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

In re: Ugwunna Peter Ogugua, R.N. Petition No. 2022-1117

STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Pursuant to the Connecticut General Statutes, §§19a-10 and 19a-14, the Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") brings the following charges against Ugwunna Peter Ogugua, R.N.:

- 1. Ugwunna Peter Ogugua, R.N., of Bronx, New York (hereinafter "respondent") is, and has been since September 14, 2020, the holder of Connecticut registered nurse license number 174653.
- 2. On or about January 2, 2018, the State of New York issued a registered nurse license to the respondent based on examination and based on respondent's purported completion of a registered nurse program at the Palm Beach School of Nursing.
- 3. On or about July 5, 2020, respondent filed an application for registered nurse licensing with the Department seeking a license by endorsement based on his licensure as a registered nurse in the State of New York.
- 4. On or about September 14, 2020, the Department issued registered nurse license 174653 to respondent based on endorsement.
- 5. On or about September 2, 2022, the Department received information from the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Inspector General evidencing the fact that the respondent has not completed the required program hours and clinical training necessary to obtain either a practical nursing diploma and transcript or a nursing associate in science degree and transcript.
- 6. Respondent's licensure as a registered nurse in the State of New York and in the State of Connecticut resulted from the provision of inaccurate information and documentation to the licensing authorities in those states leading those authorities to conclude that respondent has completed the required program hours and/or clinical training required to complete and/or graduate from a prelicensure nursing program when, in fact, he has not.
- 7. The above cited facts evidence conduct of the respondent that fails to conform to the accepted standards of the nursing profession and they constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 19a-17 and 20-99, including, but not necessarily limited to:

- a. §19a-17(a),
- b. §19a-17(c),
- c. §20-99(b)(1), and
- d. §20-99(b)(6).
- 8. 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.

THEREFORE, the Department prays that:

The Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing, as authorized by the Connecticut General Statutes, §§ 20-99(b) and 19a-17, summarily suspend respondent's license to practice as a registered nurse until a full hearing on the merits can be held, and that it revoke, or order other disciplinary action against, the registered nurse license of Ugwunna Peter Ogugua, R.N. as it deems appropriate and consistent with law.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this _____14th ____ day of __September ____ 2023.

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

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

In re: Ugwunna Peter Ogugua, R.N. Petition No. 2022-1117

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

The Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") hereby moves, in accordance with the Connecticut General Statutes §§4-182(c) and 19a-17(c), that the Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing summarily suspend the license of Ugwunna Peter Ogugua, R.N. to practice as a registered nurse in Connecticut. This motion is based on the attached Statement of Charges, and on the attached sworn and notarized Investigative Report, and on the Department's information and belief that the respondent's continued practice as a registered nurse represents a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this ______14th ____ day of ____ September ___ 2023.

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

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

In re: Ugwunna Peter Ogugua, R.N.

Petition No. 2022-1117

SUMMARY SUSPENSION ORDER

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

WHEREAS, said affidavit allege facts which show violations of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-99 (b)(1) and (6); and which constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 19a-17 (a) and (c); 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 (hereinafter "the Board"):

- That license number 174653 of Ugwunna Peter Ogugua to practice as a registered nurse in the State of Connecticut is hereby summarily suspended pending a final determination by the Board regarding the allegations contained in the Statement of Charges, and
- That said license shall be immediately surrendered to the Department of Public Health Hearing Office, 410 Capitol Avenue, MS#13PHO, P.O. Box 340308, Hartford, CT 06134-0308 upon notification of this Order, and
- 3. That a hearing in this matter is scheduled for the 4th of October 2023, at 8:30am via Microsoft Teams.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this 20th day of October 2023.

Patricia Bouffard, R.N., Chairperson Board of Examiners for Nursing

STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

Ugwunna Peter Ogugua, RN c/o Richard R. Brown, Esq. Brown, Paindiris and Scott, LLP.

