

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on April 4, 2019 the Department of Public Health Complex, 410--470 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut in room 470 A/B.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, Chair – *via telephone*
Jason Blando, Public Member – *via telephone*
Mary M. Brown, RN – *via telephone*
Lisa S. Freeman, Public Member – *via telephone*
Jennifer Long, APRN – *via telephone*
Gina M. Reiners, RN – *via telephone*

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Elizaida Delgado, LPN
Mary Dietmann, RN
Geraldine Marrocco, RN

ALSO PRESENT: Stacy Schulman, Legal Counsel to the Board, DPH
Dana Dalton, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH
Helen Smith Nurse Consultant, DPH
Agnieszka Salek, Paralegal Specialist, DPH

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon

SCHOOL ISSUES

Gateway Community College– Request for a temporary two month waiver

Shelia Solernou was present on behalf of Gateway Community College.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to approve a 2 month temporary waiver as a clinical instructor, for Angela Flynn, RN, BSN, contingent upon receipt of Ms. Flynn's transcripts from St. Joseph's College in Maine. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 12:08 p.m.

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

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on April 17, 2019 the Department of Public Health Complex, 410--470 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut in room 470 A/B.

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: Stacy Schulman, Legal Counsel to the Board, DPH
Dana Dalton, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH
Deborah Brown, Health Program Associate
Helen Smith Nurse Consultant, DPH
Brittany Allen, Staff Attorney, DPH
Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, DPH
Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, DPH
Leslie Scoville, 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.

STUDENTS

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from the Quinnipiac University, Central Connecticut State University, University of Saint Joseph and Lincoln Technical Institute.

OPEN FORUM

Sabrina Gionfriddo, a nursing student from the Porter and Chester Institute Enfield campus, addressed the Board regarding her difficulties with Porter & Chester in relation to her ADA issues. Ms. Gionfriddo also alleged unprofessional conduct on the part of Porter & Chester staff and instructors.

The Board requested that the Department of Public Health request specific information from Porter & Chester as part of an investigation of Ms. Gionfriddo's complaints.

NATIONAL COUNCIL STATE BOARDS OF NURSING

Dana Dalton provided an overview of the NCSBN mid-year meeting.

CHAIR UPDATES

Nothing to report

MINUTES

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Brown, to approve the minutes, from the March 6, 2019 meeting. The motion passed with all in favor except, Jason Blando, Mary Dietmann, Elizaida Delgado and Geraldine Marrocco who abstained.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Brown, to approve the minutes, from the April 4, 2019 meeting. The motion passed with all in favor except, Mary Dietmann, Elizaida Delgado and Geraldine Marrocco who abstained.

SCHOOL ISSUES

Connecticut League for Nursing – Educational Program Statistics

Marcia Proto, Executive Director, was present on behalf of the Connecticut League for Nursing (CLN).

Ms. Proto presented the 2018 nursing program statistics compiled by CLN.

Porter & Chester Institute Campus Visit Review – Plan of Correction

Jim Bologa, Patricia Donovan, and Maria Sparmer were present on behalf of Porter & Chester Institute.

Helen Smith presented an overview of the corrective actions taken by Porter & Chester since the March 6, 2019 Board meeting. Ms. Donovan and Ms. Sparmer spoke as to the remediation undertaken by Porter & Chester.

The Board requested the Department of Public Health make additional random visits to clinical sites in August and September.

Porter & Chester Institute will remain on conditional approval.

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 February and March 2019.

CRITERIA FOR REINSTATEMENT OF LAPSED LICENSES

Dana Dalton, Supervising Nurse Consultant and Deborah Brown, Health Program Associate were present for this discussion.

The Board discussed criteria for reinstatement of lapsed practical nurse licensees. This is a result of policy changes at South Dakota State University that prohibits admission to their refresher course if an individual has an active Consent Agreement or Order from their current or former Board of Nursing or has a felony conviction. In addition, nurses who have lapsed but are not subject to discipline have had difficulty finding clinical sites to complete the clinical portion of the refresher program. Currently there are no licensed practical nurse refresher programs in Connecticut.

The Board suggested, that at a minimum, continuing education in the areas of critical thinking, nursing documentation, and medication administration should be required for license reinstatement in all situations.

Ms. Dalton will provide Board members with the South Dakota curriculum. There will be further discussion regarding this issue at the May meeting.

