseded unless expressly incorporated herein or made a part hereof.

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further declare the execution of this Consent Order to be my free act and deed.
Chenise Harris
Subscribed and sworn to before me this
My Commission Expires Aug. 21, 2023 Notary Public or person authorized by law to administer an oath or affirmation
The above Consent Order having been presented to the duly appointed agent of the Commissioner of
the Department of Public Health on the19th day ofOctober, 2021, it is
hereby accepted.
Churtian Dandusen
Christian D. Andresen, MPH, CPH, Section Chief Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch
The above Consent Order having been presented to the duly appointed agent of the Connecticut
Board of Examiners for Nursing on the day of, 2021, it is
hereby ordered and accepted.
BY:

I, Chenise Harris, have read the above Consent Order, and I agree to the terms set forth therein. I

BOARD EXHIBIT 1

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH

In re: Donna Duncan, R.N. Petition No. 2020-1231

STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Pursuant to the General Statutes of Connecticut, §§19a-10 and 19a-14, the Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") brings the following charges against Donna Duncan:

- 1. On April 17, 2019, the Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing (hereinafter "the Board") ordered a Consent Order in Petition Number 2018-761 (hereinafter "Consent Order") that placed respondent's registered nurse license on probation for a period of three (3) years. Such disciplinary action was based upon respondent's abuse and/or utilization to excess of alcohol.
- 2. Said Consent Order became effective on May 1, 2019, and required, in part, respondent to:
 - a. attend therapy and provide quarterly reports;
 - b. attend support group meetings and provide quarterly reports; and/or
 - c. submit to observed random urine screens for drugs and alcohol.
- 3. On or about September 2020 to present, respondent failed to attend therapy and/or submit therapy reports.
- 4. On or about November 2020 to present, respondent failed to attend support group meetings and/or submit support group attendance logs.
- 5. On or about December 10, 2020, and/or December 21, 2020, respondent's urine screens tested positive when she failed to submit to a random urine tests when requested to do so by the screening monitor.
- 6. From approximately December 21, 2020 to the present, respondent failed to submit to random urine screens.
- 7. Respondent's conduct as described above constitutes violations of the terms of probation as set forth in the Consent Order, and subjects respondent's license to revocation or other disciplinary action authorized by the General Statutes of Connecticut, §§19a-17 and 20-99(b).

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THEREFORE, the Department prays that:

The Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing, as authorized by the General Statutes of Connecticut, §§20-99(b) and 19a-17, revoke or order other disciplinary action against the license of Donna Duncan as it deems appropriate and consistent with law.

Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this _______ 1st _____ day of _____ October _____ 2021.

Churtan Dandusen ______ Christian D. Andresen, MPH, CPH, Section Chief Practitioner Licensing & Investigations Section

SOC2 5/98 6B-4

BOARD EXHIBIT 2

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH

In re: Donna Duncan, R.N. Petition No. 2020-1231

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

The Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") hereby moves in accordance with the General Statutes of Connecticut §§4-182(c) and 19a-17(c) that the Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing summarily suspend the license of Donna Duncan to practice nursing in Connecticut. This motion is based on the attached Statement of Charges, Affidavits and on the Department's information and belief that the continued practice of nursing represents a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this	1st	day of	October	2021.	
		Chi	extran Olindus	en	
	Christian D. Andresen, MPH, CPH, Section Chief Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch				

SOC2 5/98 6B-2

BOARD EXHIBIT 3

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Manisha Juthani, MD



Ned Lamont Governor Susan Bysiewicz Lt. Governor

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

In re: Donna Duncan, RN

Petition No. 2020-1231

SUMMARY SUSPENSION ORDER

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Health having moved for an order of summary suspension in this matter and having submitted duly verified affidavits in support of its motion; and,

WHEREAS, said affidavits allege facts which show violations of §20-99(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes, and which imperatively require emergency action in that the public health, safety or welfare of the citizens of the State of Connecticut is in clear and immediate danger.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to §4-182(c) and §19a-17(c) of the Connecticut General Statutes, it is hereby **ORDERED**, by vote of the Board of Examiners for Nursing:

- 1. That license number E37186 of Donna Duncan to practice as a registered nurse in the State of Connecticut is hereby summarily suspended pending a final determination by the Board of Examiners for Nursing regarding the allegations contained in the Statement of Charges, and
- 2. That a hearing in this matter is scheduled for the 17th day of November 2021, at 9:00 a.m. The hearing will be held remotely via Microsoft TEAMS.

Dated at Waterbury, Connecticut this 20th day of October, 2021.

Patricia C. Bouffard, D.N.Sc., RN, Chair Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing



Phone: (860) 509-7566 • Fax: (860) 707-1904
Telecommunications Relay Service 7-1-1
410 Capitol Avenue, P.O. Box 340308
Hartford, Connecticut 06134-0308

www.ct.gov/dph



STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

Donna Duncan 110 Sherbrook Drive Goshen, CT 06756-1907 Via Email <u>dmd4550@yahoo.com</u> and First Class Mail

RE: Donna Duncan, RN - Petition No. 2020-1231

NOTICE OF HEARING

By authority of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Section 4-177, you are hereby notified to appear before the Board of Examiners for Nursing for a hearing on the attached Charges against you at 9:00 AM on **November 17, 2021**. The hearing will be held by video conference during the meeting of the Board of Examiners for Nursing. The link to connect to the hearing will be provided by email 3-5 days prior to the hearing.

These Charges are being brought against you under the provisions of the Sections 19a-9, 19a-10 and 20-99(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes. The hearing will be conducted in accordance with Chapter 54 of the General Statutes of Connecticut and Section 19a-9-1, et seq., of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (Public Health Code).

At the hearing you will have the opportunity to present your evidence, including witnesses and documents. It will be your responsibility to provide the hearing connection link to any witnesses you may call.

Filing an Answer; Failure to File Answer:

You are required to file an answer to the attached Charges with the Department of Public Health <u>within 14</u> <u>days from the date of this Notice of Hearing</u>. Please note: failure to file an Answer could result in the allegations being found to be true as stated, and the possibility that you will not be permitted to submit any evidence concerning the allegations.

Representation by an Attorney:

At the aforementioned hearing you may be represented by an attorney and present evidence on your behalf. Although you may represent yourself (pro se), you are urged to obtain the services of an attorney.

Documents:

If you intend to introduce documents into evidence, YOU MUST COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

Exhibits should be pre-marked for identification (i.e. Department exhibit 1, Respondent exhibit A), page numbered, and properly redacted.

The following information shall be redacted.

- (1) Date of birth
- (2) Mother's maiden name
- (3) Motor vehicle operator's license number
- (4) Social Security Number
- (5) Other government-issued identification number
- (6) Health insurance identification number
- (7) Financial account number
- (8) Security code or personal identification number (PIN)

Order Re: Filings

In preparation for this hearing you must, no later than November 3, 2021, provide the information specified in the attached Notice for Submissions.

All communications to the Board shall be submitted in this fashion. The Department or Respondent shall provide a copy of each document filed to Respondent or Department as the case may be and certify such to the Board.

Failure to Appear:

If you fail to appear at the hearing, upon proof that due notice was served upon you to appear, the Board may proceed in the same manner as though you were present in person. The Board may hold a fact-finding meeting immediately following the close of the record.

