

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on December 15, 2021 via Microsoft TEAMS.

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<b>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:</b>	Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, D.N.Sc. - (RN Member, Chair) Cynthia L. Arpin, RN, MSN – (RN Member) Mary E. Dietmann, EdD, APRN, ACNS-BC, CNE - (RN Member) Jennifer C. Long, APRN, MSN, NNP-BC - (APRN Member) Rebecca Martinez, LPN – (LPN Member) Gina Reiners, PhD, APRN, PMHNP, PMHCNS - (RN Member)
<b>BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:</b>	Jason Blando - (Public Member) Lisa S. Freeman, BA - (Public Member) Geraldine Marrocco, Ed.D., APRN, ANP-BC, FAANP - (RN Member)
<b>ALSO PRESENT:</b>	Stacy Schulman, Legal Counsel to the Board, DPH Helen Smith, RN, Nurse Consultant, DPH Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, DPH Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, DPH Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney, DPH Agnieszka Salek, Hearings Liaison, DPH

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The meeting commenced at 8:30 a.m. All participants were present via Microsoft TEAMS.

#### **CHAIR UPDATES**

Chair Bouffard gave an update on the workgroup discussions pertaining to the nursing licensure compacts.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Cynthia Arpin to add the Connecticut League for Nursing update to the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Rebecca Martinez, to approve the agenda as revised and reordered. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **OPEN FORUM**

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton informed the Board that National Public Radio has a locally produced podcast pertaining to the nursing profession which is very informative.

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

Chair Bouffard reported that the Virgin Islands has recently implemented the nurse licensure compact.

Mary Dietmann reported on the Education Committee teleconference from December 9, 2021 regarding fraudulent nursing programs.

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

Marcia Proto provided an update from the Connecticut League for Nursing and the Connecticut Center for Nursing Workforce. Audrey Beauvais provided an update from the Deans and Directors.

**MEMORANDA OF DECISION**

Pamela Franklin, RN - Petition No. 2020-1211

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann to affirm the Memorandum of Decision in the matter of Pamela Franklin, RN which imposes license revocation. The motion passed unanimously.

Meagan Frederick, LPN - Petition No. 2021-206

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann to affirm the Memorandum of Decision in the matter of Meagan Frederick LPN which imposes license revocation. The motion passed unanimously.

Alexis Young, LPN Petition - No. 2020-331

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann to affirm the Memorandum of Decision in the matter of Alexis Young, LPN which imposes a period of probation. The motion failed unanimously in that Board minutes reflect that the Board's decision was for a dismissal of charges. The decision will be redrafted and presented at a future meeting.

**MOTION TO WITHDRAW STATEMENT OF CHARGES**

Pamela Faulkner, RN - Petition Nos. 2021-377

Staff Attorney, Aden Baume, Department of Public Health presented a Motion to Withdraw the Statement of Charges in this matter based on respondent's surrender of her license.

Mary Dietmann moved, and Cynthia Arpin seconded, to grant the withdrawal of the Statement of Charges. The motion passed unanimously.

Martine Pyram, RN, APRN - Petition Nos. 2021-70; 2021-17

Staff Attorney, Joelle Newton, Department of Public Health presented a Motion to Withdraw the Statement of Charges in that respondent recently passed away.

Mary Dietmann moved, and Rebecca Martinez seconded, to grant the withdrawal of the Statement of Charges. The motion passed unanimously.

Amanda Shanley a/k/a Amanda V. Hart, R.N. - Petition No 2021-1051

Staff Attorney, Craig Sullivan, Department of Public Health presented a Motion to Withdraw the Statement of Charges in this matter based on respondent's surrender of her license. Attorney Mary Alice Moore Leonhardt was present on behalf of respondent.

Jennifer Long moved, and Mary Dietmann seconded, to grant the withdrawal of the Statement of Charges. The motion passed unanimously.

**CONSENT ORDERS**

Tiona Stewart, L.P.N. - Petition No. 2017-1275

Staff Attorney, Linda Fazzina, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Tiona Stewart, RN. Respondent and her attorney were not present.

Jennifer Long moved, and Gina Reiners seconded, to approve the Consent Order which imposes a reprimand, and probation for a period of two years. The motion passed unanimously.

Susan Dunnigan, RN - Petition No. 2020-244

Staff Attorney, Linda Fazzina, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Susan Dunnigan, RN. Attorney Ellen Costello was present with Respondent.

Jennifer Long moved, and Gina Reiners seconded, to approve the Consent Order which imposes a reprimand, and probation for a period of one year. The motion passed unanimously.

## HEARINGS

### Stone Academy - West Haven Campus Day Program

The Board continued the hearing which commenced on November 17, 2021 regarding the nursing program's failure to correct the deficiencies which caused the Program to be placed on conditional approval on June 19, 2019 and June 17, 2020. Attorney Aaron Bayer was present on behalf of Stone Academy.

The Board heard additional testimony from Linda Dahlin, Executive Director, on behalf of Stone Academy. Additional documentary evidence was also accepted.

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

Mary Dietmann made a motion, seconded by Cynthia Arpin, that Stone Academy West Haven Campus failed to correct deficiencies which caused the Program to be placed on conditional approval on June 19, 2019 and June 17, 2020. Specifically, the Program failed to establish an 80% NCLEX pass rate during the conditional approval period. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Dietmann made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, that the Stone Academy West Haven Campus be removed from the list of approved nursing programs for the training of licensed practical nurses. Mary Dietmann, Cynthia Arpin and Rebecca Martinez voted in favor of the motion, Jennifer Long, Gina Reiners and Chair Bouffard were opposed.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Cynthia Arpin, that the Program remain on conditional approval for one additional year. In addition, the Program shall submit end of semester reports that include student, faculty and administration attrition and their reasons for leaving; status of faculty positions; updates and validation of NCLEX scores; modifications to the curriculum; analysis of high stakes examinations; tuition schedules, and any additional follow-up information requested by the Board.

The motion passed with all in favor except Mary Dietmann and Rebecca Martinez who were opposed.

*Break 11:05 – 11:15*

### Adwoa A. Darko, LPN - Petition No. 2020-351

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was present with Attorney Jamaal Johnson.

The Board entered executive session to accept testimony regarding confidential records. No motions were made and no votes were taken during executive session.

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

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners, that Ms. Darko be found on paragraphs 1 and 3 and for speaking inappropriately as alleged in paragraph 2. The allegation of assault in paragraph 2 was not proven by a preponderance of evidence. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners, that Ms. Darko's license be reprimanded. The motion passed unanimously.

### Ashley Lambert, LPN - Petition No. 2021-931

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

Ms. Lambert orally answered the Statement of Charges.

The Board entered executive session to accept testimony regarding confidential health records. No motions were made, and no votes were taken during executive session.

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

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, that Ms. Lambert be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, that Ms. Lambert continue with the probation as set forth in a Consent Order dated January 15, 2020, and that no further discipline be imposed. The motion passed unanimously.

Michael Presnick, RN - Petition No. 2017-1071

Staff Attorney Diane Wilan was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was present with Attorney William Paetzold.

Respondent orally answered the Statement of Charges.

*Jennifer Long left the meeting at 4:15 p.m.*

The Board entered executive session to accept testimony regarding confidential health records. No motions were made, and no votes were taken during executive session.

The hearing did not conclude and will continue on January 19, 2022.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion by Mary Dietmann the meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

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