

**BOARD of EXAMINERS FOR NURSING**  
**DATE: December 21, 2022**  
**TIME: 8:30 a.m.**  
**LOCATION: Via Microsoft TEAMS**

**MEETING MINUTES**

Name	Member	Present (Y/N)	DPH STAFF	Present (Y/N)
Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, DNSc, Chairperson	RN Member	y	Stacy Schulman Legal Counsel to the Board	Y
Cynthia L. Arpin, EdD, MSN, RN	RN Member	y	Helen Smith, RN Nurse Consultant	Y
Jason Blando	Public	y	Dianne Bertuccio	Y
Mary E. Dietmann, EdD, APRN, ACNS-BC, CNE	RN Member	y	Attorney Joelle Newton	Y
Lisa S. Freeman, BA	Public	y	Attorney Aden Baume	Y
Jennifer C. Long, APRN, MSN, NNP-BC	APRN Member	y	Attorney Linda Fazzina	Y
Geraldine Marrocco, EdD, APRN, ANP-BC, FAANP	RN Member	y	Attorney Craig Sullivan	Y
Rebecca Martinez, LPN	LPN Member	y	AAG Dan Shapiro	Y
Gina Reiners, PhD, APRN, PMHNP, PMHCNS	RN Member	y		

**CHAIR UPDATES:**

None

No open forum

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Agenda attached)**

Motion to Add AAG Dan Shapiro’s appearance before the Board as New Business and the Reordering of the Agenda  
 Moved by Geri Marrocco and seconded by Cindy Arpin to add AAG Dan Shapiro and Reorder the Agenda  
 The motion passed unanimously.

**MINUTES**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Gerri Marrocco moved to go into Executive Session to discuss impending claim; Cindy Arpin seconded the Motion.

**Executive Session: YES**  
**Quorum: Yes**

**Board was in Executive Session until 9:25 a.m.**

## **The CT CENTER FOR NURSING WORKFORCE, INC. Monthly Update**

Marcia Proto provided an update for the CT Center for Nursing Workforce. She discussed work force development proposals, including two tracks for workforce development and expansion. New NCLEX to be offered in April 2023; four virtual lunch and learn programs starting in January 2023 through April 2023. Collaboration with UCONN school of nursing in its efforts to expand student clinical experiences.

### **SCHOOL ISSUES**

Southern Connecticut State University—Helen Smith, DPH, provided an FYI for the Board that Southern Connecticut State University was granted accreditation until December 31, 2032. Maria Crowell, chairperson of the School of Nursing was also present.

Griffin Hospital School of Allied Health Careers, Practical Nursing Program—Kayla Bennett reported that there are four hybrid offices for faculty office space; one shared suite. Starting on January 3, 2023, the students, in partnership with Bishop Wickie will have clinical hours (observation) in the medical/surgical unit.

Fairfield University Egan School of Nursing—Audrey Beauvais, Associate Dean was present. Helen Smith reported that the school was requesting a permanent waiver for faculty member Ms. “TuTu” Aloma, MPH. Mary Dietmann recused herself from the vote. Geri Marrocco moved to approve the school’s request and Jennifer Long seconded the motion. After some discussion regarding the candidate’s qualifications and the fact that she had a MPH and not a MSN, which is required by CGA SS 20-90-52 (c) (2) “Permanent Waiver,” the board voted unanimously to oppose the motion to grant a permanent waiver to this candidate to teach a mental health course.

A subsequent motion was made by Geri Marrocco and seconded by Jennifer Long with Mary Dietmann’s recusal. The board voted unanimously to approve the candidate’s teaching a population health course for which her MPH qualifies her to teach.

University of Connecticut School of Nursing—Mary Dietmann moved and Geri Marrocco seconded the school’s request for a temporary waiver of 12 months for Ms. Carly Mueller, BSN. It was noted that Ms. Mueller is scheduled to earn her MSN in 2023.

### **CONSENT ORDERS**

Nicholas O’Brien, APRN, RN Petition Nos. 2021-603, 2021-1174 Staff Attorney Joelle Newton

Staff Attorney Newton presented a Consent Order in this matter. Respondent was not present, but was represented by Attorney Nancy DeRoche. Gina Reiners recused herself. Jennifer Long moved and Geri Marrocco seconded to approve the Consent Order as presented and to vacate the Summary Suspension, effective on January 1, 2023. The motion passed unanimously.