Please call 860-509-7566 as soon as possible i	if you have any q	uestions about the heari	ng schedule.
Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this 21st	_ day of	October,	2021.
For the Connecticut Board of Examiners for N	Jursing		
Isi Jeffrey A. Kardys			
Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings S ₁	pecialist		

c: Christian Andresen, Section Chief, Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Aden Baume, Staff Attorney, Office of Legal Compliance

The Department of Public Health is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you require aid/accommodation to participate fully and fairly, please contact the Public Health Hearing Office at 860-509-7566.

Notice for Submissions

The hearing in the matter of **Donna Duncan**, **RN** has been scheduled for **November 17**, **2021** and will be conducted remotely through Microsoft Teams/teleconference.

On or before <u>November 3, 2021</u>, you must provide the following by electronic mail response to the Department of Public Health, Public Health Hearing Office at <u>phho.dph@ct.gov.</u>

- 1. <u>Electronically Pre-filed exhibits</u> Exhibits should be pre-marked for identification (i.e. Department exhibit 1, Respondent exhibit A), page numbered, and properly redacted.

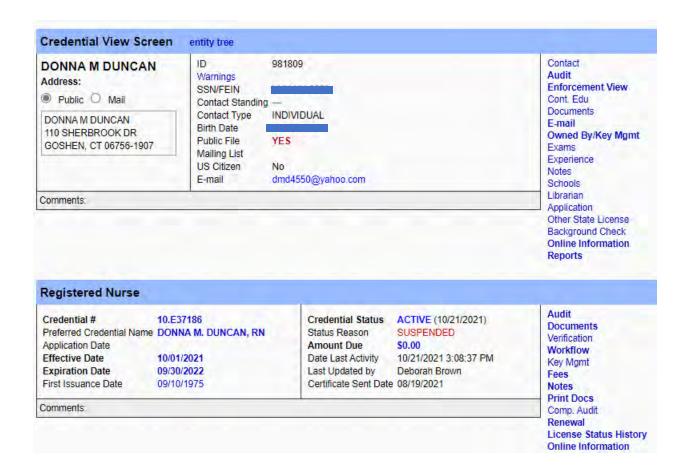
 Parties and/or counsel should stipulate to any exhibits and facts not in dispute, and provide any objections to proposed exhibits. All exhibits also must be sent to the opposing party or counsel.
- 2. <u>Witness List</u> identify any persons expected to be called to testify. Be sure to notify your witnesses that they will be required to remain available and in attendance for the full duration of the hearing. (This will eliminate the difficulty of trying to reach witnesses again for rebuttal or additional examination later in the hearing). Witness lists also must be sent to the opposing party or counsel.
- 3. <u>Photo Identification</u>: a copy of a government-issued photo identification of the parties and witnesses.
- 4. <u>Electronic Mail ("e-mail") addresses</u> for parties, counsel and witnesses. All email addresses must be current and able to receive all notices relating to this matter.
- 5. <u>Cellphone numbers</u> for all parties, counsel, and witnesses at which they can be reached and respond to text message during the hearing (in the event a connection is lost).
- 6. <u>A statement whether executive session may be required</u> to receive testimony containing personal protected information, and if so, what that information may be (treatment records, patient records, therapy reports). Parties or counsel should identify any witnesses listed in response to #2 above who may provide testimony relating to personal protected information requiring executive session.
- 7. A statement whether an interpreter will be needed for the proceeding.

This is a formal public hearing. It will be video recorded and posted on the DPH website for public viewing. All hearing participants should appear in proper attire, in proper surroundings, and remove any potential distractions.

In preparation, please make sure all of your devices are fully functioning and properly charged. All participants are required to have video and audio functions on when testifying or speaking. Our office will contact you again 3 to 5 calendar days prior to the hearing to provide you with any further instructions and a Microsoft Teams link / phone number and code to enter the hearing.

Should you have any question please contact the hearing office at phho.dph@ct.gov.

BOARD EXHIBIT 5



STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

Linda Dahlin, M.Ed. Executive Vice President Stone Academy 560 Saw Mill Road West Haven, CT 0651 VIA EMAIL and First Class Mail

RE: Stone Academy, West Haven Campus - Practical Nursing Day Program

NOTICE OF PROGRAM REMOVAL HEARING

By authority of the General Statutes of Connecticut, specifically Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 4-166, et seq., and in accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-90 and § 20-90-47 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (hereinafter "Regulations"), you are hereby notified to appear before the Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing (hereinafter "Board") for a hearing regarding the removal of the Stone Academy, West Haven Campus Day Program (hereinafter "Program") from the list of nursing programs and programs for training licensed practical nurses approved by the Board with the consent of the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health. This hearing is noticed as a result of the Program's failure to correct the deficiency which caused the Program to be placed on conditional approval on June 19, 2019 and June 17, 2020. Specifically, the Program has failed to establish an 80% NCLEX pass rate during such conditional approval.

The hearing will be held on **November 17, 2021,** via Microsoft "TEAMS" during a meeting of the Board of Examiners for Nursing. The link to connect to the hearing will be provided by email 3-5 days prior to the hearing.

The hearing will be conducted in accordance with Chapter 54 of the General Statutes and §19a-9-1, et seq., of the Regulations.

The hearing shall be conducted by the Board which shall rule on all motions, and shall recommend findings of fact and conclusions of law to the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health.

Representation by an Attorney:

At the aforementioned hearing you may be represented by an attorney and present evidence on your behalf. It is your obligation to call any person you desire as a witness. The hearing will be conducted in accordance with Chapter 54 of the General Statutes and §19a-9-1, et seq., of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (Public Health Code).

Please note if you are a corporation or other legal entity: Corporations or other legal entities must be represented by an attorney. If a corporation is not represented by an attorney at the hearing, the persons who attend the hearing from the corporation may only testify as witnesses and may not make legal arguments, cross examine witnesses, or in any way engage in the practice of law.

Documents:

If you intend to introduce documents into evidence, YOU MUST COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

Exhibits should be pre-marked for identification (i.e. Department exhibit 1, Respondent exhibit A), page numbered, and properly redacted.

The following information shall be redacted.

- (1) Date of birth
- (2) Mother's maiden name
- (3) Motor vehicle operator's license number
- (4) Social Security Number
- (5) Other government-issued identification number
- (6) Health insurance identification number
- (7) Financial account number
- (8) Security code or personal identification number (PIN)

Order Re: Filings

In preparation for this hearing you must, no later than November 3 2021, provide the information specified in the attached Notice for Submissions.

All communications to the Board shall be submitted in this fashion.

Failure to Appear:

If you fail to appear at the hearing, upon proof that due notice was served upon you to appear, the Board may proceed in the same manner as though you were present in person. The Board may hold a fact-finding meeting immediately following the close of the record.

Please call 860-509-7566 as soon as possible if you have any questions about the hearing schedule.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this 19th day of August, 2021.

For the Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing

/s/ Geffrey A. Kardys

Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist

c: Daniel Shapiro, Deputy Associate Attorney General
 Aaron S. Bayer, Esq. (VIA EMAIL ONLY)
 Barbara Cass, Branch Chief, Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch, DPH
 Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant, DPH

Notice for Submissions

The hearing in the matter of **Stone Academy**, **West Haven Campus - Practical Nursing Day Program** has been scheduled for **November 17, 2021** and will be conducted remotely through Microsoft Teams/teleconference.

On or before November 3, 2021, you must provide the following by electronic mail response to the hearing office at phho.dph@ct.gov

- 1. <u>Electronically Pre-filed exhibits</u> Exhibits should be pre-marked for identification (i.e. Department exhibit 1, Respondent exhibit A), page numbered, and properly redacted.

