

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on February 21, 2018 at the Department of Public Health Complex, Room 470-C, 470 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, Chair
Aimee Ballard, LPN
Mary Dietmann, RN
Lisa S. Freeman, Public Member
Jennifer Long, APRN
Gina M. Reiners, RN

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Mary M. Brown, RN
Elizaida Delgado, LPN
Geraldine Marrocco, RN

ALSO PRESENT: Stacy Schulman, Legal Counsel to the Board, DPH
Kathleen Boulware, Public Health Services Manager, DPH
Helen Smith, RN, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Dana Dalton, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH
Matthew Antonetti, Principal Attorney, 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 8:37 a.m.

STUDENTS

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from Central Connecticut State University, Lincoln College of New England and Tunxis Community College, and the University of Connecticut BSN Program.

CHAIR UPDATES

Nothing to Report

OPEN FORUM

Nothing to Report

NATIONAL COUNCIL STATE BOARDS OF NURSING

Chair Bouffard provided an overview of the last Board of Directors Meeting.

MINUTES

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to approve the minutes from December 20, 2017. The motion passed unanimously.

Lisa Freeman made a motion, seconded by Chair Bouffard, to approve the minutes from January 29, 2018. The motion passed unanimously.

SCHOOL ISSUES

Capital Community College

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to approve Dawn Bunting, EdD, MSN, RN, CNE as Division Director at Capital Community College. The motion passed unanimously.

Central Connecticut State University

Dr. Catherine Thomas was present on behalf of Central Connecticut State University.

1. Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to approve Dr. Thomas as the interim Department Chairperson until the completion of the current academic year. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Helen Smith provided a report of a site visit conducted on February 13, 2018. Lisa Freeman made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to approve the new facilities for the nursing program at Central Connecticut State University. The motion passed unanimously.

Aimee Ballard arrived at 8:48 a.m.

Porter & Chester (Branford Campus) – Approval of Nursing Education Supervisor

Patricia Donovan, MSN, RN was present on behalf of Porter & Chester.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to approve Leona Leven, MSN, RN as the Nursing Education Supervisor of the Branford campus. The motion passed unanimously.

University of Connecticut – Approval of the Dean of the School of Nursing

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to approve Deborah Chyun, PhD, RN, FAHA, FAAN, as the Dean of the School of Nursing. The motion passed unanimously.

Western Connecticut State University - Temporary Waiver Requests (Evelyn Baran, BSN, RN)

Joan Palladino was present from Western Connecticut State University.

Mary Dietmann made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to grant a 6 month temporary waiver for Ms. Baran. The motion passed unanimously.

Stone Academy – Program Curriculum Changes

Joseph Bierbaum, Holly E. Mulrenan, Deborah Detrick, Virginia King, and Kevin Mooney, were present on behalf of Stone Academy.

The Board reviewed Stone Academy's proposed curriculum changes.

Lisa Freeman made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to approve the curriculum changes. The motion passed unanimously.

Stone Academy – Request to offer a Practical Nurse Program – Waterbury Campus

Joseph Bierbaum, Holly E. Mulrenan, Deborah Detrick, Virginia King, and Kevin Mooney, were present on behalf of Stone Academy.

The Board reviewed Stone Academy's request to offer a practical nurse program at its Waterbury Campus.

Lisa Freeman made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to approve the request. The motion passed unanimously.

Stone Academy – Request approval of a Practical Nursing (PN) Refresher course

Joseph Bierbaum, Holly E. Mulrenan, Deborah Detrick, Virginia King, and Kevin Mooney, were present on behalf of Stone Academy.

The Board reviewed Stone Academy's request to offer a practical nurse refresher program at its East Hartford and West Haven Campuses.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann to approve the request. Following discussion the motion to approve the request as written failed. This matter is tabled to allow for the presentation of additional information.

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 December 2017 and January 2018.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Bethany Bozzuto, LPN

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

REINSTATEMENT HEARING REQUEST – KOKUMO LAURAY, LPN

Kokumo Lauray was present for a review of her request for a hearing regarding reinstatement of her license practical nurse license.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to grant Ms. Lauray's hearing request. The hearing will be scheduled for May 16, 2018.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Shannon Eustace, L.P.N. - Petition No. 2017-603

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

Jennifer Long 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. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order. A hearing will be scheduled for March 21, 2018.

Amanda Alarcon, R.N - Petition No. 2017-1460

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Amada Alarcon. Ms. Alarcon 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 Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order. A hearing will be scheduled for March 21, 2018.

Brian Gross, R.N - Petition No. 2017-1504

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

Jennifer Long 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. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order. A hearing will be scheduled for March 21, 2018.

PREHEARING REVIEW

Tonya Verdejo, RN - Petition No. 2017-378

Matthew Antonetti, Principal Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a pre-hearing review in the matter of Tonya Verdejo, RN. Attorney Richard Brown was present with Ms. Verejo. Following review the Board recommend a Consent Order imposing a suspension until November 2018 with concurrent probation for four years.

CONSENT ORDERS

Elinor Riberio, L.P.N - Petition No. 2017-816

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton, Department of Public Health presented the Board with a Consent Order for Elinor Riberio. Ms. Riberio was not present nor represented by counsel.

Gina Reiners moved and Mary Dietmann seconded, to approve the Consent Order as written. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order which imposes a reprimand and probation for a period of one year.

Karlene Jean- Pierre, A.P.R.N. - Petition No. 2016-113

Staff Attorney Diane Wilan, Department of Public Health presented the Board with a Consent Order for Karlene Jean Pierre. Attorney Richard Brown was present on behalf of respondent. Jennifer Long moved and Lisa Freeman seconded, to approve the Consent Order as written. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order which imposes a reprimand and probation for a period of six months.

MODIFICATION OF REINSTATEMNT CONSENT ORDER

Amanda Espinosa, L.P.N. - Petition No. 2017-206

Matthew Antonetti, Principal Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Reinstatement Consent Order modification regarding Amada Espinosa. Respondent was not present nor represented by counsel.

Jennifer Long moved and Mary Dietmann seconded, to approve the Consent Order modification as written. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

MOTION TO WITHDRAW STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Dian Miller-Francis, LPN - Petition No. 2017-737

Matthew Antonetti, Principal Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a motion to withdraw Statement of Charges based on respondent's surrender of her license.

Gina Reiners moved and Aimee Ballard seconded, to the Department's motion to withdraw charges. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

HEARINGS

Kathleen Baran, RN - Petition No. 2017-878

Staff Attorney Diane Wilan was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was present with Attorney Edward J. Gavin. Testimony was provided by Ms. Baran.

Mary Dietmann left for the day at 11:30 a.m.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to enter executive session to take testimony regarding confidential treatment records. The motion passed unanimously and the Board entered executive session from 12:05 p.m. until 12:41 p.m. No motions were made and no votes were taken during executive session.

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

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

Gina Reiners moved and Lisa Freeman seconded that Ms. Baran's license be placed on probation for a period of four years effective with the signing of the Memorandum of Decision. Probation will include the usual terms pertaining to therapy and drug screening, no home care or agency employment and no access to narcotic keys during the first year of employment as a nurse, and documentation of 12 step participation. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 12:54 p.m.

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