

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on March 2, 2022 via Microsoft TEAMS.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Gina Reiners, PhD, APRN, PMHNP, PMHCNS - (RN Member)
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)
Geraldine Marrocco, Ed.D., APRN, ANP-BC, FAANP - (RN Member)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, D.N.Sc. - (RN Member, Chair)
Jason Blando - (Public Member)
Lisa S. Freeman, BA - (Public 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
Aden Baume, Staff Attorney, DPH
Craig Sullivan, Staff Attorney, DPH

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

Gina Reiners chaired the meeting in the absence of Patricia Bouffard.

CHAIR UPDATES

Nothing to report.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Cynthia L. Arpin made a motion, seconded by Cynthia L. Arpin, to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

OPEN FORUM

Nothing to report.

NATIONAL COUNCIL STATE BOARDS OF NURSING

Nothing to report.

CONNECTICUT LEAGUE FOR NURSING – Monthly Update

The Board received an update from Marcia Proto of Connecticut League for Nursing and the Connecticut Center for Nursing Workforce and from Audrey Beauvais on behalf of the Deans and Directors.

SCHOOL ISSUES

• Fairfield University – 6 month Temporary Waiver Request

Mary Dietmann made a motion, seconded by Cynthia Arpin, to grant a 6-month temporary waiver 6-month temporary waiver for Alexandra Curry, BSN, RN as a clinical instructor for NURS 4332 Transition: Professional Nursing Practice for the Spring 2022 semester. The motion passed unanimously.

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to grant a 6-month temporary waiver 6-month temporary waiver for Diana Harris, BSN, RN as a clinical instructor for NURS 4325 Medical Surgical Nursing II for the Spring 2022 semester. The motion passed unanimously.

• Porter & Chester Institute – Appointment of Practical Nursing Director

Cynthia Arpin made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to approve the appointment of Holly Breault, RN, BSN, MSN as the Practical Nursing Director as of 01/17/2022. The motion passed with all in favor except Geraldine Marrocco who abstained.

• Saint Vincent's College at Sacred Heart University – Teach out of Associate Degree Program

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Cynthia Arpin, to acknowledge the notice of a teach-out for the Associate Degree in Nursing Program. On 01/05/2022 the faculty, staff and students were notified of the teach-out and that St. Vincent's College will no longer be accepting new applications. A summary of the course schedule and teach out plan was provided to the Fall of 2024. The motion passed with all in favor except Mary Dietmann who abstained.

• Stone Academy – Termination of West Haven Practical Nursing Day Program

The Board acknowledged notice received from Stone Academy that they will be terminating the Practical Nursing day program at the West Haven campus. The program will end by 12/31/2022.

• Southern Connecticut State University - Appointment of Chair of the Department of Nursing

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to approve the appointment of Maria Krol, DNP, MSN, RN-NIC-ACUE as the Chair of the Nursing Department as of 01/18/2022. The motion passed unanimously

• Lincoln Technical Institute – 5 year Study

The Board reviewed the five-year study presented by Lincoln Technical Institute and the results of a site visit to the Shelton Campus on November 9,2021. Mary Dietmann made a motion, seconded by Cynthia Arpin, to approve the five-year study. The motion passed unanimously.

SCOPE OF PRACTICE

Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant, DPH provided a summary of 42 nursing scope of practice inquiries received by the Department of Public Health during January 2022.

MEMORANDA OF DECISION

Donna Duncan, RN. Petition No. 2020-1231

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco to affirm the Memorandum of Decision in the matter of Donna Duncan, RN which imposes a revocation of her license. The motion passed unanimously.

Leah Pressley, RN Petition No. 2020-441t

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann to affirm the Memorandum of Decision in the matter of Leah Pressley, RN which imposes a revocation of her license. The motion passed unanimously.

Dazella Peoples, LPN Petition No. 2020-588t

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco to affirm the Memorandum of Decision in the matter of Dazella Peoples, LPN which imposes a reprimand. The motion passed unanimously.

Nichelle Robinson, RN Petition No. 2021-516

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann to affirm the Memorandum of Decision in the matter of Nichelle Robinson, RN which imposes a reprimand and probation for a period of six months. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Dawne Catuccio, RN.- Petition No. 2022-169

Staff Attorney Aden Baume presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension in this matter. Respondent was present and was represented. By Attorney Ellen Costello.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to grant the motion for Summary Suspension. The Board entered executive session to review confidential privileged health care information. No motions were made and no votes were taken in executive session.

Following executive session, the motion to grant the Summary Suspension failed unanimously.

CONSENT ORDERS

John Torneo, L.P.N.- Petition No. 2020-1120

Staff Attorney Craig Sullivan presented a Consent Order in the matter of John Torneo, LPN. Respondent was not present or represented.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to approve the Consent Order which imposes a reprimand and probation for a period of six months. The motion passed unanimously.

HEARINGS

Olesja Whelan, R.N. Petition No. 2020-336

Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was present with Attorney Ellen Costello.

Attorney Costello made an oral motion for a continuance. Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann to grant a continuance to May 18, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

Break 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Rebecca S. Berlepsch, L.P.N. - Petition No. 2021-946

Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was not present and was not represented. This was a continuation of a hearing which began on February 16, 2022.

Following the close of the hearing the Board conducted fact-finding. Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long to find respondent on all charges. The motion passed unanimously.

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, that Ms. Berlepsch's license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

Corey L. Richmond, RN - Petition No. 2021-48

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was present with Attorney Ellen Costello.

Geraldine Marrocco moved, and Jennifer Long seconded, to grant a Department of Public Health motion to Amended Statement of Charges. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Fact-finding in this case will be scheduled for a future Board meeting

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:24 p.m.