 Parties and/or counsel should stipulate to any exhibits and facts not in dispute,
 - and provide any objections to proposed exhibits. All exhibits also must be sent to the opposing party or counsel.
- 2. <u>Witness List</u> identify any persons expected to be called to testify. Be sure to notify your witnesses that they will be required to remain available and in attendance for the full duration of the hearing. (This will eliminate the difficulty of trying to reach witnesses again for rebuttal or additional examination later in the hearing). Witness lists also must be sent to the opposing party or counsel.
- 3. <u>Photo Identification</u>: a copy of a government-issued photo identification of the parties and witnesses.
- 4. <u>Electronic Mail ("e-mail") addresses</u> for parties, counsel and witnesses. All email addresses must be current and able to receive all notices relating to this matter.
- 5. <u>Cellphone numbers</u> for all parties, counsel, and witnesses at which they can be reached and respond to text message during the hearing (in the event a connection is lost).
- 6. <u>A statement whether executive session may be required</u> to receive testimony containing personal protected information, and if so, what that information may be (treatment records, patient records, therapy reports). Parties or counsel should identify any witnesses listed in response to #2 above who may provide testimony relating to personal protected information requiring executive session.
- 7. A statement whether an interpreter will be needed for the proceeding.

This is a formal public hearing. It will be video recorded and posted on the DPH website for public viewing. All hearing participants should appear in proper attire, in proper surroundings, and remove any potential distractions.

In preparation, please make sure all of your devices are fully functioning and properly charged. All participants are required to have video and audio functions on when testifying or speaking. Our office will contact you again 3 to 5 calendar days prior to the hearing to provide you with any further instructions and a Microsoft Teams link / phone number and code to enter the hearing.

Should you have any question please contact the hearing office at phho.dph@ct.gov.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH

In re: Dazella Peoples, LPN Petition No. 2020-588

STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes of §§19a-10 and 19a-14, the Department of Public Health ("the Department") brings the following charges against Dazella Peoples:

- 1. Dazella Peoples ("respondent") of Jemison, Alabama has been issued Connecticut licensed practical nurse license number 030756 by the Department of Public Health ("the Department") pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes, Chapter 378.
- 2. On or about November 19, 2004, the Alabama Board of Nursing issued a Consent Order placing respondent's Alabama licensed practical nurse license number 246894 on probation ("Alabama Consent Order"). The disciplinary action arose when respondent practiced beyond the scope of her practice.
- 3. One or about April 2, 2014, the Texas Board of Nursing issued an Eligibility Order ("Texas Order"). The disciplinary action resulted from respondent's failure to disclose the Alabama Consent Order when she applied for a Texas nursing license by endorsement.
- 4. On or about September 18, 2014, respondent answered "no" when asked whether she had any disciplinary action taken against her since her last Connecticut renewal.
- 5. On or about June 12, 2020, the Alabama Board of Nursing issued a Consent Order, ABN Case Number 2020-0552 placing a reprimand on respondent's Alabama Licensed Practical Nurse License, No. 246894. The disciplinary action resulted from, in part, failing to disclose the Texas Order.
- 6. On or about September 28, 2020, respondent answered "no" when asked whether she had any disciplinary action taken against her since her last Connecticut renewal.
- 7. The above-described facts constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §§19a-17(f) and/or 20-99(b), including but not limited to 20-99(b)(2).

THEREFORE, the Department prays that:

The Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing, as authorized by Connecticut General Statutes §§20-99(b) and 19a-17, revoke or order other disciplinary action against respondent's nursing license as it deems appropriate and consistent with law.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this _____11th ____ day of _____ May ___2021.

Churtan Dandusen

Christian D. Andresen, MPH, CPH, Section Chief Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch

STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

Dazella Peoples 935 Highway 191 Jemison, AL 35085 VIA EMAIL (peoplesdazella@yahoo.com)

RE: Dazella Peoples, LPN - Petition No. 2020-588

NOTICE OF HEARING

By authority of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Section 4-177, you are hereby notified to appear before the Board of Examiners for Nursing for a hearing on the attached Charges against you at 9:00 AM on **July 21, 2021**. The hearing will be held by video conference during the meeting of the Board of Examiners for Nursing. The link to connect to the hearing will be provided by email 3-5 days prior to the hearing.

These Charges are being brought against you under the provisions of the Sections 19a-9, 19a-10 and 20-99(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes. The hearing will be conducted in accordance with Chapter 54 of the General Statutes of Connecticut and Section 19a-9-1, et seq., of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (Public Health Code).

At the hearing you will have the opportunity to present your evidence, including witnesses and documents. It will be your responsibility to provide the hearing connection link to any witnesses you may call.

Filing an Answer; Failure to File Answer:

You are required to file an answer to the attached Charges with the Department of Public Health <u>within 14 days from</u> the date of this Notice of Hearing. Please note: failure to file an Answer could result in the allegations being found to be true as stated, and the possibility that you will not be permitted to submit any evidence concerning the allegations.

Representation by an Attorney:

At the aforementioned hearing you may be represented by an attorney and present evidence on your behalf. Although you may represent yourself (pro se), you are urged to obtain the services of an attorney.

Documents:

If you intend to introduce documents into evidence, YOU MUST COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

Exhibits should be pre-marked for identification (i.e. Department exhibit 1, Respondent exhibit A), page numbered, and properly redacted.

The following information shall be redacted.

- (1) Date of birth
- (2) Mother's maiden name
- (3) Motor vehicle operator's license number
- (4) Social Security Number
- (5) Other government-issued identification number
- (6) Health insurance identification number
- (7) Financial account number
- (8) Security code or personal identification number (PIN)

Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist

Order Re: Filings

In preparation for this hearing you must, no later than July 1, 2021, provide the information specified in the attached Notice for Submissions.

All communications to the Board shall be submitted in this fashion. The Department or Respondent shall provide a copy of each document filed to Respondent or Department as the case may be and certify such to the Board.

Failure to Appear:

If you fail to appear at the hearing, upon proof that due notice was served upon you to appear, the Board may proceed in the same manner as though you were present in person. The Board may hold a fact-finding meeting immediately following the close of the record.

Please call 860-509-7566 as soon as p	ossible if y	ou have any qu	uestions about th	e hearing scho	dule.	
Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this	13th	day of	May,	2021.		
For the Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing						
Isl Dellrey A. Kardys						

c: Christian Andresen, Section Chief, Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, Office of Legal Compliance

The Department of Public Health is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you require aid/accommodation to participate fully and fairly, please contact the Public Health Hearing Office at 860-509-7566.

Notice for Submissions

The hearing in the matter of <u>Dazella Peoples</u>, <u>LPN</u> has been scheduled for <u>July 21, 2021</u> and will be conducted remotely through Microsoft Teams/teleconference.