Diana Doe, RN Petition No. 2022-204 Staff Attorney Joelle Newton

Staff Attorney Newton presented a Consent Order in this matter. Respondent was not present and not represented by an attorney. Jennifer Long moved and Mary Dietmann seconded to approve the Consent Order as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Kristen Kobylanski, LPN    Petition No. 2021-944    Staff Attorney Joelle Newton

Staff Attorney Newton presented a Consent Order in this matter. Respondent was not present, and was not represented by counsel. Gina Reiners moved and Jennifer Long seconded to approve the Consent Order as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Gregory Orfitelli, RN    Petition No. 2022-714    Staff Attorney Aden Baume

Staff Attorney Baume presented a Consent Order in this matter. Neither Respondent nor counsel for Respondent was present. This was a modification of a previously approved Consent Order. Jennifer Long moved and Gina Reiners seconded to approve the modified Consent Order as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Allison Sewell, RN    Petition No. 2020-53    Staff Attorney Aden Baume

Attorney Baume presented a Consent Order in this matter. Respondent was present, and was not represented by counsel. Jennifer Long moved and Gina seconded to approve the Consent Order as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Jared Spears, RN    Petition No. 2021-559    Staff Attorney Aden Baume

Attorney Baume presented a Consent Order in this matter. Neither Respondent nor counsel for Respondent was present. Jennifer Long moved and Cindy Arpin seconded the motion to approve the Consent Order as presented. The motion was opposed unanimously because it failed to include language that stated that Respondent would withdraw his pending application for a RN license when the Consent Order was approved.

### **REINSTATEMENT CONSENT ORDER**

Jemma R. Wettish, Unlicensed RN    Petition No. 2022-863    Staff Attorney Craig Sullivan

Attorney Sullivan presented the Reinstatement Consent Order in this matter. Respondent was present and was not represented by counsel. Jennifer Long moved and Gina Reiners seconded to approve the Reinstatement Consent Order as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

### **MEMORANDUM OF DECISION**

Sarah Croteau, LPN    Petition No. 2021-739

Respondent was not present and was not represented by counsel. Geri Marrocco moved to affirm the MOD as presented and Jennifer Long seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously for revocation of Respondent's LPN license.

Lynn Dougan, RN    Petition No. 2021-1192

Respondent was not present and was not represented by counsel. Geri Marrocco moved to affirm the MOD as presented and Jennifer Long seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously for revocation of Respondent's license.

Cindy Jean Featherston, RN Petition No. 2020-391

Respondent was not present and was not represented by counsel. Jennifer Long moved to affirm the MOD as presented and Geri Marrocco seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously for a reprimand on Respondent's license.

Nicole Holiday, RN APRN Petition No. 2022-175, 2022-405

Neither Respondent nor counsel for Respondent was present. Gina Reiners recused herself. Jennifer Long moved to affirm the MOD as presented and Geri Marrocco seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously for revocation of Respondent's licenses.

Tammy Piccirillo, LPN Reinstatement

Neither Respondent nor counsel for Respondent was present. Gina Reiners moved and Geri Marrocco seconded a motion to affirm the MOD as presented. The motion passed unanimously for a two-year probation with certain terms and conditions on Respondent's license.

Jennifer Scanlon, RN Petition No. 2021-298

Neither Respondent nor counsel for Respondent was present. Gina Reiners moved and Geri Marrocco seconded a motion to affirm the MOD as presented. The motion passed unanimously for revocation of Respondent's license.

### **MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

Karen Crosby, RN Petition No. 2022-1149 Staff Attorney Joelle Newton

Withdrawn

John E. Rodriguez, RN Petition No. 2022-851 Staff Attorney Craig Sullivan

Neither Respondent nor counsel for Respondent was present. Attorney Sullivan presented a motion for summary suspension in this matter. Jennifer Long moved and Gina Reiners seconded a motion to summarily suspend Respondent's license. The motion passed unanimously.

Nicole Slonski, RN Petition No. 2022-1019 Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina

Attorney Fazzina presented a motion for summary suspension in this matter. Neither Respondent nor Respondent's counsel was present. Respondent had requested a continuance. Cindy Arpin moved and Gina Reiners seconded a motion to deny Respondent's request for a continuance. The motion to deny the continuance request passed unanimously. Gina moved and Geri Marrocco seconded a motion to summarily suspend Respondent's license. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Elizabeth Taylor, RN Petition No. 2022-1273 Staff Attorney Aden Baume

Neither Respondent nor counsel for Respondent was present. Attorney Baume presented a motion for summary suspension in this matter. Geri Marrocco moved and Rebecca Martinez seconded a motion to summarily suspend Respondent's license. The motion passed unanimously.

