

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on August 3, 2016 at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1-A, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, Chair
Mary M. Brown, RN
Mary Dietmann, RN
Jennifer Long, APRN
Carrie Simon, Public Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Geraldine Marrocco, RN
Gina M. Reiners, RN
Lisa S. Freeman, Public Member

ALSO PRESENT: Stacy Schulman, Legal Counsel to the Board, DPH
Kathleen Boulware, Public Health Services Manager, DPH
Pamela Pelletier-Stevens, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Helen M. Smith, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Brittany Allen, Staff Attorney, OLRC, DPH
Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, DPH
Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, OLRC, DPH
Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney, OLRC, DPH
Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist, DPH

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:39 a.m.

CHAIR UPDATES

Nothing to report

OPEN FORUM

Nothing to report

NATIONAL COUNCIL STATE BOARDS OF NURSING UPDATE

Board members Patricia Bouffard, Lisa Freeman and Geraldine Marrocco will be attending the National Council State Boards of Nursing annual meeting in Chicago from August 17–19, 2016. Kathleen Boulware of the Department of Public Health will also attend.

MINUTES

Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to approve the minutes from June 15, 2016. The motion passed with all in favor except Mary Dietmann who abstained.

Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to approve the minutes from July 20, 2016. The motion passed with all in favor except Jennifer Long and Carrie Simon who abstained.

SCHOOL ISSUES

Stone Academy – 5 year Study (East Hartford and West Haven Campuses)

Joe Bierbaum, Karyn Therrrien, Peter Keast and Anne Sullivan were present from Stone Academy. Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to grant conditional approval pending further review. The motion passed unanimously. Additional documents for Board review are to be submitted by the first week in September.

Norwalk Community College - Waiver Requests

Norwalk Community College is requesting a one year temporary waives for Brenda Hooper, RN; Leslie Youngblood, RN and Clairemarie Rooney, RN. Kathleen Fries was present from Norwalk Community College.

Jennifer Long moved to grant the one year temporary faculty education waiver for Brenda Hooper, RN. The motion was seconded by Carrie Simon and passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long moved to grant the one year temporary faculty education waiver for Leslie Youngblood, RN. The motion was seconded by Mary Dietmann and passed unanimously.

Mary Brown moved to grant the one year temporary faculty education waiver for Clairemarie Rooney, RN. The motion was seconded by Mary Dietmann and passed unanimously.

Naugatuck Valley Community College – Leadership Change

Mary Brown moved and Jennifer Long seconded to approve Sandy Roosa as the Acting Director for the fall semester. The motion passed unanimously.

University of Connecticut School of Nursing – Leadership Change

Carrie Simon moved and Mary Dietmann seconded to approve E. Carol Polifroni as Dean of the School of Nursing. The motion passed unanimously.

Quinnipiac University – Leadership Change

Mary Brown moved and Jennifer Long seconded to approve Dr. Cory Ann Boyd and Dr. Rhea Sanford as co-chairs of the undergraduate nursing program. The motion passed unanimously.

Central Connecticut State University – Plan of Correction – NCLEX Scores

At the Board's May 18, 2016 meeting, Central Connecticut State University was placed on conditional status because their first time NCLEX pass rate was below 80%. The program presented a plan of correction at the Board's June 15, 2016 meeting. The Board requested that additional information be submitted

Margaret Levvis was present from the program to submit its updated Plan of Correction for the Board's review.

Mary Brown moved and Jennifer Long seconded to approve the plan of correction. The motion passed unanimously.

St. Vincent's College, Bridgeport, Connecticut

St. Vincent's College reported that it will be offering an additional instructional location at Danbury Hospital, Danbury, Connecticut. A needs assessment will be submitted to Department of Public Health and the Board for review.

Porter and Chester Institute, Watertown Campus

Porter and Chester Institute has reported that it will be moving its Watertown Connecticut campus to a new location in Waterbury, Connecticut

SCOPE OF PRACTICE

Helen M. Smith, Nurse Consultant, DPH provided a summary of nursing scope of practice inquires received by the Department of Public Health in June 2016.