On or before <u>July 1, 2021</u>, you must provide the following by electronic mail response to the Department of Public Health, Public Health Hearing Office at <u>phho.dph@ct.gov</u>

- 1. <u>Electronically Pre-filed exhibits</u> Exhibits should be pre-marked for identification (i.e. Department exhibit 1, Respondent exhibit A), page numbered, and properly redacted. *Parties and/or counsel should stipulate to any exhibits and facts not in dispute, and provide any objections to proposed exhibits.* All exhibits also must be sent to the opposing party or counsel.
- 2. Witness List identify any persons expected to be called to testify. Be sure to notify your witnesses that they will be required to remain available and in attendance for the full duration of the hearing. (This will eliminate the difficulty of trying to reach witnesses again for rebuttal or additional examination later in the hearing). Witness lists also must be sent to the opposing party or counsel.
- 3. <u>Photo Identification</u>: a copy of a government-issued photo identification of the parties and witnesses.
- 4. <u>Electronic Mail ("e-mail") addresses</u> for parties, counsel and witnesses. All e-mail addresses must be current and able to receive all notices relating to this matter.
- 5. <u>Cellphone numbers</u> for all parties, counsel, and witnesses at which they can be reached and respond to text message during the hearing (in the event a connection is lost).
- 6. A statement whether executive session may be required to receive testimony containing personal protected information, and if so, what that information may be (treatment records, patient records, therapy reports). Parties or counsel should identify any witnesses listed in response to #2 above who may provide testimony relating to personal protected information requiring executive session.
- 7. A statement whether an interpreter will be needed for the proceeding.

This is a formal public hearing. It will be video recorded and posted on the DPH website for public viewing. All hearing participants should appear in proper attire, in proper surroundings, and remove any potential distractions.

In preparation, please make sure all of your devices are fully functioning and properly charged. All participants are required to have video and audio functions on when testifying or speaking. Our office will contact you again 3 to 5 calendar days prior to the hearing to provide you with any further instructions and a Microsoft Teams link / phone number and code to enter the hearing.

Should you have any question please contact the hearing office at phho.dph@ct.gov.

BOARD Exhibit 3

Kardys, Jeffrey

From: Dazella Peoples <peoplesdazella@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 9:40 PM

To: Kardys, Jeffrey

Subject: Re: Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

I received the notice of my hearing. Thanks. Ms. Peoples.

On Thursday, May 13, 2021, 09:48:25 AM CDT, Kardys, Jeffrey <jeffrey.kardys@ct.gov> wrote:

RE: Dazella Peoples, LPN - Petition No. 2020-588

Attached is Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges in the referenced matter

Jeffrey A. Kardys Administrative Hearings Specialist State of Connecticut Department of Public Health Legal Office/Public Health Hearing Office

410 Capitol Avenue, MS 13PHO PO Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134-0308 **860-509-7566 Fax 860-707-1904**

Jeffrey.kardys@ct.gov



BOARD Exhibit 4

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH Acting Commissioner



Ned Lamont Governor Susan Bysiewicz Lt. Governor

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

July 19, 2021

Dazella Peoples 935 Highway 191 Jemison, AL 35085 VIA EMAIL (peoplesdazella@yahoo.com)

Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney Department of Public Health 410 Capitol Avenue, MS #12LEG PO Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134-0308 VIA EMAIL ONLY

RE: Dazella Peoples, LPN - Petition No. 2020-588

RULING ON REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE

The Request for Continuance of the hearing scheduled for July 21, 2021, filed by the respondent without objection from the Department of Public Health, is GRANTED.

The hearing is rescheduled to **Wednesday**, **September 15**, **2021**, **at 9:00 a.m.** The hearing will be held by video conference during the meeting of the Board of Examiners for Nursing.

FOR: BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

BY: /s/ Jeffrey A. Kardys

Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist/Board Liaison Department of Public Health 410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13PHO PO Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134-0308

Tel. (860) 509-7566 FAX (860) 707-1904





BOARD Exhibit 5

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH Acting Commissioner



Ned Lamont Governor Susan Bysiewicz Lt. Governor

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

September 14, 2021

Dazella Peoples 935 Highway 191 Jemison, AL 35085 VIA EMAIL (peoplesdazella@yahoo.com) and First Class Mail

Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney Department of Public Health 410 Capitol Avenue, MS #12LEG PO Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134-0308 VIA EMAIL ONLY

RE: Dazella Peoples, LPN - Petition No. 2020-588

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED HEARING

The hearing in the referenced matter is rescheduled to Wednesday, November 17, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.

The hearing will be held by video conference during the meeting of the Board of Examiners for Nursing.

FOR: BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

BY: /s/ Jeffrey A. Kardys

Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist/Board Liaison Department of Public Health 410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13PHO PO Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134-0308

Tel. (860) 509-7566 FAX (860) 707-1904





STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH

In re: Sara Smith, RN Petition No. 2021-181

STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Pursuant to the General Statutes of Connecticut, §§19a-10 and 19a-14, the Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") brings the following charges against Sara Smith:

- Sara Smith of Shelton, Connecticut (hereinafter "respondent") is the holder of Connecticut registered nursing license number 122048.
- 2. On January 20, 2021, the Board ordered a Memorandum of Decision in Petition No. 2020-373 ("Order") based upon respondent's abuse of controlled substances. The Order placed respondent's nursing license on probation for four years, and required her, in part, to submit to random urine screens which were to be negative for the presence of drugs and alcohol.
- 3. On or about February 11, 2021, respondent's urine tested positive for fentanyl and/or norafentanyl.
- On or about February 11, 2021, respondent abused and/utilized to excess fentanyl and/or norafentanyl.
- Respondent's abuse and/or excessive use of fentanyl and/or norafentanyl does, and/or may, affect her practice of nursing.
- 4. Respondent's conduct as described constitutes violations of the probationary terms required by the Order and subjects her license to revocation or other disciplinary action authorized by Connecticut General Statutes §§19a-17 and 20-99(b) including but not limited to §20-99(b)(2) and/or §20-99(b)(5).

THEREFORE, the Department prays that:

The Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing, as authorized by Connecticut General Statutes §\$20-99(b) and 19a-17, revoke or order other disciplinary action against respondent's nursing license as it deems appropriate and consistent with law.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this _	17th day of	March, 2021.	
_	Christian	Dandusen	

Christian D. Andresen, MPH, CPH, Section Chief Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch

Board Exhibit 2

STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

Sara Smith c/o Cody Guarnieri Brown, Paindiris & Scott 100 Pearl Street Hartford, CT 06103 VIA EMAIL (cguamieri@bpslawyers.com)

RE: Sara J. Smith, RN - Petition No. 2021-181

NOTICE OF HEARING

By authority of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Section 4-177, you are hereby notified to appear before the Board of Examiners for Nursing for a hearing on the attached Charges against you at 9:00 AM on **July 21, 2021**. The hearing will be held by video conference during the meeting of the Board of Examiners for Nursing. The link to connect to the hearing will be provided by email 3-5 days prior to the hearing.

These Charges are being brought against you under the provisions of the Sections 19a-9, 19a-10 and 20-99(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes. The hearing will be conducted in accordance with Chapter 54 of the General Statutes of Connecticut and Section 19a-9-1, et seq., of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (Public Health Code).

At the hearing you will have the opportunity to present your evidence, including witnesses and documents. It will be your responsibility to provide the hearing connection link to any witnesses you may call.

Filing an Answer; Failure to File Answer:

You are required to file an answer to the attached Charges with the Department of Public Health <u>within 14 days from</u> the date of this Notice of Hearing. Please note: failure to file an Answer could result in the allegations being found to be true as stated, and the possibility that you will not be permitted to submit any evidence concerning the allegations.

Representation by an Attorney:

At the aforementioned hearing you may be represented by an attorney and present evidence on your behalf. Although you may represent yourself (pro se), you are urged to obtain the services of an attorney.

