

The Georgia Board of Nursing met Thursday, October 6, 2016 via conference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

## **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2016**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Janice Izlar RN, CRNA, DNAP, President  
Amy Hooper, LPN, Vice President  
Brenda Rowe, RN, MN, JD  
Kellie Lockwood, RN, MSN  
Dellarie Shilling, RN, DNP, FNP-BC  
Blair Train, Consumer Member  
Merry Fort, RN  
Tracey Blalock, RN, MSN, MBA, NEA-BC

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Nancy Barton, RN, MSN  
Julia Worthy, RN, MSN  
Linda Floyd, RN, EdD, PMHNP-BC  
Andrea Phipps, LPN  
Tina Fletcher, LPN

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Jim Cleghorn, Executive Director  
Janet Freeman, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline  
Edye Tillman-Johnson, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline  
Tara Miller, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline  
Kirsten Daughdril, JD, Assistant Attorney General

### **VISITORS PRESENT**

Lisa Durden, Director, Professional Licensing Boards Division

Izlar called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 6, 2016.

### **PROPOSED POLICY**

Cleghorn provided an overview of the need for a policy to allow out of state nurses to evacuate with their patients impacted by Hurricane Matthew.

Daughdril provided historical information from the Attorney General's Office and explained that the Board utilize the exception provided in O.C.G.A. §43-26-12(a)(2) or could adopt a policy to provide guidelines.

Cleghorn presented the following language for the Board's consideration.

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. §§ 43-26-12(a)(2), 43-26-41(a)(2), licensed practical nurses and registered professional nurses who hold unencumbered licenses in Florida and/or South Carolina (hereinafter "the out-of-state nurses"), may work in established healthcare systems in Georgia, including public health, or in locations that have been approved by the out-of-state's healthcare entity's licensing authority as an emergency shelter, if:

- (1) The nurse is employed by a healthcare entity licensed in Florida or South Carolina or a healthcare/public health system in Florida or South Carolina;
- (2) The healthcare entity or healthcare/public health system assumes liability under the relevant statute for each Florida and/or South Carolina RN and/or LPN;

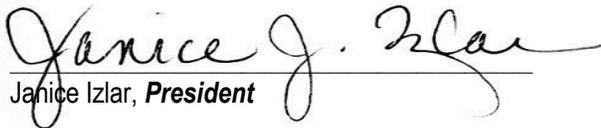
- (3) The out-of-state nurses are rendering patient/clinical care only to those patients who have been evacuated from the state in which the out-of-state nurse is licensed; and
- (4) The out-of-state healthcare entity and/or healthcare/public health system verifies the licensure of each of the out-of-state LPNs and RNs and provides a name and license number for each of the out-of-state nurses to the Georgia Board of Nursing within 24 hours after the nurse has entered Georgia.

Lockwood questioned if the proposed language needed to be broader to allow for emergencies beyond Hurricane Matthew. Daughdril explained that the Board may wish to consider adopting the proposed language and considering a longer term solution at a future meeting. Rowe supported the limited language and noted that additional consideration could be given if a broader policy was needed.

Train moved that the Board adopt the policy as presented and forward the policy to the Governor's Office for review and approval. Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Fort requested that the issue be included on the November 16-18, 2016 meeting agenda.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Thursday, October 6, 2016 at 3:20 p.m.

  
Janice Izlar, **President**

  
James D. Cleghorn, **Executive Director**