

CALL TO ORDER 8:32AM

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

DATE: October 2, 2024

TIME: 8:30 AM

LOCATION: Via Microsoft TEAMS

MEETING MINUTES

Name	Member	Present (Y/N)		DPH STAFF	Present (Y/N)
Gina Reiners, PhD, APRN, PMHNP-BC, PMHCNS-BC, Chairperson	RN Member	Y		Liz Bannon, AAG	Y
Cynthia L. Arpin, EdD, MSN, RN	RN Member	Y		Ryan Burns, DPH	Y
Salvatore Diaz, DNP, MSN, RN	RN Member	Y		Joelle Newton, DPH	Y
Mary E. Dietmann, EdD, RN, ACNS-BC, CNE	RN Member	Y		Aden Baume, DPH	Y
Lisa Freeman, BA	Public Member	Y		Anthony Nanni, DPH	Y
Rebecca Martinez, LPN	LPN Member	Y		Linda Fazzina, DPH	Y
Camille Payne, APRN	APRN Member	Y		Brett Moody, DPH	Y
Cheryl-Ann Resha, EdD, MSN, RN, FNASN, FAAN	Public Member	Y		Helen Smith, DPH	Y
Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez, DNP, MSN, MPH, RN	RN Member	Y		Inna Erlikh, DPH	Y
				Meaghan Christinat, DPH	Y
				Stacy Schulman, DPH	Y
				Laura Morris, DPH	Y
				Betty Rozario, DPH	Y
				Laurie Falaro, DPH	Y
				Dana Dalton, DPH	Y
				Charai Bellini, DPH	Y
				Sara Montauti, DPH	Y
				Lavita Sookram, DPH	Y
				Lisa Yu, DPH	Y
				Melissa Cope, DPH	Y
				Luis Maldonado, DPH	Y
				Patricia Calderone, DPH	Y
				Gillian VanderVliet, DPH	Y

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2024, REGULAR MEETING

The draft minutes of the September 18, 2024, meeting were reviewed. Rebecca Martinez moved to approve the minutes with one amendment to correct the spelling of a name. Lisa Freedman seconded the motion. Cynthia Arpin abstained. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Tusheika Horton, RN, Petition No. 2022-1103. Staff Attorney Anthony Nanni represented the Department. The Respondent was in attendance and requested a continuance of the motion to which the Board denied. Mary Dietmann moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension as the Respondent represents a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety if allowed to continue the practice of nursing. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Kyra E. Kulas, RN Petition No. 2024-1302. Staff Attorney Anthony Nanni represented the Department. Both Respondent and Counsel, Attorney Richard Brown were in attendance. Attorney Nanni provided a synopsis of the matter. Opposing counsel submitted a written objection to the Motion for Summary Suspension which Attorney Brown was given the opportunity to present to the Board. The Department then provided an oral response to the objection.

Cheryl-Ann Resha moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension as the Respondent represents a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety if allowed to continue the practice of nursing. Lisa Freeman seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Christina L Perullo, LPN, Petition No. 2023-910. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton represented the Department. The Respondent was not in attendance. Lisa Freeman moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension as the Respondent represents a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety if allowed to continue the practice of nursing. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Candace Staines, RN, Petition No. 2022-470. Cheryl-Ann Resha moved to approve the Memorandum of Decision. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

MODIFICATION CONSENT ORDER

Nicole L. Ring, RN, Petition No. 2024-1154. Staff Attorney Anthony Nanni represented the Department. The Respondent was present. Cheryl-Ann Resha moved to approve the Modification Consent Order. Lisa Freeman seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

PRE-HEARING REVIEW

Karla Davila, LPN, Petition No. 2022-566. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton represented the Department. After consideration of Attorney Newton's presentation of evidence, the Board recommended that the Department proceed with summarily suspending the Respondent.

HEARINGS

*Alexandra Kavanagh, RN, Petition No. 2023-249. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton represented the Department. Both Respondent and Attorney Ellen Costello were in attendance.

Lisa Freeman made a motion, seconded by Rebecca Martinez to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing confidential information. The motion was approved by roll call vote. The Board entered executive session at 10:09 a.m. All members of the Board (with the exception of Salvatore Diaz and Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez), Assistant Attorney General Elizabeth Bannon, Staff Attorney Joelle Newton,

the Respondent, Attorney Costello and the stenographer were present during executive session. There were no votes taken during the executive session. Public session resumed at 10:28 a.m.

Following the close of the hearing, the Board conducted fact-finding. Cheryl-Ann Resha made a motion that the Department of Public Health has met their burden of proof with regard to all allegations (paragraphs 1-9) within the statement of charges. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Cheryl-Ann Resha made a motion that Respondent's professional license should be revoked. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Kristina Jankowski, RN, Petition No. 2023-851. Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina appeared for the Department. Both Respondent and Attorney Ellen Costello were in attendance.

Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez made a motion, seconded by Cynthia Arpin to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing confidential information. The motion was approved by roll call vote. The Board entered executive session at 12:00 p.m. All members of the Board (with the exception of Salvatore Diaz), Assistant Attorney General Elizabeth Bannon, Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina, the Respondent, Attorney Costello and the stenographer were present during executive session. There were no votes taken during the executive session. Public session resumed at 1:01 p.m.

Following the close of the hearing, the Board conducted fact-finding. Lisa Freedman made a motion that the Department of Public Health has met their burden of proof with regard to all allegations (paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6) within the statement of charges. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Lisa Freedman made a motion that the Respondent should be placed on a one year probation and submit monthly employer reports and monthly therapy reports focusing on Respondent's capability of safe practice in all settings. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

*Kristen J. Phillips, LPN, Petition No. 2023-648. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton appeared for the Department. Respondent was present without representation.

The Respondent gave an oral response to the Statement of Charges and both the Board and Department Exhibits were entered for the record.

Rebecca Martinez made a motion, seconded by Cheryl-Ann Resha to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing confidential information. The motion was approved by roll call vote. The Board entered executive session at 2:23 p.m. All members of the Board (with the exception of Salvatore Diaz, Mary Dietmann & Camille Payne), Assistant Attorney General Elizabeth Bannon, Staff Attorney Joelle Newton, the Respondent and the stenographer were present during executive session. There were no votes taken during the executive session. Public session resumed at 2:35 p.m.

Executive session resumed from 2:39 p.m. until 2:45 p.m. During this time, the Respondent requested a continuance. The Department had no objection, to which the Board granted the Respondent's request. This hearing will be continued at a future date.

ADJOURNMENT

Lisa Freeman made a motion to adjourn. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:57 p.m.