Documents:

If you intend to introduce documents into evidence, YOU MUST COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

Exhibits should be pre-marked for identification (i.e. Department exhibit 1, Respondent exhibit A), page numbered, and properly redacted.

The following information shall be redacted.

- (1) Date of birth
- (2) Mother's maiden name
- (3) Motor vehicle operator's license number
- (4) Social Security Number
- (5) Other government-issued identification number
- (6) Health insurance identification number
- (7) Financial account number
- (8) Security code or personal identification number (PIN)

Order Re: Filings

In preparation for this hearing you must, no later than May 5, 2021, provide the information specified in the attached Notice for Submissions.

All communications to the Board shall be submitted in this fashion. The Department or Respondent shall provide a copy of each document filed to Respondent or Department as the case may be and certify such to the Board.

Failure to Appear:

If you fail to appear at the hearing, upon proof that due notice was served upon you to appear, the Board may proceed in the same manner as though you were present in person. The Board may hold a fact-finding meeting immediately following the close of the record.

ionowing the close of the record.				
Please call 860-509-7566 as soon as po	ossible if yo	u have any questi	ions about th	e hearing schedule.
Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this	12th	day of	May,	2021.

/s/	Geffre	y A.	Kard	ys	
		•		ive Hearings	Specialist

For the Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing

c: Christian Andresen, Section Chief, Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, Office of Legal Compliance

The Department of Public Health is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you require aid/accommodation to participate fully and fairly, please contact the Public Health Hearing Office at 860-509-7566.

Notice for Submissions

The hearing in the matter of <u>Sara Smith</u>, <u>RN</u> has been scheduled for <u>July 21, 2021</u> and will be conducted remotely through Microsoft Teams/teleconference.

On or before <u>July 1, 2021</u>, you must provide the following by electronic mail response to the hearing office at <u>phho.dph@ct.gov</u>

- 1. <u>Electronically Pre-filed exhibits</u> Exhibits should be pre-marked for identification (i.e. Department exhibit 1, Respondent exhibit A), page numbered, and properly redacted. *Parties and/or counsel should stipulate to any exhibits and facts not in dispute, and provide any objections to proposed exhibits.* All exhibits also must be sent to the opposing party or counsel.
- 2. <u>Witness List</u> identify any persons expected to be called to testify. Be sure to notify your witnesses that they will be required to remain available and in attendance for the full duration of the hearing. (This will eliminate the difficulty of trying to reach witnesses again for rebuttal or additional examination later in the hearing). Witness lists also must be sent to the opposing party or counsel.
- 3. <u>Photo Identification</u>: a copy of a government-issued photo identification of the parties and witnesses.
- 4. <u>Electronic Mail ("e-mail") addresses</u> for parties, counsel and witnesses. All e-mail addresses must be current and able to receive all notices relating to this matter.
- 5. <u>Cellphone numbers</u> for all parties, counsel, and witnesses at which they can be reached and respond to text message during the hearing (in the event a connection is lost).
- 6. A statement whether executive session may be required to receive testimony containing personal protected information, and if so, what that information may be (treatment records, patient records, therapy reports). Parties or counsel should identify any witnesses listed in response to #2 above who may provide testimony relating to personal protected information requiring executive session.
- 7. <u>A statement whether an interpreter will be needed</u> for the proceeding.

This is a formal public hearing. It will be video recorded and posted on the DPH website for public viewing. All hearing participants should appear in proper attire, in proper surroundings, and remove any potential distractions.

In preparation, please make sure all of your devices are fully functioning and properly charged. All participants are required to have video and audio functions on when testifying or speaking. Our office will contact you again 3 to 5 calendar days prior to the hearing to provide you with any further instructions and a Microsoft Teams link / phone number and code to enter the hearing.

Should you have any question please contact the hearing office at phho.dph@ct.gov.

Board Exhibit 3

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH

PETITION NO. 2020-373

IN RE: Sara Smith

MAY 13, 2021

MOTION FOR EXTENTION OF TIME FOR HEARING

The Respondent, Sara Smith, hereby respectfully requests an extension of time before a hearing on the merits in this case. In support of the same, the Respondent states the following:

1. The Respondent, Ms. Sara Smith ("Smith") is a 2017 graduate of St. Vincent's

College and is the holder of Connecticut registered nursing licenses number 122048.

2. On or about September 18, 2019, the Connecticut Board of Examiners for

Nursing (hereinafter "the Board") ordered a Consent Order in Petition No. 2020-443 ("Order")

based upon respondent's abuse of controlled substances. The Order placed respondent's license

on probation for four years and required her, in part, to submit to random urine screens which

shall be negative for the presence of drugs and alcohol.

3. On about March 3, 2020, the Respondent tested positive for Oxymorphone (216)

ng/mL). She also tested positive for Oxymorphone on April 14, 2020 (299 ng/mL). On January

20, 2021, the Board ordered a Memorandum of Decision in Petition No. 2020-373 based upon

respondent's violation of the terms of the Consent Order. Respondent's license was placed on

probation for four years, and she was required, in part, to submit to random urine.

BROWN PAINDIRIS & SCOTT, LLP – ATTORNEYS AT LAW

100 PEARL STREET, 2ND FLOOR, HARTFORD, CT 06103 - (860) 522-3343 - JURIS NO. 020767

4. The instant Petition stems from a March 17, 2021 Statement of Charges wherein the Department alleges that the Respondent violated the terms of the Memorandum of Decision by testing positive for controlled substances on February 11, 2021. The Respondent has

answered denying the same.

- 5. The Respondent received notice this day (May 13, 2021), that this matter was scheduled to be heard by the Board at its July 21, 2021 regular meeting. However, the undersigned will be away from the office on July 21, 2021. Moreover, the undersigned also anticipates being on trial before the court in the Judicial District of Hartford on August 19, 2021. As such, the Respondent respectfully moves that this hearing be continued to the Board's September meeting, on September 16, 2021.
- 6. Counsel for the Department (Joelle Newton, Esq.) was consulted regarding this request and indicated no objection to the same.

WHEREFORE, the Respondent respectfully requests that the Board extend the time before a hearing on the merits of the Statement of Charges to its meeting on September 16, 2021.

RESPONDENT/SARA, SMITH

Cody N. Guarnieri, Esq.

Brown Paindiris & Scott, LLP

100 Pearl Street, Suite 200

Hartford, CT 06103

(Tel.) 860-522-3343

(Fax) 860-522-2490 cody@bpslawyers.com

CERTIFICATION

A copy of this Motion was emailed to Attorney Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney for the Connecticut Department of Public Health, to Joelle.Newton@ct.gov and Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist, Connecticut Department of Public Health, to Jeffrey.Kardys@ct.gov, on this 13th day of May, 2021.

Cody N. Guarnieri

Board Exhibit 4

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH Acting Commissioner



Ned Lamont Governor Susan Bysiewicz Lt. Governor

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

September 1, 2021

Cody Guarnieri Brown, Paindiris & Scott 100 Pearl Street Hartford, CT 06103 VIA EMAIL ONLY

Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney Department of Public Health 410 Capitol Avenue, MS #12LEG PO Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134-0308 **VIA EMAIL ONLY**

RE: Sara Smith, RN - Petition No. 2021-181

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED HEARING

The hearing in the above referenced matter is rescheduled to **Wednesday**, **October 20**, **2021**, **at 9:00 a.m.** The hearing will be held by video conference during the meeting of the Board of Examiners for Nursing.

