

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on April 18, 2018 at the Department of Public Health Complex, Room 470-C, 470 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, Chair
Mary M. Brown, RN
Elizaida Delgado, LPN
Mary Dietmann, RN
Jennifer Long, APRN
Geraldine Marrocco, RN
Gina M. Reiners, RN

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Lisa S. Freeman, Public Member
Aimee Ballard, LPN

ALSO PRESENT: Alfreda Gaither, Legal Counsel to the Board, DPH
Kathleen Boulware, Public Health Services Manager, DPH
Helen Smith, RN, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Matthew Antonetti, Principal Attorney, DPH
Brittany Allen, Staff Attorney, DPH
Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, DPH
Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, DPH
Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney, DPH
Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist, DPH
Agnieszka Salek, Hearings Liaison, DPH
Gail Gregoriades, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

STUDENTS

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from Central Connecticut State College and the University of Hartford.

CHAIR UPDATES

Nothing to report.

OPEN FORUM

Nothing to report.

NATIONAL COUNCIL STATE BOARDS OF NURSING

Chair Bouffard provided a synopsis of the National Council State Boards of Nursing midyear meeting which was held on March 5-7, 2018.

MINUTES

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, to approve the minutes from February 21, 2018. The motion passed with all in favor except Mary Brown and Geraldine Marrocco who abstained.

SCHOOL ISSUES

Connecticut Community College Nursing Program

Representatives from the Connecticut Community College Nursing Programs (CT-CCNP) were present to discuss planned curriculum changes submitted by the CT-CCNP.

Following a review of the plan and discussion Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners, to approve the curriculum changes which will take effect in 2019. The motion passed unanimously.

Connecticut League for Nursing – Educational Program Statistics

Marcia Proto, Executive Director, was present on behalf of the Connecticut League for Nursing (CLN).

The Board reviewed the 2017 nursing program statistics compiled by CLN. These results will be added to Board's web-site when finalized.

SCOPE OF PRACTICE

Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant, DPH provided a summary of nursing scope of practice inquiries received by the Department of Public Health in February and March 2018.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Lori Riley, RN

Mary Dietmann moved to affirm the Board's prior decision revoking Ms. Riley's registered nurse license. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Long and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

REINSTATEMENT HEARING REQUEST – RENEE DEVOE, RN

The Board reviewed a request filed by Renee Devoe asking for a hearing regarding reinstatement of her registered nurse license.

Ms. Devoe was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Mary Dietmann made a motion, seconded by Gina Reiners, to grant Ms. Devoe's hearing request. The hearing will be scheduled for June 20, 2018.

REQUEST FOR MODIFICATION OF MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Lynn Fletcher, R.N., A.P.R.N. - Petition No. 2016-517; 2016-749

The Board reviewed request filed by Lynn Fletcher asking for a modification of a Memorandum of Decision issued by the Board on May 17, 2017.

Principal Attorney Matthew Antonetti was present for the Department of Public Health. Attorney Richard Brown was present on behalf of Ms. Fletcher

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to amend the Memorandum of Decision by adding tolling language. The Amended Memorandum of Decision will be signed at the May meeting

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Jeannette Czaja, LPN - Petition No. 2016-1423

Staff Attorney Brittany Allen presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Jeannette Czaja. Ms. Czaja was not present and was not represented by counsel. Jennifer Long 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. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order. A hearing will be scheduled for May 16, 2018.

Michael Sean Flanagan, R.N. - Petition No. 2018-1375

In lieu of a Motion for Summary Suspension, Matthew Antonetti, Principal Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Motion to Withdraw Statement of Charges based on respondent's surrender of his license. Counsel for Mr. Flanagan was also present. Gina Reiners moved and Mary Dietmann seconded, to grant the Department's motion to withdraw charges. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

CONSENT ORDERS

Nicole Miller, L.P.N - Petition No. 2016-478

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton, Department of Public Health presented the Board with a Consent Order for Nicole Miller. Ms. Miller was not present and was not represented by counsel. Gina Reiners moved and Mary Dietmann seconded, to approve the Consent Order as written. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order which imposes probation for a period of four years.

