

CALL TO ORDER 8:32AM

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING**

**DATE: September 4, 2024**

**TIME: 8:30 AM**

**LOCATION: Via Microsoft TEAMS**

**MEETING MINUTES**

| Name  | Member        | Present (Y/N) | DPH and OAG 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             | Alina Bricklin-Goldstein, AAG | Y             |
| Salvatore Diaz, DNP, MSN, RN                              | RN Member     | Y             | Ryan Burns, DPH               | Y             |
| Mary E. Dietmann, EdD, APRN, ACNS-BC, CNE                 | RN Member     | Y             | Joelle Newton, DPH            | Y             |
| Lisa Freeman, BA  | Public        | Y             | Aden Baume, DPH               | Y             |
| Rebecca Martinez, LPN                                     | LPN Member    | N             | Anthony Nanni, DPH            | Y             |
| Camille Payne, APRN                                       | APRN Member   | Y             | Stacy Schulman, DPH           | Y             |
| Cheryl-Ann Resha  | Public Member | Y             | Brett Moody, DPH              | Y             |
|   |               |               | Joelle Newton, DPH            | Y             |
|   |               |               | Linda Fazzina, DPH            | Y             |
|   |               |               | Helen Smith, DPH              | Y             |
|   |               |               | Susanne Cammarata, DPH        | Y             |
|   |               |               | Chris Andreson, DPH           | Y             |
|   |               |               | Meaghan Christinat, DPH       | Y             |
|   |               |               | Elona Enesi, DPH              | Y             |
|   |               |               | Laura Morris, DPH             | Y             |
|   |               |               | Mary Green, 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             |
|   |               |               | Elizabeth Leung, DPH          | Y             |
|   |               |               | Luis Maldonado, DPH           | Y             |
|   |               |               | Joyce Berardis, DPH           | Y             |

|  |  |  |  |                          |   |
|--|--|--|--|--------------------------|---|
|  |  |  |  | Gillian VanderVliet, DPH | Y |
|  |  |  |  | Jayne O'Mara, DPH        | Y |
|  |  |  |  | Alexandra Quental, DPH   | Y |
|  |  |  |  | Linda Smith, DPH         | Y |
|  |  |  |  | Francesca Testa, DPH     | Y |

**MINUTES OF AUGUST 21, 2024, REGULAR MEETING**

The draft minutes of the August 21, 2024, meeting were reviewed. Salvatore Diaz moved to approve the minutes. Lisa Freeman seconded the motion. Mary Dietmann and Cheryl-Ann Resha abstained. The remaining members voted and approved the motion.

**SCHOOL BUSINESS**

Goodwin University – Practical Nursing Program 1<sup>st</sup> Quarterly Report

Vivienne Friday, Dean of Nursing and Health Professions, Karyn Therrien, LPN Program Director and Michael Pardales, Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs appeared on behalf of Goodwin University. Vivienne Friday gave an informational summary related to specific criteria requested by the Board. Goodwin will return at a future meeting and present their 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarterly Report. No votes were taken.

**SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

Dianne P. Beckford, RN, Petion No. 2024-125. Staff Attorney Anthony Nanni represented the Department. The Respondent was not present. Mary Dietmann moved to grant the summary suspension as the Respondent supplied inaccurate information regarding her education and presents a clear and immediate danger to the public. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Nicole L. Ring, RN, Petion No. 2024-1154. Staff Attorney Anthony Nanni represented the Department. The Respondent was present. Mary Dietmann made a motion to grant the summary suspension as the Respondent presents a clear and immediate danger to the public. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Fernando L. Roldan, RN, Petion No. 2024-1118. Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina represented the Department. The Respondent was present. Cheryl-Ann Resha made a motion to grant the summary suspension as the Respondent presents a clear and immediate danger to the public. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion. Gina Reiners recused herself and Cynthia Arpin stood in as Chair. The remaining members voted and approved the motion.

**MEMORANDUM OF DECISION**

Varene Semone Holman, RN, Petition No. 2023-242. The Respondent was not present. Salvatore Diaz moved to approve the memorandum of decision. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Carol Pulliam, RN, Petition No. 2022-413. The respondent was not present. Mary Dietmann made a motion to approve the memorandum of decision. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

**CONSENT ORDER**

Lunie LaFrance, RN, Petion No. 2024-364. Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina represented the Department. The Respondent was not present. Cheryl-Ann Resha moved to approve the consent order. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion. Salvatore Diaz abstained. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Nicole A. Olenechuk, RN, Petion No. 2020-976. Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina represented the Department. The Respondent was not present. Mary Dietmann moved to approve the consent order. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

### **FACT FINDING**

\*Noreen Espeut-Richards, RN, Petion No. 2022-1100. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton represented the Department. The Respondent was not present.

The Board conducted fact-finding in relation to the hearing that was previously held during the August 21, 2024, meeting.

Mary Dietmann made a motion that the Department of Public Health has met their burden of proof and that the Respondent be found on all charges (#1-13) of the statement of charges. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Mary Dietmann made a motion for remedy of revocation. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

### **HEARINGS**

\*Cindy Bristol, RN, Petition No. 2022-1094, 2024-1143. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton represented the Department. The Respondent was present and represented herself.

Following the close of the hearing, the Board conducted fact-finding. Mary Dietmann made a motion that the Department of Public Health has met their burden of proof and that the Respondent be found on all charges (paragraphs 1-13) of the amended statement of charges. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Mary Dietmann made a motion for remedy of revocation. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Athena Fidas, RN, Petition No. 2022-862. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton appeared for the Department. Both Respondent and Attorney Leonhardt were in attendance.

Salvatore Diaz 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 1:04 p.m. All members of the Board (with the exception of Rebecca Martinez), Assistant Attorneys General Elizabeth Bannon and Alina Bricklin-Goldstein, Staff Attorney Joelle Newton, the Respondent, Attorney Leonhardt and the stenographer were present during executive session. There were no votes taken during the executive session. Public session resumed at 1:20 p.m.

Following the close of the hearing, the Board conducted fact-finding. Cynthia Arpin made a motion that the Department of Public Health has met their burden of proof and that the Respondent be found on all charges (paragraphs 1-6) of the statement of charges. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion. Camille Payne abstained. The remaining members voted and approved the motion.

Cynthia Arpin made a motion for remedy of reprimand which includes a \$3,000 fine and probation up to six months, pending successful completion of training authorization by DPH covering topics such as Public Health Emergencies and Pandemics. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Cheryl-Ann Resha made a motion to adjourn. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.