MEMORANDA OF DECISION

Judy Ruggiero, R.N. - Petition No. 2015-692

Jennifer Long moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that Ms. Ruggiero's license be revoked. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Mary K. Field, RN – Petition No. 2015-1387

Mary Brown moved to affirm the Board's prior decision placing Ms. Field's license on probation for the remainder of the original four year period, as set forth in an April 15, 2015 Consent Order, which became effective on May 1, 2015. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Long and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Lourdes Mercado, LPN- Petition No. 2015-512

Jennifer Long moved to affirm the Board's prior decision placing Ms. Mercado's license on probation for three years. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Jasmine Rivera Gonzalez, RN

Mary Brown moved to affirm the Board's prior decision placing Ms. Gonzalez's license on probation for six months. The motion was seconded by Carrie Simon and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

REQUEST TO REOPEN HEARING

Katherine Mezzi ,LPN - Petition No.2014-1195

Katherine Mezzi was not present and was not represented by council. Attorney Joelle Newton was present for the Department of Public Health. Attorney Newton indicated that the Department was opposing respondent's request to reopen the hearing.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Mary Brown, to deny Ms. Mezzi's request to reopen the hearing. The passed unanimously.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Adam Burr, LPN - Petition No. 2016-233

Staff Attorney Diane Wilan presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Adam Burr. Mr. Burr was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Mary Brown moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion was seconded by Mary Dietmann and passed unanimously.

Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order. A hearing is scheduled for August 24, 2016.

Danielle Dragon, LPN; Petition No. 2016-846

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Danielle Dragon. Ms. Dragon was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Jennifer Long moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion was seconded by Mary Dietmann and passed unanimously.

Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order. A hearing is scheduled for August 24, 2016.

CONSENT ORDER

Zachary R. Boisselle, R.N. - Petition No. 2015-980

Staff Attorney Leslie Scoville presented the Board with a Consent Order for Zachary Boisselle, RN. Mr. Boisselle was not present and was not represented by counsel. Mary Brown moved to deny the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Long and passed with all in favor except Mary Dietmann who abstained.

FACT FINDING

Sara Kaiser, LPN

An administrative hearing in this matter was held on July 20, 2016. Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, that the licensed practical nurse license of Ms. Kaiser be reinstated to probation for a period of four years with requirements for counseling, drug and alcohol screening and employer reports. As a condition of reinstatement, Ms. Kaiser is to complete a nurse refresher program and must attain a passing score on the NCLEX licensing examination. Ms. Kaiser is allowed to continue employment with her current employer, Aware Recovery Care, North Haven, Connecticut. The motion passed unanimously.

Arlene Dumais, RN, APRN - Petition Nos. 2015-1184; 2015-1207

An administrative hearing in this matter was held on July 20, 2016. Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Mary Brown, that Ms. Dumais be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Mary Brown, that Ms. Dumais advanced practice registered nurse license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, that Ms. Dumais registered nurse license be placed on probation for a period of one year. During the probationary period Ms. Dumais may not practice independently or work for a nursing pool or home care agency. In addition, Ms. Dumais is to complete course work relating to registered nurse scope of practice. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT ORDER

Zachary R. Boisselle, R.N. - Petition No. 2015-980

Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to reconsider the proposed Consent Order to review additional information from the Department of Public Health. The motion passed unanimously.

Following the review of additional material, Mary Brown moved to grant the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Mary Dietmann and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 10:53 a.m.

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

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on August 24, 2016 at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1-D, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, Chair
Mary M. Brown, RN
Mary Dietmann, RN
Lisa S. Freeman, Public Member
Jennifer Long, APRN
Geraldine Marrocco, RN
Gina M. Reiners, RN
Carrie Simon, Public Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Stacy Schulman, Legal Counsel to the Board, DPH
Kathleen Boulware, Public Health Services Manager, DPH
Brittany Allen, Staff Attorney, OLRC, DPH
Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, OLRC, DPH
Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, DPH
Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist, DPH
Gail Gregoriades, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:36 a.m.

CHAIR UPDATES

Chair Bouffard announced that Carrie Simon was resigning as a Board member effective September 1, 2016. Ms. Simon was thanked for her service since being appointed in August 2012.