Nilce Conti, R.N. - Petition No. 2016-1158

Staff Attorney Brittany Allen, Department of Public Health presented the Board with a Consent Order for Nilce Conti. Counsel for Ms. Conti was present. The Board rejected a proposed Consent Order in this matter on September 20, 2017. Mary Dietmann moved and Jennifer Long seconded, to approve the Consent Order as written. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order which imposes a reprimand, probation for a period of six months and a \$7500.00 civil penalty.

Mary Howe, R.N - Petition No. 2015-370

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton, Department of Public Health presented the Board with a Consent Order for Nicole Miller. Ms. Howe was present with Attorney Richard Brown. The Board conducted a pre-hearing review in this matter on May 17, 2017. Mary Brown moved and Mary Dietmann seconded, to approve the Consent Order as written. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order which imposes a reprimand and probation for a period of three years.

Tonya Verdejo, R.N - Petition No. 2017-378

Matthew Antonetti, Principal Attorney, Department of Public Health presented the Board with a Consent Order for Tonya Verdejo. Ms. Verdejo was present with Attorney Richard Brown. The Board conducted a pre-hearing review in this matter on February 21, 2018. Mary Dietmann moved and Mary Brown seconded, to approve the Consent Order as written. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order which imposes a suspension until November 2018 with concurrent probation for four years.

PREHEARING REVIEW

Timothy Dolan, R.N. - Petition No. 2015-503

Matthew Antonetti, Principal Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a pre-hearing review in the matter of Timothy Dolan, RN. Mr. Dolan was present but was not represented by counsel.

Following review, Chair Bouffard Mary Dietmann and Gina Reiners spoke recommending dismissal of this case. Mary Brown recommended a six month probation with employer reports.

Cynthia Riley, L.P.N - Petition No. 2017-820

Staff Attorney Diane Wilan, Department of Public Health presented a pre-hearing review in the matter of Cynthia Riley, LPN. Ms. Riley was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Following review the Board recommended a Consent Order imposing a two year probation with employer reports and a prohibition from providing home care.

HEARINGS

Joseph Iannicelli, LPN - Petition No. 2017-26

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was present but was not represented. Respondent answered the charges on the record.

On a motion by Geraldine Marrocco, seconded by Gina Reiners, this hearing is continued to July 18, 2018.

Shannon Eustace, L.P.N. - Petition No. 2017-603

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

Gina Reiners made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, that the Board grant the Department of Public Health's oral motion to deem the allegations admitted based on an Answer to the Statement of Charges not being filed. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Gina Reiners moved and Geraldine Marrocco seconded that Ms. Eustace be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Gina Reiners moved and Geraldine Marrocco seconded that Ms. Eustace's license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

Brian Gross, RN - Petition No. 2017-1504

Staff Attorney Diane Wilan was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was present but was not represented. Respondent answered the charges on the record.

Gina Reiners moved and Mary Brown seconded to enter executive session to take testimony pertaining to confidential treatment records. The motion passed unanimously. The Board entered executive session from 1:40p.m to 2:10 p.m. No motions were made and no votes were taken in executive session.

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

Mary Brown moved and Geraldine Marrocco seconded that Mr. Gross be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Brown moved and Geraldine Marrocco seconded that Mr. Gross' license be suspended until October 1, 2018 with concurrent probation followed by an additional probationary period of four years. The motion passed unanimously.

Gina Reiners left at 2:20 p.m.

Frances Pisaturo, LPN - Petition No. 2017-658

Staff Attorney Brittany Allen was present for the Department of Public Health.

Respondent was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Mary Brown, that the Board grant the Department of Public Health's oral motion to deem the allegations admitted based on an Answer to the Statement of Charges not being filed. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Jennifer Long moved and Geraldine Marrocco seconded that Ms. Eustace be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long moved and Geraldine Marrocco seconded that Ms. Eustace's license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 2:45 p.m.

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