LICENSE REINSTATEMENT REQUEST

Jessica Johnson, RN

The Board reviewed a license reinstatement request regarding Jessica Johnson, RN. Ms. Johnson was present with Attorney Richard Brown.

Following review, the Board recommended that Ms. Johnson's license be reinstated to probation, after successfully passing the NCLEX examination, for a period of four years with conditions including drug/alcohol screening, therapy and employer evaluations, and attendance at AA/NA meetings.

REINSTATEMENT HEARING REQUEST – Christina Mahner, LPN

The Board reviewed a request filed by Christina Mahner asking for a hearing regarding reinstatement of her licensed practical nurse.

Ms. Mahner was present but was not represented by counsel.

Lisa Freeman made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to grant Ms. Mahner's request.

The hearing will be scheduled for June 19, 2019.

REINSTATEMENT CONSENT ORDER

Debra George, RN - Petition No. 2018-678

Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Reinstatement Consent Order in the matter of Debra George, RN. Ms. George was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Gina Reiners moved and Mary Dietmann seconded, to approve the Reinstatement Consent Order which places Ms. George's license on probation for four years. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

CONSENT ORDERS

Kerry Donlon, RN - Petition No. 2018-902

Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Kerry Donlon, RN.

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

Mary Brown moved and Geraldine Marrocco seconded, to approve the Consent Order which places Ms. Donlon's license on probation for four years. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Donna Duncan, LPN - Petition No. 2018-761

Brittany Allen, Staff Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Donna Duncan, LPN.

Ms. Duncan was present but was not represented by counsel.

Mary Dietmann moved and Geraldine Marrocco seconded, to approve the Consent Order which places Ms. Duncan's license on probation for three years. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Cynthia Pfeiffer, RN - Petition No. 2018-78

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

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

Geraldine Marrocco moved and Mary Dietmann seconded, to approve the Consent Order which places Ms. Pfeiffer's license on probation for Four years. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Nicole Santo, LPN - Petition No. 2016-1340

Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order modification in the matter of Nicole Santo, LPN.

Ms. Santo was present with Attorney Mary Alice Moore Leonhardt.

Jennifer Long moved and Geraldine Marrocco seconded, to approve the Consent Order modification which extends the probation of Ms. Santo's license by six months. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

FACT-FINDING

Dionne Brown, LPN - Petition No. 2016-519

The Board conducted fact-finding for a hearing in this matter which was held on March 6, 2019.

Respondent was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Mary Brown moved and Mary Dietmann seconded that Ms. Brown be found as charged. The motion passed with all in favor except Jason Blando who abstained.

Mary Brown moved and Mary Dietmann seconded that Ms. Brown's license be revoked. The motion passed with all in favor except Jason Blando who abstained.

Presley Eze, LPN - Petition No. 2018-781

The Board conducted fact-finding for a hearing in this matter which was held on Mach 6, 2019. Respondent was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Jennifer Long moved and Gina Reiners seconded that Mr. Eze be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long moved and Gina Reiners seconded that Mr. Eze's license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

HEARINGS

Christine DeFusco, LPN - Petition No. 2019-85

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

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, 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 with all in favor except Jason Blando who abstained. Following close of the hearing the Board conducted fact-finding.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, that Ms. DeFusco be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Gina Reiners moved and Mary Dietmann seconded that Ms. DeFusco's license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

Katie Martins, LPN - Petition No. 2018-936

Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, 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 with all in favor except Jason Blando who abstained. Following close of the hearing the Board conducted fact-finding.

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

Mary Dietmann moved and Gina Reiners seconded that Ms. Martins' license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

Lunch 12:55 p.m. – 1:35 p.m.

Laurie Salupen, RN - Petition No. 2018-1175

Staff Attorney Leslie Scoville was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was present with Attorney Mary Alice Moore Leonhardt.

Testimony was provided by respondent.

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

Jennifer Long moved and Lisa Freeman seconded that Ms. Salupen be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long moved and Mary Dietmann seconded that the current probation of Ms. Salupen's license be extended by six months with weekly random drug screening for the remainder of probation. The motion passed with all in favor except Jason Blando who abstained.

Jennifer Long moved and Mary Dietmann seconded that the Summary Suspension of respondent's; license ordered on January 15, 2019, be vacated immediately. The motion passed with all in favor except Jason Blando who abstained.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 2:45 p.m.

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