

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on March 17, 2021 via Microsoft TEAMS.

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**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, D.N.Sc. (RN Member, Chair)  
Jason Blando - (Public Member)  
Mary E. Dietmann, EdD, APRN, ACNS-BC, CNE - (RN Member)  
Lisa S. Freeman, BA - (Public Member)  
Jennifer C. Long, APRN, MSN, NNP-BC - (APRN Member)  
Geraldine Marrocco, Ed.D., APRN, ANP-BC, FAANP -(RN Member)  
Gina Reiners, PhD, APRN, PMHNP, PMHCNS - (RN Member)

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Rebecca Martinez, LPN – (LPN Member)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Stacy Schulman, Legal Counsel to the Board, DPH  
Dana Dalton, RN, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH  
Helen Smith, RN, Nurse Consultant, DPH  
Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, DPH  
Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, DPH  
Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney, DPH  
Jeffrey Kardys, Board Liaison, DPH  
Agnieszka Salek, Hearings Liaison, DPH

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The meeting commenced at 8:36 a.m. All participants were present by video or telephone conference.

#### **CHAIR UPDATES**

Nothing to report.

#### **OPEN FORUM**

Nothing to report.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to approve the agenda as revised. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **NATIONAL COUNCIL STATE BOARDS OF NURSING**

Chair Bouffard provided an update from the February 2021 Board of Directors meeting.  
Mary Dietmann provided a report of an Education Consultants Group teleconference on March 4, 2021. Topics discussed included a National pre-licensure RN study assessing the impact of COVID-19 on nursing education; practice clinical partnerships; and licensure guidance tools.

*Jennifer C. Long arrived at 8:48 a.m.*

#### **MINUTES**

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann to approve the minutes from February 17, 2021. The motion passed. Lisa Freeman and Jennifer Long abstained.

#### **SCHOOL ISSUES**

- Goodwin University – Approval of Director of the Associate Degree  
Janice Watts was present on behalf of Goodwin University.  
Mary Dietmann made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to approve Bruce Hoffman as the Director of the Associate Degree Program for Goodwin University. The motion passed with all in favor except Gina Reiners who recused herself.

- Fairfield University – Site Visit (Master's Entry to Practice Nursing (MEPN) pre-licensure program)

Meredith Kazer was present on behalf of Fairfield University.

Helen Smith provided a report of a Department of Public Health site visit to Fairfield University on March 3, 2021 for a facility review prior to the commencement of the Master's Entry to Practice Nursing (MEPN) pre-licensure program. Mary Dietmann made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco to approve the facilities at Fairfield University for use of this program.

#### **VIRTUAL SIMULATION COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Draft Simulation Criteria Guidelines were reviewed.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco to approve the recommended guidelines as edited. The motion passed unanimously. The guidelines will be forwarded to the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health for review.

#### **CONNECTICUT LEAGUR FOR NURSING – Monthly Update**

Audrey Beauvais and Marcia Proto provided an update from the Connecticut League for Nursing on the following matters:

- Connecticut Hospital Association Healthcare Educators Group discussions pertaining to Transition to Practice; Communication; and Clinical Placement
- The annual nurse education survey.
- Office of Workforce Strategy.
- Competency based education

#### **SCOPE OF PRACTICE**

Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant, DPH provided a summary of 70 nursing scope of practice inquires received by the Department of Public Health during February 2021.

#### **MEMORANDA OF DECISION**

Nicole Holiday, RN, APRN - Petition No. 2019-445

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to reaffirm the Board's decision imposing probation for a period of four years. The motion passed with all in favor except Jennifer Long who abstained.

Laura Kisatsky, RN Petition No. 2020-541

Mary Dietmann made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners, to reaffirm the Board's revoking the license of Ms. Kisatsky. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **FACT-FINDING**

Kimberly Lemire RN Petition No. 2019-1237

Attorney Schulman explained the need for the Board to revisit the fact-finding in this matter which was conducted subsequent to a June 17, 2020 hearing.

Mary Dietmann made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to reject the draft Memorandum of Decision which was based on the June 17, 2020 fact-finding. The motion passed with all in favor except Gina Reiners who abstained.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, that paragraphs 2, 4 ad 5 of the Statement of Charges be dismissed due to lack of jurisdiction but that Ms. Lemire be found on paragraphs 1, 3, 6, 7, 8 and 9. The motion passed with all in favor except Gina Reiners who abstained.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, that Ms. Lemire's license be placed on probation for one year, with monthly employer reports and course work relating to medication administration, documentation, and scope of practice. The motion passed with all in favor except Gina Reiners who abstained.

**PRE-HEARING REVIEW**

Azra Sarkinovic, R.N - Petition No. 2019-417

Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina was present for the Department of Public Health. Attorney Patrick Filan was present on behalf of Ms. Sarkinovic.

Following a review of stipulated exhibits the consensus of the Board is that this matter be dismissed.

**CONSENT ORDERS**

Christian Todzia, RN - Petition No. 2017-1072

Staff Attorney, Diane Wilan, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Christian Todzia, RN. Attorney Andrew O'Shea was present with Mr. Todzia.

Gina Reiners moved, and Jennifer Long seconded, to approve the Consent Order which imposes a probation for a period of two years, a reprimand and a \$1500.00 civil penalty. The motion passed with Chair Bouffard, Jason Blando, Jennifer Long and Gina Reiners voting in favor. Lisa Freeman, Mary Dietmann and Geraldine Marrocco were opposed.

**HEARINGS**

Kristen Brice, LPN - Petition No. 2017-1072

Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was present with Attorney Dennis Mancini.

Following the close of the record the Board conducted fact-finding. Lisa Freeman moved, and Mary Dietmann seconded, that Ms. Brice be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Lisa Freeman moved, and Geraldine Marrocco seconded, that Ms. Brice's license be placed on probation for two years with conditions that include random urine screening weekly during the first and last six months, once a month for twelve months; employer reports every two months for the entire probation; no home care/independent practice for the first year; and access to the administration of controlled substance is restricted for the first year. The motion passed unanimously.

Geraldine Marrocco moved, and Jennifer Long seconded, that the Summary Suspension of Ms. Brice's license ordered on February 17, 2020 be vacated. The motion passed unanimously.

Pending the issuance of a Memorandum of Decision in Petition No. 2020-1239, respondent's licensed practical nurse license is reinstated to probation subject to the terms of a December 18, 2019 Reinstatement Consent Order in Petition No. 2019-1170.

Allison Krawza, RN - Petition No. 2020-580

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

Jennifer Long made a motion seconded by Lisa Freeman to grant the Department's oral motion to deem allegations admitted. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Jennifer Long made a motion seconded by Lisa Freeman, that Ms. Krawza be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long moved, and Lisa Freeman seconded, that Ms. Krawza's license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

Natalie Primini LPN – License Reinstatement Request

Staff Attorney Diane Wilan was present for the Department of Public Health. Ms. Primini was present but was not represented.

Following the close of the record the Board conducted fact-finding. Lisa Freeman moved, and Jennifer Long seconded, that Ms. Primini's licensed practical nurse be reinstated to probation, with conditions, for a period of two years. Conditions include random urine screening weekly; monthly employer and therapist reporting; completion of a licensed practical nurse refresher program and passing the NCLEX-PN examination. The motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion by Lisa Freeman, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, it was the unanimous decision to adjourn this meeting at 1:05 p.m.