

GEORGIA BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES

A Committee Meeting of the **LPN Investigative Sub-Committee** of the Georgia Board of Examiners of Licensed Practical Nurses was held on Friday, April 6, 2007, beginning at 2:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Barbara Mitchell, RN, NHA, Cognizant Board member

MEMBERS ABSENT

OTHERS PRESENT:

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director, Allied Health Fields
Janet Jackson, Assistant Attorney General (by Video-Conference)
Lynn Eason, Investigations Supervisor
Merry Cagle, Investigator
Tracy Chrastian, Investigator
Serena Gadson, Application Specialist II

The committee meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m.

Ms. Mitchell moved, Mr. Zimmerman seconded and the committee voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. §43-1-2(k)(1), (2) and (4); §43-1-19(h)(2), (3) and (4) and O.C.G.A. §43-1-19(h); 50-14-2(1) to deliberate on investigations and receive information on investigations. Voting in favor of the motion were Ms. Mitchell and Mr. Zimmerman. The committee concluded executive session and will present its recommendations to the full Board.

Complaints: LPN060161, 070072, 070073 and 070141

The committee was charged by the full board to meet with the SOS Investigators and the Attorney General's office representative to discuss the pending complaint cases involving the alleged misrepresentation by a number of Georgia businesses who claim to be a Georgia LPN Board approved nursing education program. In addition, Mr. Zimmerman presented a number of correspondences from numerous sources regarding the alleged falsification of transcripts, and a possible tie in to the respondents in the several open complaints currently under investigation by the Board.

Following discussion, and based on the potential threat to the general public of the accusations of fraudulent credentials involving currently licensed LPN's possibly practicing in the state, the committee felt it was necessary to obtain the following additional information prior to the Board's scheduled meeting in May 2007:

- The committee provided additional guidance to Investigator Cagle to pursue additional information from the respondent and principals in one open case.
- In addition, interviews are to be conducted with currently licensed LPN(s) who have provided credentials from the alleged non-approved nursing programs.
- Request Investigations subpoena student records from the respondent in open complaint LPN070072.
- Request investigations determine the clinical sites the respondent in open complaint LPN070072 is utilizing.
- Mr. Zimmerman will contact the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) to request assistance in the investigations and to determine if these foreign nursing programs are accredited.

The committee in conjunction with SOS Investigations will present their findings to the full Board during their next scheduled meeting.

Their being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Minutes Recorded/Reviewed By: Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director

Mary Lynn Owensby, Board President

Date

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director

Date