

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on May 19, 2021 via Microsoft TEAMS.

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**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, D.N.Sc. - (RN Member, Chair)  
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)  
Gina Reiners, PhD, APRN, PMHNP, PMHCNS - (RN Member)

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Geraldine Marrocco, Ed.D., APRN, ANP-BC, FAANP - (RN Member)  
Rebecca Martinez, LPN – (LPN Member)

**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  
Jeffrey Kardys, Board Liaison, DPH  
Agnieszka Salek, Hearings Liaison, DPH

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The meeting commenced at 8:30 a.m. All participants were present by video or telephone conference.

#### **CHAIR UPDATES**

Chair Bouffard reported she will be making a presentation to the Connecticut Nurses Association on May 26, 2021. She will discuss the Board's mission and activities.

#### **OPEN FORUM**

Nothing to report.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary E. Dietmann, to approve the reordering of the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **NATIONAL COUNCIL STATE BOARDS OF NURSING**

Mary Dietmann provided a report of an Education Consultants Group teleconference on May 4, 2021. The main topic of discussion was the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Essentials. The Essentials outline the necessary curriculum content and expected competencies of graduates from baccalaureate, master's, and Doctor of Nursing Practice programs, as well as the clinical support needed for the full spectrum of academic nursing.

*Lisa Freeman arrived at 8:37 a.m.*

#### **SCHOOL ISSUES**

- Connecticut League for Nursing Virtual RN Refresher Course  
Marcia Proto, Executive Director, Connecticut League for Nursing provided an update of the CNA online registered nurse refresher course.

Update on the NCLEX test results - Sacred Heart University and Quinnipiac University.  
Helen Smith, RN, Nurse Consultant, DPH provided updates NCLEX results for Sacred Heart University and Quinnipiac University.

- NCLEX test results - 05/01/2020 to 04/30/2021

Helen Smith, RN, Nurse Consultant, DPH reported NCLEX results for the time period May 1, 2020 to April 30, 2021 for RN and LPN programs. The programs that have not met the 80 percent pass rate will be notified to appear and present a plan of correction to the Board.

Based on the results Mary Dietmann made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners, to remove the University of Connecticut Stamford program from conditional status which was ordered on June 17, 2020. The motion passed unanimously.

### **CONNECTICUT LEAGUR FOR NURSING – Monthly Update**

Marcia Proto, Executive Director provided an update from the Connecticut League for Nursing on the following matters:

- Deans and Directors/Connecticut Hospital Association quarterly meeting on June 7, 2021.
- Enrolment in Connecticut Nursing Programs has been increasing.
- Expected increase in retirements of faculty from State education programs in June 2022.
- Office of Workforce Strategy
- Lack of clinical experiences for APRN students.

### **SCOPE OF PRACTICE**

Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant, DPH provided a summary of 35 nursing scope of practice inquiries received by the Department of Public Health during April 2021.

### **MEMORANDA OF DECISION**

#### Dana Gibson, RN – License Reinstatement

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to reaffirm the Board's decision reinstating Ms. Gibson's registered nurse and imposing probation for a period of one year. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Allyson Allen, LPN - Petition No. 2020-787

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to reaffirm the Board's decision imposing probation for a period of four years. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Colleen Gallagher, LPN - Petition No. 2020-76

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to reaffirm the Board's decision imposing probation for a period of four years. The motion passed unanimously.

### **MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION**

#### Nicholas Lewonczyk, LPN - Petition No. 2017-50

Staff Attorney Diane Wilan was present for the Department of Public Health. Mr. Lewonczyk was not present or represented.

Gina Reiners moved to grant the Department's Motion for Reconsideration of an April 21, 2021 Memorandum of Decision. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Long and passed unanimously.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann that effective immediately the Memorandum of Decision in this matter be amended such that respondent is required to complete a licensed practical nurse refresher course that includes a clinical component prior to resuming the practice of nursing. In addition, respondent's license shall be restricted for the purpose of successful completion of the refresher program, and the four (4) year probation shall commence on the resumption of employment. The motion passed unanimously.

