

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on November 20, 2019 at the Legislative Office Building, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut in room 2A.

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

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

**ALSO PRESENT:** Alfreda Gaither, Legal Counsel to the Board, DPH  
Kathleen Boulware, Public Health Services Manager, DPH  
Dana Dalton, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH  
Helen Smith, RN, Nurse Consultant, DPH  
Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, DPH  
Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, DPH  
Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist, DPH  
Agnieszka Salek, Hearings Liaison, DPH  
Gail Gregoriades, Court Reporter

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Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m.

**STUDENTS**

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from Central Connecticut State College and the University of Hartford.

**CHAIR UPDATES**

Nothing to report.

**OPEN FORUM**

Nothing to report.

**NATIONAL COUNCIL STATE BOARDS OF NURSING**

Dana Dalton called in to a disciplinary call.

**MINUTES**

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by May Dietmann, to approve the minutes from September 18, 2019. The motion passed with all in favor.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Lisa S. Freeman, to approve the minutes from October 16, 2019 meeting. The motion passed with all in favor except Mary Dietmann and Mary Brown who abstained.

**SCHOOL ISSUES**

A. 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 Goodwin College were reviewed at today's meeting

Credentials for faculty at the University of Hartford were reviewed today as well. The Board requested more information be presented at the December meeting.

B. Yale University Accreditation School of Nursing

The Board reviewed a letter dated October 30, 2019, from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) to the Yale University School of Nursing indicating that the master's degree program at Yale has been granted continued accreditation to 2029.

C. Fairfield University Egan School of Nursing and Health Studies – Masters Entry to Professional Nursing

The Board reviewed a letter dated October 2, 2019 indicating Fairfield University Egan School of Nursing & Health Studies plans to commence a Masters Entry to Professional Nursing (MEPN) program to begin May of 2021.

D. Lincoln Technical Institute – Approval of Program Administrator

Deborah Little and Patty Delucia were present from Lincoln Technical Institute.

Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to approve Deborah Little as the Corporate Assistant Dean of Nursing. The motion passed with all in favor except Jason Blando who abstained.

Since this is a newly created position the school is to submit a written status report in 6 months.

E. Porter & Chester Institute – Plan of Correction

Debra Hessell and Nancy Brunet were present from Porter & Chester Institute. Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant, DPH, provided a synopsis of the Porter & Chester's plan of correction. Following a review of the plan and discussion Lisa S. Freeman made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners, to accept the plan of correction. The motion passed unanimously. The Board requested that the monthly updates continue at least until March, 2020.

**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 October, 2019.

80 calls were received in October.

**LPN REFRESHER PROGRAM**

Dana Dalton provided an update regarding LPN refresher program offered by South Dakota State University.

The Department of Public Health sent a facsimile to nursing home administrators and directors of nursing explaining the reasons why licensed practical nurses may need a refresher.

**USE OF WEB-BASED MONITORING SYSTEM: CHANGES IN SCREENING AND REVISION TO THE CONSENT ORDER LANGUAGE**

Kathy Boulware announced her retirement and introduced Janet Brancifort as the new Public Health Services Manager for the Department of Public Health Practitioner Investigation Unit.

Ms. Boulware reported that the Department is considering transitioning to a new web-based monitoring system program called Recovery Trek. This monitoring system is currently used by the Haven Program.

Recovery Trek incorporates a call-in or log-in system (can be done, via an APP, cell phone, computer, or call in to an 800 number) where the respondent is responsible for calling or logging in daily to determine whether or not he/she has to submit to a urine screen. In addition, the respondent would be provided with a personal confidential web page that is accessible by the department to check and track their progress, and see if there are any missing reports. The respondent can upload 12 step meeting logs, and upload prescriptions to validate urine screens. The system also allows employers and therapists to log in and provide reports, and allows the therapists to see drug screen results so they have first-hand information about a respondent's urine screens.

Additionally, for those professionals whose only substance of dependence is alcohol, the Department is considering using a breathalyzer device as primary mode of monitoring.

**LICENSE REINSTATEMENT REQUESTS**

Kristin Brice, LPN

Dana Dalton, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH presented a license reinstatement request regarding Kristin Brice, LPN.

Following review, the Board concurred with the DPH recommendation that Ms. Brice's license be reinstated to probation with conditions including screening, therapy and employer evaluations.

