

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on June 21, 2017 at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1-D, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

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**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, Chair  
Mary M. Brown, RN  
Elizaida Delgado, LPN  
Mary Dietmann, RN  
Lisa S. Freeman, Public Member  
Gina M. Reiners, RN

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jennifer Long, APRN  
Geraldine Marrocco, RN

**ALSO PRESENT:** Stacy Schulman, Legal Counsel to the Board, DPH  
Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant, DPH  
Dana Dalton, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH  
Brittany Allen, Staff Attorney, DPH  
Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, DPH  
Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, DPH  
Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, DPH  
Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney, DPH  
Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist, DPH  
Gail Gregoriades, Court Reporter

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Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:31a.m.

#### **STUDENTS**

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from Tunxis Community College.

#### **CHAIR UPDATES**

No report/update

#### **OPEN FORUM**

There were no comments or concerns from the audience.

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

- Chair Bouffard reported that 23 States have now approved the licensure compact.
- Beginning on July 1, 2017, a special research section will be added to NCLEX examinations. It will be optional for examinees to complete and will not be used for scoring the examination.
- The annual meeting of the NCSBN will be held August 16-18, 2017 in Chicago.

#### **MINUTES**

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to approve the minutes from May 17, 2017. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **SCHOOL ISSUES**

##### **NCLEX Scores University of St. Joseph**

Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant, DPH reported there has been a change in the First Time Pass Rate for the University of St. Joseph. The pass rate for BS program is changed from 93% to 92% and the Accelerated program changed from 96% to 100%. The changes were made because 3 students provided incorrect program codes then taking the exam.

University of Bridgeport

Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant, reported that The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) has accredited The University of Bridgeport baccalaureate program effective 10/03/2016 through 6/30/2022.

Bridgeport Hospital School of Nursing

Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant, reported that as of 06/02/2017, the Bridgeport Hospital School of Nursing closed as planned. The School provided the Department of Public Health with policies that address Record Request and Access and Safe Storage of Vital Student Records, the complete closure report, and the final closure report (which were submitted to ACEN).

Capital Community College - Registered Nurse Refresher Program

Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant, reported that due to a lack of interest and enrollment Capital Community College has discontinued the RN Refresher Course as of 05/18/2017 (this course was offered through the College's Continuing Education Department).

St. Vincent's College – Registered Nurse Refresher Program

Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant, reported that the St. Vincent's College RN Refresher Program was reviewed and approved by the Board on 03/02/2005. The program is seven weeks in length (152 hours) and is divided into: 24 hours of classroom theory, 24 hours of nursing skills lab and 104 hours of clinical practicum. Admission requirements included application, college transcript(s), CPR certification, health and security clearance and validation of malpractice insurance. The main focus of the RN Refresher Certificate Program is for the RN to obtain clinical hands-on experiences in an acute care setting. Practice areas include medical surgical units and specialized areas (pediatrics, ED, telemetry, cardiology, OR, psychiatric and geriatrics).

Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners, to re-approve the St. Vincent's College RN Refresher Program. The motion passed unanimously.

Capital Community College

Dawn Bunting, R.N., B.S., M.S.N., Ed.D. was present from Capital Community College regarding a request that she be approved for the position of Interim Director of Nursing. Dr. Bunting joined the Capital Community College faculty in 1997 as a part time clinical instructor and became full time faculty in 2000. As a Professor of Nursing Dr. Bunting has served as a course leader for several senior level courses and chaired the Connecticut Community College Nursing Program Committee. Gina Reiners made a motion seconded by Mary Dietmann to approve Dr. Bunting as interim Director of Nursing. The motion passed unanimously.

Lincoln Technical Institute

Anne Simko, M.S., B.S.N., R.N. and Rosemarie Baker were present from Lincoln Technical Institute regarding a request that Ms. Simko be approved as the Director of Nursing for the Shelton campus. Ms. Simko earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in June 1972 from William Patterson State University and a Master of Science in Counseling from Southern Connecticut State University in May 1993. She had recently been the Department Head for the Eli Whitney Technical School in Hamden from 08/2003 until the program closure in 01/2017. In addition, Ms. Simko has experience as a LPN instructor at the Bullard Haven Technical School for 14 years, Director for a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program, consultant to a children's program and nursing experience in critical care and long term care.

Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, that Ms. Simko be approved as the Director of Nursing from the Lincoln Technical Institute, Shelton campus. The motion passed unanimously.

Norwalk Community College – Kerianne Brennan, R.N., B.S.N Temporary Waiver Request

Kathleen Fries was present from Norwalk Community College.

Mary Dietmann made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to grant a one-year temporary waiver for Ms. Brennan. The motion passed unanimously.

Quinnipiac University – Tara Boyd, R.N., B.A. Temporary Waiver Request

Cory Ann Boyd was present from Quinnipiac University.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Elizaida Delgado, to grant an eighteen month temporary waiver for Ms. Boyd. Following discussion, the motion failed unanimously.

Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners, to table this matter to allow for additional information to be presented to the Board. This motion passed unanimously.

Quinnipiac University – Morgan L. Madore, RN, BSN. Temporary Waiver Request

Cory Ann Boyd was present from Quinnipiac University.

Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to grant a six month temporary waiver for Ms. Madore. This motion passed with all in favor except Gina Reiners who recused herself.

Western Connecticut State University – Kevin Jimenez, B.S.N., R.N. Temporary Waiver Request

Joan Palladino was present from Western Connecticut State University.