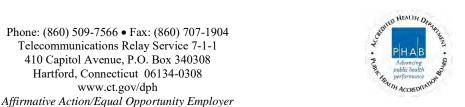
FOR: BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

BY: /s/ Jeffrey A. Kardys

Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist/Board Liaison Department of Public Health 410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13PHO PO Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134-0308

Tel. (860) 509-7566 FAX (860) 707-1904





Notice for Submissions

The hearing in the matter of **Sara Smith**, **RN** has been scheduled for <u>October 20, 2021</u> and will be conducted remotely through Microsoft Teams/teleconference.

On or before <u>October 6, 2021</u>, you must provide the following by electronic mail response to the hearing office at <u>phho.dph@ct.gov</u>

- 1. <u>Electronically Pre-filed exhibits</u> Exhibits should be pre-marked for identification (i.e. Department exhibit 1, Respondent exhibit A), page numbered, and properly redacted. Parties and/or counsel should stipulate to any exhibits and facts not in dispute, and provide any objections to proposed exhibits. All exhibits also must be sent to the opposing party or counsel.
- 2. <u>Witness List</u> identify any persons expected to be called to testify. Be sure to notify your witnesses that they will be required to remain available and in attendance for the full duration of the hearing. (This will eliminate the difficulty of trying to reach witnesses again for rebuttal or additional examination later in the hearing). Witness lists also must be sent to the opposing party or counsel.
- 3. <u>Photo Identification</u>: a copy of a government-issued photo identification of the parties and witnesses.
- 4. <u>Electronic Mail ("e-mail") addresses</u> for parties, counsel and witnesses. All e-mail addresses must be current and able to receive all notices relating to this matter.
- 5. <u>Cellphone numbers</u> for all parties, counsel, and witnesses at which they can be reached and respond to text message during the hearing (in the event a connection is lost).
- 6. <u>A statement whether executive session may be required</u> to receive testimony containing personal protected information, and if so, what that information may be (treatment records, patient records, therapy reports). Parties or counsel should identify any witnesses listed in response to #2 above who may provide testimony relating to personal protected information requiring executive session.
- 7. A statement whether an interpreter will be needed for the proceeding.

This is a formal public hearing. It will be video recorded and posted on the DPH website for public viewing. All hearing participants should appear in proper attire, in proper surroundings, and remove any potential distractions.

In preparation, please make sure all of your devices are fully functioning and properly charged. All participants are required to have video and audio functions on when testifying or speaking. Our office will contact you again 3 to 5 calendar days prior to the hearing to provide you with any further instructions and a Microsoft Teams link / phone number and code to enter the hearing.

Should you have any question please contact the hearing office at phho.dph@ct.gov.

Board Exhibit 5

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH

PETITION NO. 2020-373

IN RE: Sara Smith

OCTOBER 5, 2021

MOTION FOR EXTENTION OF TIME FOR HEARING

The Respondent, Sara Smith, hereby respectfully requests an extension of time before a hearing on the merits in this case. In support of the same, the Respondent states the following:

1. The Respondent, Ms. Sara Smith ("Smith") is a 2017 graduate of St. Vincent's

College and is the holder of Connecticut registered nursing licenses number 122048.

2. On or about September 18, 2019, the Connecticut Board of Examiners for

Nursing (hereinafter "the Board") ordered a Consent Order in Petition No. 2020-443 ("Order")

based upon respondent's abuse of controlled substances. The Order placed respondent's license

on probation for four years and required her, in part, to submit to random urine screens which

shall be negative for the presence of drugs and alcohol.

3. On about March 3, 2020, the Respondent tested positive for Oxymorphone (216

ng/mL). She also tested positive for Oxymorphone on April 14, 2020 (299 ng/mL). On January

20, 2021, the Board ordered a Memorandum of Decision in Petition No. 2020-373 based upon

respondent's violation of the terms of the Consent Order. Respondent's license was placed on

probation for four years, and she was required, in part, to submit to random urine.

BROWN PAINDIRIS & SCOTT, LLP – ATTORNEYS AT LAW

- 4. The instant Petition stems from a March 17, 2021, Statement of Charges wherein the Department alleges that the Respondent violated the terms of the Memorandum of Decision by testing positive for controlled substances on February 11, 2021. The Respondent has answered denying the same.
- 5. This matter is presently scheduled to be on the agenda for the Board's meeting on October 20, 2021. However, the undersigned will be on trial in federal district court beginning on October 20, 2021, likely continuing until the first week of November, in the matter of *United States v. Deron Freeman*, Case 3:19-cr-00220-VAB
- 6. As such, the Respondent respectfully moves that this hearing be continued to the Board's November meeting, on November 17, 2021, and submissions for the Board be extended to on or before November 3, 2021.
- 7. Counsel for the Department (Joelle Newton, Esq.) was consulted regarding this request and indicated no objection to the same.

WHEREFORE, the Respondent respectfully requests that the Board extend the time before a hearing on the merits of the Statement of Charges to its meeting on November 17, 2021.

RESPONDENT, SARA SMITH

By_

Cody N. Guarnieri, Esq.

Brown Paindiris & Scott, LLP

100 Pearl Street, Suite 200

Hartford, CT 06103

(Tel.) 860-522-3343

(Fax) 860-522-2490

cody@bpslawyers.com

CERTIFICATION

A copy of this Motion was emailed to Attorney Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney for the Connecticut Department of Public Health, to Joelle.Newton@ct.gov and Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist, Connecticut Department of Public Health, to Jeffrey.Kardys@ct.gov, on this 5th day of October, 2021.

Cody N. Guarnieri

Board Exhibit 6

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Manisha Juthani, MD Commissioner



Ned Lamont Governor Susan Bysiewicz Lt. Governor

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

October 7, 2021

Cody Guarnieri Brown, Paindiris & Scott 2252 Main Street Glastonbury, CT 06033 **VIA EMAIL ONLY**

Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney Department of Public Health 410 Capitol Avenue, MS #12LEG PO Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134-0308 **VIA EMAIL ONLY**

RE: Sara Smith, RN - Petition No. 2021-181

RULING ON REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE

The Request for Continuance of the hearing scheduled for October 20, 2021, filed by respondent in the above-referenced matter is GRANTED without objection from the Department of Public Health.

The hearing is rescheduled to **Wednesday**, **November 17**, **2021 at 9:00 a.m**. The hearing will be held by video conference during the meeting of the Board of Examiners for Nursing.

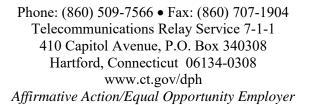
FOR: BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

BY: /s/ Jeffrey A. Kardys

Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist/Board Liaison Department of Public Health 410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13PHO PO Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134-0308

Tel. (860) 509-7566 FAX (860) 707-1904







Board Exhibit 7

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH

PETITION NO. 2021-181

IN RE: Sara Smith

MARCH 31, 2021

ANSWER TO STATEMENT OF CHARGES

The Respondent, Sara Smith, R.N., hereby responds to the Statement of Charges dated March 17, 2021, as follows:

- 1. Paragraph 1 is admitted.
- 2. Paragraph 2 is admitted.
- 3. Paragraph 3 is admitted to the extent that LabCorp reported that in a urine specimen collected on February 11, 2021, purportedly from the Respondent, Fentanyl was determined to be present, norfentanyl was not noted to be present.
 - 4. Paragraph 4 is denied.
 - 5. Paragraph 5 is denied.
 - 6. Paragraph 6 (misnumbered as 4) is denied.