## PRE-HEARING REVIEW

Patricia Taylor, LPN Petition No. 2022-82 Staff Attorney Joelle Newton

Attorney Newton presented this matter to the Board for its consideration and medical expertise. Respondent was not present but was represented by Attorney Richard Brown who argued that no disciplinary action was warranted in this matter. Attorney Brown stated that Respondent has been a nurse since 1978 and was working in an assisted living facility where there were no on-site supervisors and she, along with four CNAs, were responsible for 47 residents, and Respondent was expected to administer medications to 74 ?? patients. The Board concluded that Respondent was overwhelmed and this incident was a system failure. Jennifer Long commented that Respondent was not a danger to her patients. Cindy Arpin moved and Gina seconded that Respondent's conduct did not rise to warrant any disciplinary action and that no further action by the Board was required. The motion passed unanimously.

## HEARINGS

Gina L. Candelori-Bertola, RN Petition No. 2021-1210 Staff Attorney Craig Sullivan

Neither Respondent nor counsel for Respondent was present. Attorney Sullivan represented the Department. The record evidences that the notice of hearing and USPS tracking confirmed that Respondent had received sufficient notice of the hearing. Also, there was no answer to the statement of charges ("SOC") in the record. Therefore, Attorney Sullivan moved to Deem the Allegations Admitted. Gina Reiners moved and Cindy Arpin seconded the motion to approve the Motion to Deem Allegations Admitted. The motion passed unanimously. Gina Reiners and Jennifer Long seconded the motion to revoke Respondent's license. The motion passed unanimously.

Margaret Dunnan, RN Petition No. 2021-1098 Staff Attorney Aden Baume

Neither Respondent nor counsel for Respondent was present. Attorney Baume represented the Department. The record evidences that the notice of hearing was sent to Respondent's address of record on file with the Department. The TEAMS email link was also sent to Respondent's email address of record. There was no answer to the SOC in the record. Attorney Baume moved to Deem the Allegations Admitted. Jennifer Long moved and Mary Dietmann seconded the motion to Deem Allegations Admitted. The motion passed unanimously. Jennifer Long moved and Gina Reiners seconded to find on all charges that the Department had met its burden of proof. Subsequently, Jennifer Long moved and Geri Marrocco seconded the motion to revoke Respondent's license. The motion passed unanimously.

Candace Staines, RN Petition No. 2022-470 Staff Attorney Joelle Newton

Neither Respondent nor counsel for Respondent was present. Attorney Newton represented the Department. Respondent had requested a continuance, to which the Department did not object. Jennifer Long moved and Gina Reiners seconded a motion to grant Respondent's request for a continuance. The motion passed unanimously.

Danielle Dragon, LPN License Reinstatement Request Staff Attorney Joelle Newton

Respondent was present, but was not represented by counsel. Attorney Newton represented the Department. Attorney Newton supported Respondent's license reinstatement request. The Board moved to adjourn for lunch which would allow them sufficient time to review Respondent's documents which had been previously submitted in September 2022 in addition to more current documents. The lunch recess was for 30 minutes. The hearing reconvened at 1:10 p.m.

After the Board's lunch recess and document review, Geri Long moved and Mary Dietmann seconded to reinstate Respondent's license under a four-year probation with certain terms and conditions. The motion did not pass. Subsequently, Chair Bouffard moved and Mary Dietmann seconded to reinstate Respondent's license under a two-year probation with certain terms and conditions, such as employer and therapy reports, monthly urine screens, anonymous support group meetings 8 to 10 times a month, no independent practice, no Home Health Care and a 6-month narcotics key restriction. The motion passed unanimously.

Jacquelyn O'Connor, LPN Petition No. 2020-845 Staff Attorney Aden Baume

Respondent was not present, but was represented by counsel, Attorney Ellen Costello. A tentative Consent Order was negotiated, but had not been executed. Attorney Baume requested a continuance in order to effectuate signatures for the Consent Order. Gina Reiners moved and Rebecca Martinez seconded a motion to grant the Department the continuance request. The motion passed unanimously.

Brian Pervis, APRN, RN Petition Nos. 2020-487, 2022-338 Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina

Respondent was present and was represented by Attorney Christina Canales. Attorney Fazzina represented the Department. Jennifer Long moved and Rebecca Martinize moved to go into executive session to discuss personally identifiable documents and information. No votes were taken while in executive session. After the Department rested, the Board conducted fact finding. Geri Marrocco moved and Mary seconded to find that the Department met its burden of proof regarding paragraphs 1, 2 and 2b of the SOC. Geri Marrocco moved and Mary seconded a motion to recommend a civil penalty of \$2,000 to be imposed on Respondent's license for his failure to secure his password and access to an office shared computer. The motion passed unanimously.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m., on a motion made by Cindy Arpin and seconded by Geri Long. The motion passed unanimously.

Patricia C Bouffard, RN, D.NSc  
Chairperson, Board of Examiners for Nursing