Mary Dietmann made a motion, seconded by Gians Reiners, to grant a one-year temporary waiver for Mr. Jimenez. Following discussion, the motion failed unanimously.

Mary Dietmann made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to a six month temporary waiver. This motion passed unanimously.

Central Connecticut State University – Plan of Correction

The NCLEX Examination pass rate for Central Connecticut State University for May 1, 2016 through April 30, 2017 was less than 80%. Meg Levvis and Catherine Thomas were present to discuss the university's plan of correction.

Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to accept the Central Connecticut State University plan of correction. The motion passed unanimously.

**SCOPE OF PRACTICE**

Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant, DPH provided a summary of nursing scope of practice inquires received by the Department of Public Health in May 2017.

**CONSENT ORDER**

Laureen Collins, RN - Petition No. 2016-39

Staff Attorney Leslie Scoville presented the Board with a Consent Order for Laureen Collins. Ms. Collins was present with Attorney Timothy Grady. Gina Reiners moved and Mary Dietmann seconded, to approve the Consent Order.

The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order which imposes a probation for a period of six months.

**MEMORANDUM OF DECISION**

Lori Riley, RN - Petition No. 2015-1518

Gina Reiners moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that Ms. Riley's registered nurse license be placed on probation for a period of two years. The motion was seconded by Mary Dietmann and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

### **LICENSE REINSTATEMENT REQUEST**

Bethany Bozzuto, LPN

The Board reviewed a request for a reinstatement hearing for Bethany Bozzuto who had her license revoked in October 2013.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Elizaida Delgado, to grant the request for a hearing. The motion passed unanimously. A hearing will be scheduled for August 9, 2017.

### **MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

Joseph Iannicelli, L.P.N. Petition No. 2017-26

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Joseph Iannicelli. Mr. Iannicelli was not present and was not represented by counsel.

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 Brown and passed unanimously.

Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order. A hearing is scheduled for July 19, 2017.

### **CONSENT ORDERS**

Mark Scott, R.N - Petition No. 2017-302

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton presented the Board with a Consent Order for Mark Scott. Mr. Scott was not present nor represented by counsel. Mary Brown moved and Gina Reiners seconded, to approve the Consent Order which imposes a period of suspension coterminous with a suspension in the State of North Carolina. Following discussion, the motion failed unanimously.

It was recommended that the proposed Consent Order be modified imposing a one year suspension only.

Vivian Martinez, RN - Petition No. 2016-649

Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina presented the Board with a Consent Order for Vivian Martinez. Ms. Martinez was not present or represented by counsel. Gina Reiners moved and Mary Brown seconded, to approve the Consent Order.

The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order which imposes a probation for a period of four years.

### **FACT-FINDING**

Sarah Sanders, R.N - Petition No. 2015-160

A hearing in this matter was held on May 17, 2017.

Gina Reiners moved and Mary Dietmann seconded that Ms. Sanders be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Gina Reiners moved and Mary Dietmann seconded, to issue an Order placing Ms. Sanders' license on probation for a period of one year with conditions. The motion passed unanimously.

### **REQUEST TO REOPEN HEARING**

Maria Roach, R.N - Petition No. 2015-160

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

Gina Reiners moved and Mary Dietmann seconded, to deny Ms. Roach's request to reopen the hearing.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **HEARINGS**

### Enrique Lopez, R.N - Petition No. 2017-39

Staff Attorney Brittany Allen was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was not present and was not represented by counsel.

The Board granted the Department of Public Health's oral motion to deem the allegations admitted on a motion by Mary Dietmann, seconded by Gina Reiners.

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

Mary Brown moved and Mary Dietmann seconded that Mr. Lopez be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Gina Reiners moved and Lisa Freeman seconded to issue an Order revoking Mr. Lopez's registered nurse license. The motion passed unanimously.

### John Dube-Gallo, R.N - Petition No. 2016-668

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

The Board granted the Department of Public Health's oral motion to deem the allegations admitted on a motion by Lisa Freeman, seconded by Mary Brown.

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

Mary Dietmann moved and Mary Brown seconded that Mr. Dube-Gallo be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Dietmann moved and Lisa Freeman seconded to issue an Order revoking Mr. Dube-Gallo's licensed practical nurse license. The motion passed unanimously.

### Dawn Palmer, RN - Petition No. 2016-263

Staff Attorney Brittany Allen was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was present but was not represented by counsel.

Mary Dietmann moved and Gina Reiners seconded to enter executive session to obtain testimony from respondent regarding confidential medical/treatment records. The motion passed unanimously and the Board entered executive session from 2:35 p.m. until 3:10 p.m. No motions were made and no votes were taken during executive session.

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

Mary Brown moved and Lisa Freeman seconded that respondent be found as charged on paragraphs 1-6 and 9 and that the allegations in paragraphs 7 and 8 were not proven. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Brown moved and Lisa Freeman seconded, to issue an Order placing Ms. Palmers' license on probation for a period of one year pursuant to the terms of an August 5, 2015 Memorandum of Decision. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Brown moved and Gina Reiners seconded that the Summary Suspension of Ms. Palmer's license, ordered on March 23, 2016, be vacated immediately. The motion passed unanimously.

### Jermaine Richards, R.N - Petition No. 2016-668

Staff Attorney Brittany Allen was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was not present and was not represented by counsel.

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

Gina Reiners moved and Mary Dietmann seconded that Mr. Richards be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Gina Reiners moved and Lisa Freeman seconded to issue an Order revoking Mr. Richards' licensed practical nurse license. The motion passed unanimously.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 3:55 p.m.

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