**MEMORANDA OF DECISION**

Dionne Brown, LPN - Petition No. 2016-519

Gina Reiners moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that Ms. Brown's licensed practical nurse license be revoked. The motion was seconded by Mary Dietmann and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Christine DeFusco, LPN - Petition No. 2019-85

Gina Reiners moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that Ms. DeFusco's licensed practical nurse license be revoked. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Christine Mahner, LPN - Petition No. 2019-452

Gina Reiners moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that Ms. Mahner's request for reinstatement of her licensed practical nurse license be denied. The motion was seconded by Mary Dietmann and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Concetta Mancini, RN - Petition No. 2019-412

Gina Reiners moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that Ms. Mancini's registered nurse remain on probation pursuant to a September 20, 2017 Reinstatement Consent Order. The motion was seconded by Mary Dietmann and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Katie Ann Martins, LPN - Petition No. 2018-936

Gina Reiners moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that Ms. Martins' licensed practical nurse license be revoked. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Lori Salupen, RN - Petition No. 2018-1175

Gina Reiners moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that the probation of Ms. Salupen's registered nurse license ordered on June 15, 2016 be extended for an additional six months. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

**MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

Cynthia Riley, LPN - Petition No. 2018-123

Staff Attorney Diane Wilan presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Cynthia Riley. Ms. Riley was not present and was not represented.

Mary Dietmann 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 Gina Reiners and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order. A hearing will be scheduled for December 18, 2019.

**CONSENT ORDERS**

Mary Archer, RN - Petition No: 2019-1131

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

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

Mary Dietmann moved and Gina Reiners seconded, to approve the Consent Order which imposes probation for a period of four years.

The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Nicole Holiday, RN, APRN, RN - Petition Nos: 2019-458; 2019-445

Brittany Allen, Staff Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Nicole Holiday, RN, APRN.

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

Mary Brown moved and Gina Reiners seconded, to approve the Consent Order which imposes probation for a period of three years.

Mary Brown moved and Gina Reiners voted in favor of the motion to approve. Chair Bouffard, Lisa Freeman, Mary Dietmann and Jason Blando were opposed.

The Consent Order was not approved. A hearing will be scheduled.

Lisa Vivenzio, RN - Petition No: 2018-966

Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Lisa Vivenzio, RN.

Ms. Vivenzio was present with Attorney Cody Gaumieri.

Mary Dietmann moved and Lisa Freeman seconded, to approve the Consent Order which imposes probation for a period of four years.

The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Karina Francis, RN - Petition No: 2019-845

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

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

Mary Dietmann moved and Gina Reiners seconded, to approve the Consent Order which imposes a six month suspension with concurrent probation for a period of four years.

The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

**FACT-FINDING**

Greg Ulrich, RN - Petition No. 2018-255

Lisa Freeman moved and Mary Brown seconded that paragraph 1, the first paragraph of 2; paragraph 2a; and paragraph 2b as it relates to July 28 were proven by a preponderance of the evidence presented. That paragraphs 2c and 3 were not proven. The motion passed unanimously.

Lisa Freeman moved and Mary Brown seconded that the case against Mr. Ulrich be dismissed. The motion passed unanimously.

**HEARINGS**

Renee Cottrill, LPN - Petition No. 2018-896

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

Mary Dietmann 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.

Gina Reiners moved and May Dietmann seconded, that Ms. Cottrill be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Gina Reiners moved and May Dietmann seconded, that Ms. Cottrill's license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

Melissa Eccles, LPN - Petition No. 2018-123

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

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

Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, that Ms. Eccles be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Brown made a motion on the record, seconded by Lisa Freeman, that the Summary Suspension respondent's license shall remain in effect and that no later than December 23, 2019 respondent shall undergo a substance abuse evaluation performed by a licensed psychiatrist and that respondent submit to an observed random chain of custody urine screen for alcohol and drugs. The motion passed unanimously.

Tammy Piccirillo, LPN - Petition No. 2019-87

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

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 unanimously.

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

Gina Reiners moved, and May Dietmann seconded, that Ms. Piccirillo be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Gina Reiners moved, and May Dietmann seconded, that Ms. Piccirillo's license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

Joseph Iannicelli, LPN - Petition No. 2019-701

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

Following close of the hearing the Board began fact-finding. During discussion the Board indicated it would reopen the record and continue the hearing for additional information to be presented by respondent at the December 18, 2019 meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 1:05 p.m.

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