

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on December 19, 2018 the Legislative Office Building, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut in room 1-D.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, Chair
Jason Blando, Public Member
Mary M. Brown, RN
Elizaida Delgado, LPN
Mary Dietmann, RN
Lisa S. Freeman, Public Member
Jennifer Long, APRN
Geraldine Marrocco, RN
Gina M. Reiners, RN

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Alfreda Gaither, Legal Counsel to the Board, DPH
Dana Dalton, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH
Glendaly Garcia, Investigations Supervisor, DPH
Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, DPH
Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney, DPH
Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist, DPH
Gail Gregoriades, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m.

Jason Blando was welcomed to his first meeting as member of the Board.

STUDENTS

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from Porte & Chester Institute – Rocky Hill, Branford and Waterbury campuses.

OPEN FORUM

Nothing to report

NATIONAL COUNCIL STATE BOARDS OF NURSING

Chair Bouffard reported that the 2019 NCSBN mid-year meeting will be held in San Antonio, Texas March 26-29, 2019.

CHAIR UPDATES

Chair Bouffard reported she participated in conference call of the Board of Directors for the National Council Board of Nursing. Topics of discussion included the opioid crisis and NCLEX RN examination review.

MINUTES

- July 18, 2018 - Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to approve the minutes. The motion passed with all in favor except Chair Bouffard, Jennifer Long, Geraldine Marrocco and Jason Blando who abstained.
- September 19, 2018 – Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to approve the minutes. The motion passed with all in favor except Jennifer Long and Jason Blando who abstained.

- October 18, 2018 – Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to approve the minutes. The motion passed with all in favor except Mary Brown and Jason Blando who abstained.

SCHOOL ISSUES

Lincoln Technical Institute – 5 year Study Update

Patty Delucia and Kathy Trister were present for Lincoln Technical Institute.

In December of 2016 the Board granted full approval to Lincoln Technical Institute for their Practical Nursing Program with a request for an update during the December 2018 meeting on the graduate and employer surveys from 2016-2018. Lincoln Technical Institute has revised their Practical Nursing Program based on employer responses including increasing the opportunities for medication administration and documentation proficiency.

Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to approve the 5 year study update from Lincoln Technical Institute. The motion passed unanimously.

Stone Academy – Approval of Program Manager, West Haven Campus

Holly Mulrenan and Donna Jones were present on behalf of Stone Academy.

Lisa Freeman arrived at 9:20 a.m.

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to approve Donna Jones as the Program Manager for Stone Academy's West Haven Campus pending verification of Ms. Jones' DNP transcript. The motion passed with all in favor except Lisa Freeman who abstained.

University of Connecticut School of Nursing – Approval of Curriculum Changes

Andrea Starkweather and Marianne Snyder were present from the University of Connecticut School of Nursing.

Following discussion, Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to table approval of curriculum changes until the January 2019 meeting to allow for the submission of additional information from the program. The motion passed unanimously.

SCOPE OF PRACTICE

Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant, DPH provided a summary of nursing scope of practice inquiries received by the Department of Public Health in October and November 2018.

MEMORANDA OF DECISION

Christine DeFusco, LPN - Petition No. 2017-1504

Gina Reiners moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that Ms. DeFusco's licensed practical nurse license be placed on probation for four years. The motion was seconded by Mary Dietmann and passed with all in favor except Geraldine Marrocco who abstained. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH MOTION FOR CLARIFICATION

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to rescind its order from the October 17, 2018 meeting that pending the issuance of a Memorandum of Decision in the matter of Joseph Iannicelli, LPN, Petition No. 2017-26, respondent shall submit to weekly urine screening, submit therapy and employer reports, shall not administer controlled substance if working as a nurse and shall not work in home care/agency setting.

The motion to rescind the October 17, 2018 Order passed with all in favor except Mr. Blando who abstained.

CONSENT ORDERS

Charlene Zikaras, RN - Petition No. 2018-265

Brittany Allen, Staff Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Charlene Zikaras, RN.

Ms. Zikaras was present but was not 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 probation with conditions for a period of four years.

Lenore Leone, APRN - Petition No. 2017-6

Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Lenore Leone, APRN.

Ms. Leone was not present and was not represented by counsel.

The previously reviewed this matter at its August 8, 2018 meeting suggested modifications to the proposed order.

Jennifer Long moved and Gina Reiners seconded, to approve the Consent Order. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order which imposes probation with conditions for a period of one year, a reprimand and a \$5000.00 civil penalty.

Cynthia Pfeifer, RN - Petition No. 2018-78

Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Cynthia Pfeifer, RN.

Ms. Pfeifer was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Gina Reiners moved and Mary Dietmann seconded, to approve the Consent Order. Following discussion the motion to approve failed unanimously.

The Board recommends that the proposed probation term be increased and that a narcotic key restriction be included.

FACT-FINDING

Amanda Alacron, RN - Petition No. 2017-1460

A hearing in this matter was held on November 21, 2018, but fact-finding was not conducted due the lack of a quorum.

Mary Brown made a motion that Ms. Alarcon be found on all Charges. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed with all in favor except Mary Dietmann who abstained.

Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman that Ms. Alarcon's license be revoked. The motion and passed with all in favor except Mary Dietmann who abstained.

HEARINGS

Karina Francis, RN - Petition No. 2018-433

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

Mary Dietmann made a motion, seconded by Mary Brown, that the Board enter executive session to take testimony regarding confidential medical records. The motion passed unanimously. The hearing proceeded into executive session from 11:15 a.m. until 11:32 a.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 Ms. Francis be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Brown moved and Lisa Freeman seconded that Ms. Francis' license be suspended for a period of six months with concurrent probation for four years. During the period of suspension with concurrent probation respondent shall submit to urine screening, must submit employer and therapist reports, and must attend AA/NA meetings. In addition respondent shall not administer controlled substances for the first year of working as a nurse during the period of probation. The motion passed unanimously.

Laurie Davidson - Petition No. 2015-1397

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

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Mary Brown, that the Board grant the Department of Public Health's oral motion to deem the allegations admitted based on an Answer to the Statement of Charges not being filed. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Jennifer Long moved and Mary Dietmann seconded that Ms. Davidson be found as charged. The motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Blando who abstained.

Jennifer Long moved and Lisa Freeman seconded that Ms. Davidson's license be revoked. The motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Blando who abstained.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 12:30 p.m.

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