

The Investigative Committee of the Georgia Board of Nursing met Thursday, August 2, 2018 via conference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

## **THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 2018**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Julia Worthy, RN, MSN  
Darrell Thompson, RN, DNP, ACNP-BC, FNP-BC  
Nancy Barton, RN, MSN  
Tracey Blalock, RN, MSN, MBA, NEA-BC

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Tina Fletcher, LPN

### **STAFF PRESENT**

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

Worthy called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 2, 2018.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Blalock moved, Barton seconded and the Committee voted to enter into **Executive Session** in accordance with O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-2(k); 43-1-19(h), 43-26-5(c) and 43-26-11, to deliberate on applications and enforcement matters and to receive information on applications, investigative reports and pending cases. The motion passed unanimously.

At the conclusion of the Executive Session on Thursday, August 2, 2018 Worthy declared the meeting to be “open” pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act, O.C.G.A. §§ 50-14-1 et seq. No votes were taken during Executive Session.

### **INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE CASES**

(**LPNI** = Licensed Practical Nurse Investigative Case Number) (**RNI**=Registered Nurse Investigative Case Number)

Blalock moved to present the following recommendations to the Board.

**LPNI180350** – Refer to Investigations to obtain patient records from the facility and any investigative records from the facility. Refer complaint to the Department of Community Health.

**RNI181101** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**LPNI180354** – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing and read A Nurses Guide to Social Media and also view the Social Media Guidelines for Nurses video. Barton abstained.

**RNI170174** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**LPNI170488** – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination.

**RNI180634** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a certified addictionologist. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination.

**RNI180719** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a certified addictionologist. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination.

**RNI180160** – Close the case against respondent.

**RNI180995** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a certified addictionologist. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination.

**LPNI170437** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include three (3) years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare), quarterly urine drug screens, Substance Abuse Stipulations, a course in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing and a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct..

**LPNI170120** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$500 for falsifying documentation, courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability in Nurses, Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Client Care and Ethics of Nursing Practice.

**LPNI180283** – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Ethics and Professional Conduct: Striving for a Professional Ideal, Jurisprudence Georgia LPN and Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses.

**RNI180546** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to include an indefinite probation, quarterly reports (personal, employer). Must provide resolution of criminal case within ten (10) days of adjudication. May not practice in settings with controlled substances. Suspend APRN authorization. May continue to practice as an RN. Board reserves the right to take additional action based on resolution of criminal case.

**LPNI180193** – Refer to Investigations if courses not completed by August 10, 2018.

**RNI170220** – Refer for an Investigative Interview.

**RNI170732** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a certified addictionologist. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination. If evidence doesn't support mental physical examination then schedule for an Investigative Interview.

**RNI190083** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a private consent order with a fine of \$500 if the documentation is not received by August 2, 2018.

**RNI170710** – Refer for an Investigative Interview.

**RNI190082** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a private consent order with a fine of \$500 if the documentation has not been received by August 6, 2018.

**RNI180870** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to include five (5) years probation, two (2) years narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare), quarterly hair follicle testing for twelve (12) months, random urine drug screens throughout the order, Substance Abuse Stipulations and a course in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing.

**RNI180664/ RNI181199** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination. Do not allow an extension on the mental physical examination, table multi-state license application pending resolution of complaint.

**RNI180381** – Refer for an Investigative Interview.

**RNI181248** – Refer to Investigations.

**RNI190087** – Refer to the Office of Inspector General.

**RNI180128** - Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include five (5) years probation, two (2) years narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, psychotherapy, medication management), quarterly hair follicle testing for twelve (12) months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, Substance Abuse Stipulations a course in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing and a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct.

**RNI170749** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination within 30 days of the petition.

**RNI181228** – Close with no disciplinary action.

**RNI181433/ RNI160184** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office to lift the suspension with Amendment of 2015 consent order from private to public to include two (2) years probation with a reprimand, a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct, a fine of \$500 for Violation of Consent Order, courses in Professional Wrongdoing: Reconciliation and Recovery, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing.

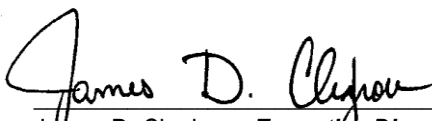
**LPNI180308** - Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination within 30 days of the petition.

**RNI150027** - Refer to the Attorney General's Office to lift suspension of license and for a public consent order to include five (5) years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, psychotherapy), monthly PEth tests for twenty-four (24) months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, Substance Abuse Stipulations and a course in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing.

**RNI180507** - Close with no disciplinary action.

Thompson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Thursday, August 2, 2018 at 5:27 p.m.

  
James D. Cleghorn, **Executive Director**

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF BIBB

**AFFIDAVIT SUPPORTING CLOSING OF  
PUBLIC MEETING**

The Georgia Open Meetings Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 *et seq.*, requires that all meetings of an entity covered by the statute must be open to the public unless there is some specific statutory exception which permits the closing of the meeting. If such a meeting is to be closed, the law requires that the presiding person execute a sworn affidavit stating that the subject matter of the meeting or the closed portion thereof was devoted to matters within the statutory exceptions and identifying those specific exceptions relied upon. O.C.G.A. §50-14-4(b). A copy of this affidavit must be filed with the minutes of the meeting in question.

**Comes now the presiding officer identified below and, before an official duly authorized to administer oaths, makes this affidavit in satisfaction of the statutory requirements outlined above.**

1. I am the presiding officer of the RN Board.
2. I am over the age of 18 and in all other aspects competent to make this sworn statement. I acknowledge that I am giving this statement under oath and penalty of perjury and that I have read the contents of this affidavit prior to signing it.
3. On August 2, 2018 this entity, which is subject to the Open Meetings Act, met. A majority of the quorum of the members present voted to close the meeting or a portion thereof for the following indicated reason(s). I hereby certify that during the closed portion of the meeting, only those subjects indicated below were discussed. I also certify that I have reviewed the exceptions provided under the Open Meetings Act that may permit the closing of a meeting and that, to the best of my knowledge, the reasons I have described in detail below meet the requirements for closing this public meeting.
4. The legal authority for the closure of this meeting was:  
O.C.G.A. 43-1-2(k) and 43-1-19(h)
5. The subject(s) discussed and the underlying facts supporting the closing of this meeting are:  
To deliberate applications and enforcement matters and to receive information on applications and investigative reports.

FURTHER THE AFFIANT SAYETH NOT

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Officer

Sworn and subscribed before me  
This 2nd day of August 2018

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

