

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on August 14, 2019 the Legislative Office Building, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut in room 2-A.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, Chair
Jason Blando, Public Member
Mary M. Brown, RN
Mary Dietmann, RN
Lisa S. Freeman, Public Member
Geraldine Marrocco, RN
Gina M. Reiners, RN

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Elizaida Delgado, LPN
Jennifer Long, APRN

ALSO PRESENT:

Alfreda Gaither, Legal Counsel to the Board, DPH
Dana Dalton, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH
Helen Smith Nurse Consultant, DPH
Brittany Allen, 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 8:30 a.m.

STUDENTS

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from Lincoln Technical Institute, Shelton Campus

CHAIR UPDATES

Nothing to report

OPEN FORUM

Nothing to report

NATIONAL COUNCIL STATE BOARDS OF NURSING

Chair Bouffard, Mary Brown, Geraldine Marrocco will be attending the annual meeting of National Council of State Boards of Nursing meeting beginning on August 21, 2019. Dana Dalton from the Department of Public Health will also attend.

MINUTES

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to approve the minutes, from the June 19, 2019 meeting. The motion passed unanimously

SCHOOL ISSUES

Porter & Chester Institute

Debra Hessel and Dorine Blanco were present from Porter & Chester Institute.

- Approval of Acting Director – Practical Nursing Program

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to approve Debra Hessel as the Acting Director of the Practical Nursing Program. The motion passed unanimously.

- Approval of an Interim Nursing Education Supervisor – Rocky Hill Campus

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Brown, to approve Michelle Tanner as interim Nursing Education Supervisor of the Rocky Hill Campus. The motion passed unanimously.

- Approval of an Interim Nursing Education Supervisor – Hamden Campus

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to approve Doreen Blanco as interim Nursing Education Supervisor of the Hamden Campus upon receipt of official transcripts. The motion passed unanimously.

- Sacred Heart University - Temporary Waiver Request

The Board reviewed a temporary waiver request for Tiffany Chuckta, BSN, RN as the Simulation Laboratory Instructor. Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to approve a 6 month waiver. The motion passed with all in favor except Mary Dietmann and Jason Blando who were recused.

University of Bridgeport– Approval of Interim Director, School of Nursing

Carol Papp was present from the University of Bridgeport to answer questions regarding the University's intent to offer an Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program.

University of Hartford

Cesarina Thompson and Joyce Thielen were present from the University of Hartford.

- Approval of Chairperson, Department of Nursing

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to approve Joyce Thielen as the Chair of the Department of Nursing. The motion passed unanimously.

- Campus Visit

Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant, DPH provided a summary of the Department of Public Health's visit to the University on July 25, 2019

- Western Connecticut State University - Temporary Waiver Request

The Board reviewed a permanent waiver request for Magdalena Szczerbacki to teach two clinical nursing groups. Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to approve a one-year waiver. The motion passed unanimously.

Faculty Credential Review

At its meeting on May 15, 2019, the Board requested that the DPH conduct an audit of faculty credentials for all pre-licensure programs in Connecticut.

Credentials for faculty at Quinnipiac University and Western Connecticut State University were reviewed at today's meeting.

Goodwin College – Campus Site Visit

Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant, DPH provided a summary of the Department of Public Health's visit to the Goodwin College on August 8, 2019

SCOPE OF PRACTICE

Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant, DPH provided a summary of nursing scope of practice inquiries received by the Department of Public Health during July 2019.

LICENSE REINSTATEMENT REQUESTS

Matthew Orozco, LPN

Dana Dalton, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH, presented a license reinstatement request regarding Matthew Orozco, LPN.

Following review, the Board concurred with the DPH recommendation that Mr. Orozco's license be reinstated to probation for a period of four years with conditions including drug/alcohol screening, therapy and employer evaluations, completion of a refresher program and passing the NCLEX examination.

MEMORANDA OF DECISION

Julia Heller-Smith, RN - Petition No. 2017-1356

Gina Reiners moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that Ms. Heller Smith's registered nurse license be suspended for one year with five years of concurrent probation and a \$2000.00 civil penalty. The motion was seconded by Mary Dietmann and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Lourdes Mercado, LPN - Petition No. 2016-1279

Gina Reiners moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that Ms. Mercados's licensed practical 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.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Kathryn Lovejoy, RN - Petition No. 2019-272

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Kathryn Lovejoy. Ms. Lovejoy was present with Attorney Richard Brown.

Mary Brown 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 Geraldine Marrocco and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order. A hearing will be scheduled for September 18, 2019.

Tammy Piccirillo, LPN - Petition No. 2019-839

Staff Attorney Brittany Allen presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Tammy Piccirillo. Ms. Piccirillo 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 will be scheduled for September 18, 2019.

Joseph Iannicelli, LPN - Petition No. 2019-701

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Joseph Iannicelli Ms. 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 Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order. A hearing will be scheduled for September 18, 2019.

CONSENT ORDERS

Angela Star, RN - Petition No: 2018-892

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

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

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

Sarah Smith, RN - Petition No: 2019-443

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

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

Gina Reiners moved and Mary Dietmann seconded, to table this matter for presentation of additional information. The motion passed unanimously.

Christopher Kay, RN - Petition No. 2019- 97

Staff Attorney Brittany Allen presented the Board with a Motion for Consent Order for Christopher Kay. Mr. Kay was present with Attorney Richard Brown.

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

Mary Dietmann moved and Lisa Freeman seconded, to enter executive session to review confidential treatment records. The motion passed unanimously. The Board entered executive session from 10:25 a.m. 10:40 a.m. No motions were made and no votes were taken in executive session.

The Board subsequently recommended that a six month suspension be included in the Consent Order language.

HEARINGS

Charlene Zikaras, RN - Petition No. 2019-522

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

The hearing did not conclude and was continued to September 18, 2019 to allow for additional information to be obtained.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 11:45 a.m.

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