

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on October 20, 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:** Cynthia L. Arpin, RN, MSN – (RN Member)  
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  
Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, DPH  
Jeffrey Kardys, Board Liaison, 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 reported that Geraldine Marrocco and herself attended an introductory meeting regarding Public Act 21-152 that includes a provision for the Department of Public Health to explore nurse licensure compacts.

#### **OPEN FORUM**

Nothing to report.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to approve the reordering of the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Mary Dietmann and Dana Dalton provided an overview of the NCSBN mid-year meeting. Chair Bouffard reported on the NCLEX conference.

#### **EXTERA MEETING DATES**

The Board discussed adding extra meeting dates due to the increase in disciplinary hearings. Going forward, the Board will hold meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of the month through May 2022. The first meeting date of the month will be for school issues, consent order review, Motions for Summary Suspension, and procedural matters. The third Wednesday will be for consent order review, Motions for Summary Suspension, and administrative disciplinary hearings. Additional meetings will begin on December 1, 2021. The need for these additional meetings will be reevaluated in April, 2022.

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

Marcia Proto, Executive Director and Audrey Beauvais provided an update on behalf of the Connecticut League for Nursing and Deans and Directors.

*Lisa Freeman left the meeting at 10:00 a.m.*

## **SCHOOL ISSUES**

- Central Connecticut State University

Catherine Thomas was present from Central Connecticut State University.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to grant a three month temporary waiver to Kerilee Segorvia, RN, BSN to provide clinical instruction for five senior level students at the Hospital for Special Care on the pediatric care unit. The motion passed unanimously.

- Lincoln Technical Institute

Patricia DeLucia, Deborah Little and Laura McKeown were present from Lincoln Technical Institute.

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to approve Ms. McKeown as the Director of Nursing at the New Britain Campus. The motion passed unanimously.

- Stone Academy – 5 year study

Linda Dahlin and Lisa Palmer were present on behalf of Stone Academy.

This matter was tabled from the September meeting to allow for revisions to be submitted.

Helen Smith, RN Nurse Consultant, DPH provided an overview of the revisions to Stone Academy's report.

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann to approve the revisions to the report and to accept the five year study. The motion passed unanimously.

## **SCOPE OF PRACTICE**

Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant, DPH provided a summary of 48 nursing scope of practice inquiries received by the Department of Public Health during September 2021.

## **MEMORANDA OF DECISION**

Kristin Brice, L.P.N. Petition No. 2020-1239

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to affirm the Memorandum of Decision which imposes probation for a period of two years. The motion passed unanimously.

Judith Cullen, RN Petition No. 2020-763

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to affirm the Memorandum of Decision that found no need for disciplinary action. The order was to continue the terms of the probation pursuant to an April 2017 Memorandum of Decision. The motion passed unanimously.

Erin K. Fitzpatrick, L.P.N. Petition No. 2020-330 and Petition No. 2020-1015

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to affirm the Memorandum of Decision which imposes a reprimand and probation for four years. The motion passed unanimously.

Allison Krawza, R.N. Petition No. 2020-580

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to affirm the Memorandum of Decision which imposes license revocation. The motion passed unanimously.

Lourdes Mercado, L.P.N. Petition No. 2019-1074 and Petition No. 2020-1131

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to affirm the Memorandum of Decision which imposes a reprimand and probation for two years. The motion passed unanimously.

Daniel O'Brien, R.N. Petition No. 2018-791

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to affirm the Memorandum of Decision which imposes license revocation. The motion passed unanimously.

Natalie Primini, L.P.N. – License Reinstatement

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to approve the Memorandum of Decision. Upon review the motion failed unanimously. The decision will be edited to modify a condition of employment during the probationary period.

**MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

Donna Duncan, RN - Petition No. 2020-1231

Staff Attorney Aden Baume presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Donna Duncan. Respondent was not present and was not represented.

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 Dietmann and passed unanimously. A hearing will be scheduled for November 17, 2021.

Danielle Howley, LPN - Petition No. 2021-557

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Danielle Howley. Respondent 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 Geraldine Marrocco and passed unanimously. A hearing will be scheduled for November 17, 2021.

Jennifer Scanlon, RN - Petition No. 2021-298

Staff Attorney Diane Wilan presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Jennifer Scanlon. Respondent was not present and was not represented.

Geraldine Marrocco 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 Dietmann and passed unanimously. A hearing will be scheduled for November 17, 2021.

**CONSENT ORDERS**

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 on behalf of respondent.

Gina Reiners moved, and Mary Dietmann seconded, to approve the Consent Order which imposes a reprimand and probation for a period of one year. Following discussion the motion failed. Gina Reiners moved, and Mary Dietmann seconded to table this matter so that Board counsel can seek input from the Office of the Attorney General.

Nicole Ring, RN - Petition No. 2020-1175

Staff Attorney, Craig Sullivan, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Nicole Ring, RN. Respondent was present but was not represented.

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

Sandra Ring, LPN - Petition No. 2020-1074

This matter was previously reviewed at the September 15, 2021 Board meeting.

Staff Attorney, Diane Wilan, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Sandra Ring, LPN. Respondent was present but was not represented.

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

Timothy Testa, LPN - Petition No. 2021-443

Staff Attorney, Joelle Newton, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Timothy Testa, LPN. Respondent was present but was not represented.

Gina Reiners moved, and Geraldine Marrocco seconded, to approve the Consent Order which imposes a probation for a period of four years. The motion passed unanimously.

**HEARINGS**

Amy Saunders, LPN - Petition No. 2021-188

Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina 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, 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 Gina Reiners, that Ms. Saunders be found as charged.

The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long made a motion seconded by Gina Reiners, that Ms. Saunders' license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

*Lisa Freeman returned at 12:15 p.m.*

Audrey Smarrelli, RN - Petition No. 2021-516

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

Ms. Smarrelli orally answered the Statement of Charges.

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

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

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion seconded by Jennifer Long, that Ms. Smarrelli be found on paragraphs 1, 2, the first sentence of 3, and 4, and that she is not found on the second sentence of paragraph 3. The motion passed with all in favor except Jason Blando who was opposed. .

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion seconded by Mary Dietmann, that Ms. Smarrelli's license be reprimanded. Following discussion, the motion passed with all in favor except. Mary Dietmann, Jason Blando and Lisa Freeman.

Nichelle Robinson, RN - Petition No. 2021-516

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

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

Jennifer Long made a motion seconded by Gina Reiners, that Ms. Robinson be found on all paragraphs of the Amended Statement of Charges. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long made a motion seconded by Gina Reiners, that Ms. Robinson's license be reprimanded and placed on probation for a period of six months. The motion passed unanimously. The written Memorandum of Decision will include tolling language and a requirement for employer reports, and will indicate that although course work was necessary, respondent had completed appropriate course work as specified in the previous Memorandum of Decision.

Angel Predzimirski, R.N - Petition No. 2020-1221

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

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

Gina Reiners made a motion seconded by Lisa Freeman, that Ms. Predzimirski be found on paragraphs 1, 2 (alcohol only), 3, 4 and 5. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long made a motion seconded by Gina Reiners, that Ms. Saunders' license be placed on probation for period of four years with conditions inclusive of controlled substance access restriction for one year and no independent practice/home care. The motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Gina Reiners, seconded by Lisa Freeman, it was the unanimous decision to adjourn this meeting at 3:25 p.m.

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