RESPONDENT, SARA SMITH

Cody N. Guarnieri, Esq. Brown Paindiris & Scott, LLP 100 Pearl Street, Suite 200 Hartford, CT 06103 (Tel.) 860-522-3343 (Fax) 860-522-2490 cody@bpslawyers.com

CERTIFICATION

A copy of this Answer was emailed to Attorney Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney for the Connecticut Department of Public Health, to Joelle.Newton@ct.gov and Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist, Connecticut Department of Public Health, to Jeffrey.Kardys@ct.gov, on this 31st day of March, 2021.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH

In re: Channelle Walker, R.N. Petition No. 2021-626

STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Pursuant to the General Statutes of Connecticut, §§19a-10 and 19a-14, the Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") brings the following charges against Channelle Walker:

COUNT ONE

- 1. Channelle Walker of Sharon, Massachusetts (hereinafter "respondent") was issued Connecticut registered nurse license number 144218 on August 16, 2017. Respondent entered into an Interim Consent Order with the Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") on July 29, 2019. License number 144218 expired on July 31, 2019 and subsequently lapsed. License number 144218 was reinstated pursuant to the terms of a Reinstatement Consent Order in Petition Number 2021-290 dated May 19, 2021 (the "Reinstatement Consent Order").
- 2. Respondent has a history of abusing multiple substances, and in approximately January 2020 was diagnosed with alcohol dependence, opioid dependence, and cocaine dependence.
- 3. Respondent has a history of mental health issues and in approximately January 2020 was diagnosed with an emotional disorder.
- 4. Respondent's abuse of alcohol, opioids, and cocaine, and her emotional disorder does, and/or may, affect her ability to practice as a registered nurse.
- 5. The above-described facts constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to the General Statutes of Connecticut §20-99(b) including, but not limited to:
 - a. §20-99(b)(4); and/or
 - b. §20-99(b)(5).

COUNT TWO

- 6. Paragraphs one through four are incorporated herein by reference as if set forth in full.
- 7. On May 19, 2021, the Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing (hereinafter "the Board") ordered the above-referenced Reinstatement Consent Order that placed respondent's registered nurse license on probation for a period of four years. Such disciplinary action was based upon respondent's admitted history of abusing multiple substances and history of mental health issues.

Summary 6/98 11-4

- 8. Said Order specifically provided in Paragraph 3B that "Respondent shall not obtain or use controlled substances, legend drugs or alcohol in any form unless prescribed or recommended for a legitimate therapeutic purpose by a licensed health care professional authorized to prescribe medications." Paragraph 3B(5) provides that "All screens shall be negative for the presence of drugs and alcohol. Respondent agrees that an EtG (Ethylglucuronide) test report of EtG at a level of 1000 ng/mL or higher shall be deemed to constitute a positive screen for the presence of alcohol."
- 9. On or about June 29, 2021, respondent tested positive for metabolites of alcohol, EtG and EtS (Ethyl Sulfate). An EtG level was confirmed at 784,650 ng/mL and an EtS level was confirmed at 216,700 ng/mL. Respondent also tested positive for ethanol which was confirmed at a level of 0.093%.
- 10. On or about July 12, 2021, respondent tested positive for EtG at a confirmed level of 3620 ng/mL, and positive for EtS at a confirmed level of 1700 ng/mL.
- 11. Respondent's conduct as described above constitutes violations of the terms of probation as set forth in the Reinstatement Consent Order, and subjects respondent's license to revocation or other disciplinary action authorized by the General Statutes of Connecticut, §§19a-17 and 20-99(b).

THEREFORE, the Department prays that:

The Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing, as authorized by the General Statutes of Connecticut, §§20-99(b) and 19a-17, revoke or order other disciplinary action against the license of Channelle Walker as it deems appropriate and consistent with law.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this _	26th	day of	July	2021.
		Christian !	andusen	
Cl	nristian D. A	ndresen, MPH,	CPH, Section (Chief
Pr	actitioner Lie	censing and Inv	estigations Sec	tion
He	ealthcare Qua	ality and Safety	Branch	

soc2

Summary 6/98 11-5

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH

In re: Channelle Walker, R.N. Petition No. 2021-626

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

The Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") hereby moves in accordance with the General Statutes of Connecticut §§4-182(c) and 19a-17(c) that the Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing summarily suspend the license of Channelle Walker to practice registered nursing in Connecticut. This motion is based on the attached Statement of Charges, Affidavits and on the Department's information and belief that the continued practice of registered nursing represents a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this _	26th	day of	July	2021.
		Christian	Dandusen	

Christian D. Andresen, MPH, CPH, Section Chief Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch

Summary 6/98 11-3

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH Acting Commissioner



Ned Lamont Governor Susan Bysiewicz Lt. Governor

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

In re: Channelle Walker, RN

Petition No. 2021-626

SUMMARY SUSPENSION ORDER

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Health having moved for an order of summary suspension in this matter and having submitted duly verified affidavits in support of its motion; and,

WHEREAS, said affidavits allege facts which show violations of §20-99(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes, and which imperatively require emergency action in that the public health, safety or welfare of the citizens of the State of Connecticut is in clear and immediate danger.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to §4-182(c) and §19a-17(c) of the Connecticut General Statutes, it is hereby **ORDERED**, by vote of the Board of Examiners for Nursing:

- 1. That license number 144218 of Channelle Walker to practice as a registered nurse in the State of Connecticut is hereby summarily suspended pending a final determination by the Board of Examiners for Nursing regarding the allegations contained in the Statement of Charges, and
- 2. That a hearing in this matter is scheduled for the 15th day of September 2021, at 9:00 a.m. The hearing will be held remotely via Microsoft TEAMS.

Dated at Waterbury, Connecticut this 11th day of August, 2021.

Patricia C. Bouffard, D.N.Sc., RN, Chair Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing



Phone: (860) 509-7566 • Fax: (860) 707-1904
Telecommunications Relay Service 7-1-1
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Hartford, Connecticut 06134-0308
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Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer



STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

Channelle Walksr c/o Mary Alice Moore Leonhardt, Esq. Moore Leonhardt & Associates 67 Russ Street Hartford, CT 06106 VIA EMAIL (ma@mooreleonhardt.com) and First Class Mail

RE: Channelle Walksr, LPN - Petition No. 2021-626

NOTICE OF HEARING

By authority of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Section 4-177, you are hereby notified to appear before the Board of Examiners for Nursing for a hearing on the attached Charges against you at 9:00 AM on **September 15, 2021**. The hearing will be held by video conference during the meeting of the Board of Examiners for Nursing. The link to connect to the hearing will be provided by email 3-5 days prior to the hearing.

These Charges are being brought against you under the provisions of the Sections 19a-9, 19a-10 and 20-99(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes. The hearing will be conducted in accordance with Chapter 54 of the General Statutes of Connecticut and Section 19a-9-1, et seq., of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (Public Health Code).

At the hearing you will have the opportunity to present your evidence, including witnesses and documents. It will be your responsibility to provide the hearing connection link to any witnesses you may call.

Filing an Answer; Failure to File Answer:

You are required to file an answer to the attached Charges with the Department of Public Health <u>within 14</u> <u>days from the date of this Notice of Hearing</u>. Please note: failure to file an Answer could result in the allegations being found to be true as stated, and the possibility that you will not be permitted to submit any evidence concerning the allegations.