All other conditions of the April 21, 2021 Memorandum of Decision will remain in effect pending issuance of the Amended Memorandum of Decision

**MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

Adrienne DeLucia, RN - Petition No. 2021-317

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Adrienne DeLucia. Attorney Cody Guarnieri was present with respondent.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to enter executive session to review confidential medical records. The motion passed unanimously. No motions were made and no votes were taken during executive session.

Gina Reiners 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 June 16, 2021.

**CONSENT ORDERS**

Mary Ann Connelly, RN - Petition No. 2019-1277

Staff Attorney, Joelle Newton, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Mary Ann Connelly, RN. Attorney Ellen Costello was present on behalf of respondent.

Gina Reiners moved, and Mary Dietmann seconded, to approve the Consent Order which imposes a reprimand and probation for a period of eighteen months. The motion passed unanimously.

Stephanie Kennedy, RN - Petition No. 2020-606

Staff Attorney, Linda Fazzina, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Stephanie Kennedy, RN. Respondent was not present and was not represented.

Jennifer Long moved, and Mary Dietmann seconded, to approve the Consent Order which imposes a reprimand. The motion passed unanimously.

Tracy Maluk, RN - Petition No. 2020-1223

Staff Attorney, Joelle Newton, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Mary Ann Connelly, RN. Respondent was not present and was not represented.

Gina Reiners moved, and Mary Dietmann seconded, to approve the Consent Order which imposes probation for a period of four years. The motion passed unanimously.

Chanelle Walker, RN - Petition No. 2019-640

Staff Attorney, Diane Wilan, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order and a Reinstatement Consent Order in the matter of Chanelle Walker, RN. Attorney Mary Alice Moore Leonhardt was present with respondent.

Jennifer Long moved, and Mary Dietmann seconded, to approve the Consent Order which imposes probation pursuant to a Reinstatement Consent Order. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long moved, and Mary Dietmann seconded, to approve the Reinstatement Consent Order which imposes probation for a period of four years. The motion passed unanimously.

**SCHOOL ISSUES**

Lisa Freeman made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners, to add a review of the Porter & Chester Institute Stratford Campus Evening Program NCLEX results to the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Following review Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to remove the Stratford Campus Evening Program from conditional approval. The motion passed unanimously.

**HEARINGS**

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners, to change the order of the scheduled hearings. The motion passed unanimously.

David Martin, RN - Petition No. 2021-242

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

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to enter executive session to take evidence regarding confidential treatment records. The motion passed unanimously. No motions were made and no votes were taken during executive session.

Following the close of the record the Board conducted fact-finding. Jennifer Long moved, and Gina Reiners seconded, that Mr. Martin be found as charged. With respect to the second count paragraph 8 the reason for failing to submit to requested screening was due to Mr. Martin being unable to do so because he was hospitalized. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long moved, and Lisa Freeman seconded, that Mr. Martin's license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

Pamela Franklin, LPN - Petition No. 2020-1211

Staff Attorney, Linda Fazzina 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.

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

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, that Ms. Franklin be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Gina Reiners moved, and Jennifer Long seconded, that Ms. Franklin's license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

Amanda Claffey, RN - Petition No. 2021-284

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton was present for the Department of Public Health. Ms. Claffey was present but was not represented.

During the hearing Ms. Claffey asked for a continuance. Jennifer Long moved, and Gina Reiners seconded the request for continuance. The hearing will be rescheduled to July 21, 2021.

Denise Ambrose, LPN - Petition No. 2019-751

Staff Attorney, Brittany Petano was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was not present and was not represented.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners to grant the Department's motion to amend the Statement of Charges. The motion passed unanimously.

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

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

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

Gina Reiners moved, and Jennifer Long seconded, that Ms. Ambrose's license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

Daniel O'Brien, RN - Petition No. 2021-284

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

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

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

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners, that Mr. O'Brien be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long moved, and Gina Reiners seconded, that Mr. O'Brien's license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion by Lisa Freeman, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, it was the unanimous decision to adjourn this meeting at 12:29 p.m.