VIA EMAIL (rbrown@bpslawyers.com) Certified Mail 9590 9402 8095 2349 6414 98

100 Pearl Street Hartford, CT 06103 First Class Mail

Ugwunna Peter Ogugua, RN - Petition No. 2022-1117 RE:

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 8:30 AM on October 4, 2023. 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 within 14 days from 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.

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

Order Re: Filings

In preparation for this hearing, you must, no later than September 29, 2023, 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 day of	September	2023.
For the Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing		
/s/ Tyra Anne Peluso		
Tyra Anne Peluso, Administrative Hearings Specialis	st	

c: Christian Andresen, Section Chief, Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Craig Sullivan, 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 **Ugwunna Peter Ogugua**, **RN** has been scheduled for <u>October 4, 2023</u>, and will be conducted remotely through Microsoft Teams/teleconference.

On or before <u>September 29, 2023</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 for any personally identifiable information.** 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>: Self-represented parties should provide a copy of a government-issued photo identification for yourself and any witnesses you expect to call. Photo identification is *not* required for parties represented by counsel, or witnesses called to testify for parties represented by counsel.
- 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 on video 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.

Documents are not required to be shared on-screen during hearings, as all parties, attorneys, board members and/or hearing officers have been provided such documents prior to the hearing. Parties and/or attorneys who elect to share documents for viewing on-screen during the hearing must do so from their own equipment. Confidential documents should only be shared in executive session. Hearing Office staff / Teams administrators are not responsible for the sharing of submitted documents in the presentation of a party's case.

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

^{*}The executive session portion of any hearing will not be recorded on video or posted for public viewing.







Manisha Juthani, MD Commissioner



Ned Lamont Governor Susan Bysiewicz Lt. Governor

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

October 4, 2023

Ugwunna Peter Ogugua, RN c/o Richard R. Brown, Esq. Brown, Paindiris and Scott, LLP. 100 Pearl Street Hartford, CT 06103

VIA EMAIL ONLY (rbrown@bpslawyers.com)

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

RE: Ugwunna Peter Ogugua, RN - Petition No. 2022-1117

RULING ON REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE

The Request for Continuance of the hearing scheduled for Wednesday, **October 4**, **2023**, filed by Attorney Brown on behalf of the Respondent in the above-referenced matter is **GRANTED** with no objection by the Department of Public Health.

The hearing is rescheduled to **Wednesday**, **November 15**, **2023**, **at 8:30 am**. The hearing will be held by video conference during the meeting of the Board of Examiners for Nursing.

In preparation for this hearing, you must, no later than November 2, 2023, provide the information specified in the attached Notice for Submissions.

The Summary Suspension of respondent's licensed practical nursing license remains in effect.

FOR: BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

BY: /s/ Tyra Anne Peluso

Tyra Anne Peluso, 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: **Ugwunna Peter Ogugua**. has been scheduled for **November 15, 2023, at 8:30 am.** and will be conducted remotely through Microsoft Teams / teleconference.

On or before **November 2, 2023**, you must provide the following by electronic mail response to the hearing office:

- Electronically Pre-filed exhibits Exhibits should be pre-marked for identification (i.e., Department exhibit 1, Respondent exhibit A), page numbered, and properly redacted for any personally identifiable information. 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.
- 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>: Self-represented parties should provide a copy of a government-issued photo identification for yourself and any witnesses you expect to call. Photo identification is *not* required for parties represented by counsel, or witnesses called to testify for parties represented by counsel.
- 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.
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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 on video in proper attire, in proper surroundings, and remove any potential distractions.

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Documents are not required to be shared on-screen during hearings, as all parties, attorneys, board members and/or hearing officers have been provided such documents prior to the hearing. Parties and/or attorneys who elect to share documents for viewing on-screen during the hearing must do so from their own equipment. Confidential documents should only be shared in executive session. Hearing Office staff / Teams administrators are not responsible for the sharing of submitted documents in the presentation of a party's case.

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

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