Representation by an Attorney:

At the aforementioned hearing you may be represented by an attorney and present evidence on your behalf. Although you may represent yourself (pro se), you are urged to obtain the services of an attorney.

Documents:

If you intend to introduce documents into evidence, YOU MUST COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

Exhibits should be pre-marked for identification (i.e. Department exhibit 1, Respondent exhibit A), page numbered, and properly redacted.

The following information shall be redacted.

- (1) Date of birth
- (2) Mother's maiden name
- (3) Motor vehicle operator's license number
- (4) Social Security Number
- (5) Other government-issued identification number
- (6) Health insurance identification number
- (7) Financial account number
- (8) Security code or personal identification number (PIN)

Order Re: Filings

In preparation for this hearing you must, no later than July 28 2021, provide the information specified in the attached Notice for Submissions.

All communications to the Board shall be submitted in this fashion. The Department or Respondent shall provide a copy of each document filed to Respondent or Department as the case may be and certify such to the Board.

Failure to Appear:

If you fail to appear at the hearing, upon proof that due notice was served upon you to appear, the Board may proceed in the same manner as though you were present in person. The Board may hold a fact-finding meeting immediately following the close of the record.

Please call 860-509-7566 as soon as possible if you have any questions about the hearing schedule.					
Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this _	12th	_ day of	August,	2021.	
For the Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing					
Isl Jeffrey A. Kardys					
Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist					

c: Christian Andresen, Section Chief, Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Diane WilanLeslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, Office of Legal Compliance

The Department of Public Health is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you require aid/accommodation to participate fully and fairly, please contact the Public Health Hearing Office at 860-509-7566.

Notice for Submissions

The hearing in the matter of Channelle Walker, LPN has been scheduled for <u>September 15, 2021</u> and will be conducted remotely through Microsoft Teams/teleconference.

On or before <u>September 1, 2021</u>, you must provide the following by electronic mail response to the hearing office at <u>phho.dph@ct.gov</u>

- 1. <u>Electronically Pre-filed exhibits</u> Exhibits should be pre-marked for identification (i.e. Department exhibit 1, Respondent exhibit A), page numbered, and properly redacted.
 - Parties and/or counsel should stipulate to any exhibits and facts not in dispute, and provide any objections to proposed exhibits. All exhibits also must be sent to the opposing party or counsel.
- 2. Witness List identify any persons expected to be called to testify. Be sure to notify your witnesses that they will be required to remain available and in attendance for the full duration of the hearing. (This will eliminate the difficulty of trying to reach witnesses again for rebuttal or additional examination later in the hearing). Witness lists also must be sent to the opposing party or counsel.
- 3. <u>Photo Identification</u>: a copy of a government-issued photo identification of the parties and witnesses.
- 4. <u>Electronic Mail ("e-mail") addresses</u> for parties, counsel and witnesses. All email addresses must be current and able to receive all notices relating to this matter
- 5. <u>Cellphone numbers</u> for all parties, counsel, and witnesses at which they can be reached and respond to text message during the hearing (in the event a connection is lost).
- 6. A statement whether executive session may be required to receive testimony containing personal protected information, and if so, what that information may be (treatment records, patient records, therapy reports). Parties or counsel should identify any witnesses listed in response to #2 above who may provide testimony relating to personal protected information requiring executive session.
- 7. <u>A statement whether an interpreter will be needed</u> for the proceeding.

This is a formal public hearing. It will be video recorded and posted on the DPH website for public viewing. All hearing participants should appear in proper attire, in proper surroundings, and remove any potential distractions.

In preparation, please make sure all of your devices are fully functioning and properly charged. All participants are required to have video and audio functions on when testifying or speaking. Our office will contact you again 3 to 5 calendar days prior to the hearing to provide you with any further instructions and a Microsoft Teams link / phone number and code to enter the hearing.

Should you have any question please contact the hearing office at phho.dph@ct.gov.

BOARD 5

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH Acting Commissioner Ned Lamont Governor Susan Bysiewicz Lt. Governor

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

CORRECTED

RE:

September 14, 2021

Mary Alice Moore Leonhardt, Esq. 67 Russ Street, 2nd Floor Hartford, CT 06106

VIA EMAIL ONLY

VIA EMAIL ONLY

Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney
Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #12LEG
PO Box 340308
Hartford, CT 06134-0308

Channelle Walker, RN - Petition No. 2021-626

RULING ON REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE

In an email dated September 14, 2021, counsel for respondent requested a postponement of the hearing in the referenced matter scheduled for September 15, 2021. Without objection from the Department of Public Health, respondent's request is granted.

The hearing is rescheduled to **Wednesday**, **November 17**, **2021 at 9:00 a.m**. The hearing will be held by video conference during the meeting of the Board of Examiners for Nursing.

The Summary Suspension of respondent's registered nurse license remains in effect.

FOR: BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

BY: /s/ Jeffrey A. Kardys

Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist/Board Liaison Department of Public Health 410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13PHO PO Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134-0308

Tel. (860) 509-7566 FAX (860) 707-1904



Phone: (860) 509-7566 • Fax: (860) 707-1904
Telecommunications Relay Service 7-1-1
410 Capitol Avenue, P.O. Box 340308
Hartford, Connecticut 06134-0308
www.ct.gov/dph
Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer



Notice for Submissions

The hearing in the matter of **Channelle Walker**, **RN** has been scheduled for **November 17**, **2021** and will be conducted remotely through Microsoft Teams/teleconference.

On or before **November 3, 2021**, you must provide the following by electronic mail response to the hearing office at phho.dph@ct.gov

- 1. <u>Electronically Pre-filed exhibits</u> Exhibits should be pre-marked for identification (i.e. Department exhibit 1, Respondent exhibit A), page numbered, and properly redacted. Parties and/or counsel should stipulate to any exhibits and facts not in dispute, and provide any objections to proposed exhibits. All exhibits also must be sent to the opposing party or counsel.
- 2. Witness List identify any persons expected to be called to testify. Be sure to notify your witnesses that they will be required to remain available and in attendance for the full duration of the hearing. (This will eliminate the difficulty of trying to reach witnesses again for rebuttal or additional examination later in the hearing). Witness lists also must be sent to the opposing party or counsel.
- 3. <u>Photo Identification</u>: a copy of a government-issued photo identification of the parties and witnesses.
- 4. <u>Electronic Mail ("e-mail") addresses</u> for parties, counsel and witnesses. All e-mail addresses must be current and able to receive all notices relating to this matter.
- 5. <u>Cellphone numbers</u> for all parties, counsel, and witnesses at which they can be reached and respond to text message during the hearing (in the event a connection is lost).
- 6. A statement whether executive session may be required to receive testimony containing personal protected information, and if so, what that information may be (treatment records, patient records, therapy reports). Parties or counsel should identify any witnesses listed in response to #2 above who may provide testimony relating to personal protected information requiring executive session.
- 7. A statement whether an interpreter will be needed for the proceeding.

This is a formal public hearing. It will be video recorded and posted on the DPH website for public viewing. All hearing participants should appear in proper attire, in proper surroundings, and remove any potential distractions.

In preparation, please make sure all of your devices are fully functioning and properly charged. All participants are required to have video and audio functions on when testifying or speaking. Our office will contact you again 3 to 5 calendar days prior to the hearing to provide you with any further instructions and a Microsoft Teams link / phone number and code to enter the hearing.

Should you have any question please contact the hearing office at phho.dph@ct.gov.