OPEN FORUM

Nothing to report

NATIONAL COUNCIL STATE BOARDS OF NURSING UPDATE

Chair Bouffard along with Board members Lisa Freeman and Geraldine Marrocco and Kathleen Boulware of the Department of Public Health attended the August 17-19, 2016 annual meeting of the National Council State Boards of Nursing.

MEMORANDA OF DECISION

Holly Cocchiola, L.P.N. - Petition No. 2016-186

Gina Reiners moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that Ms. Cocchiola's license be revoked. The motion was seconded by Carrie Simon and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Christa McGuire, L.P.N. – Petition No. 2015-689

Gina Reiners moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that the charges in this matter do not rise to the level to warrant disciplinary action. The motion was seconded by Geraldine Marrocco and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Bethany Cejer, R.N. – Petition No. 2015-486

Carrie Simon moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that the charges in this matter do not rise to the level to warrant disciplinary action. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Gregory Klimaytis, R.N. – Petition No. 2016-131

Gina Reiners moved to affirm the Board's prior that Mr. Klimaytis' license be revoked. The motion was seconded by Geraldine Marrocco and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Cherish Ostrosky, RN - Petition No. 2016-672

Staff Attorney Leslie Scoville presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Cherish Ostrosky, RN. Ms. Ostrosky was not present and was not represented by counsel. Geraldine Marrocco moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion was seconded by Carrie Simon and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order. A hearing is scheduled for September 21, 2016.

Megan Surprenant, LPN - Petition No. 2016-515

Staff Attorney Leslie Scoville presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Megan Surprenant, LPN. Ms. Surprenant was not present and was not represented by counsel. Gina Reiners moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion was seconded by Mary Dietmann and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order. A hearing is scheduled for September 21, 2016.

Michelle Murphy, RN - Petition No. 2016-1012

Staff Attorney Brittany Allen presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Michelle Murphy, RN. Ms. Murphy was not present and was not represented by counsel. Mary Brown moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Long and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order. A hearing is scheduled for September 21, 2016.

PRE HEARING REVIEW

Michael Mase, RN - Petition No. 2016-576

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton presented the Board with a pre-hearing review packet in the matter of Michael Mase, RN. Mr. Mase was present with Attorney Gretchen Randall. The Board recommended a one year period of probation with twice monthly drug/alcohol screening or the drug/alcohol screening that is required as part of respondent's criminal probation; monthly therapy; monthly employer reports from all employers including those outside the practice of nursing; and a \$3000.00 civil penalty.

CONSENT ORDERS

Linda M. Swanson, RN - Petition No. 2016-4

Staff Attorney Leslie Scoville presented the Board with a Consent Order for Linda M. Swanson, RN. Ms. Swanson was not present and was not represented by counsel. Gina Reiners moved to approve the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order which imposes a reprimand.

Brian Gross, RN - Petition No. 2015-1244

Staff Attorney Brittany Allen presented the Board with a Consent Order for Brian Gross, RN. Mr. Gross was not present and was not represented by counsel. Jennifer Long moved to approve the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman. Following discussion the motion to approve the Consent Order failed unanimously. The Board recommended that a two year period of probation be imposed.

HEARINGS

Adam Burr, LPN - Petition No. 2016-233

Staff Attorney Brittany Allen was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was not present and was not represented. Following advice from Hearing Officer Stacy Schulman, Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to continue the hearing to allow for additional attempts to provide notice to respondent.

Danielle Dragon, LPN - Petition No. 2016-846

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was not present and was not represented. The Board deemed the allegations admitted on a motion by Gina Reiners, seconded by Mary Brown.

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

Gina Reiners moved and Lisa Freeman seconded that Ms. Dragon be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Gina Reiners moved and Carrie Simon seconded to issue an Order revoking Ms. Dragon's licensed practical nurse license. The motion passed unanimously.

David LaPierre, RN - Petition No. 2015-701

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was not present and was not represented. Following advice from Hearing Officer Stacy Schulman, Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to continue the hearing to allow for additional attempts to provide notice to respondent.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 9:55 a.m.

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