

The Investigative Committee of the Georgia Board of Nursing met Thursday, June 28, 2018 via conference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

## **THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 2018**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Julia Worthy, RN, MSN  
Darrell Thompson, RN, DNP, ACNP-BC, FNP-BC  
Nancy Barton, RN, MSN  
Tina Fletcher, LPN

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Tracey Blalock, RN, MSN, MBA, NEA-BC

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Jim Cleghorn, Executive Director  
Edey Tillman-Johnson, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline  
Tara Miller, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline  
Mary Brannen, JD, Assistant Attorney General

Worthy called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 28, 2018.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Barton moved, Thompson 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, June 28, 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)

Thompson moved to present the following recommendations to the Board.

**LPNI180189** – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Resident’s Rights, and Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing.

**RNI180400** – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for an expedited 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.

**RNI180235** – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know. Barton abstained.

**RNI180759** – Close the case with a Letter of Concern (Failure to Disclose).

**RNI180904** – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Difficult or Challenging? Dealing with Patients, Ethics and Professional Conduct and Elder Abuse (Patient Abuse).

**RNI180959** – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for an indefinite suspension. May petition to lift twelve months from the docket date and with submission of completion of courses in Ethics of Nursing Practice, Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Client Care,

Risk Advisor for Advanced Practice Nurses: EBP Protects Against Litigation, Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses and Georgia Nurse Practice Act – RN.

**RNI180325** – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a public consent order five (5) years probation, two (2) years narcotic restriction, to include a reprimand of a fine of \$500 for violation of the Consent order, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare psychotherapy from addictionologist) quarterly hair follicle testing for 24 months, quarterly urine drug screen throughout the order, Substance Abuse Stipulations and a course in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing.

**RNI180973** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**RNI181215** – Send an Investigative Letter requesting courses in Ethics of Nursing Practice, Professional Boundaries in Nursing, and Nurse Practice Act/Jurisprudence course.

**LPNI180198** – Send an Investigative Letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing, Communication with Cognitively Impaired Clients and Difficult or Challenging? Dealing with Patients.

**RNI170343** – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct, courses in Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Jurisprudence-Georgia RN, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing and Narcotic Drugs: Handling and Documentation.

**RNI170485** – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$500 for Substandard Care, courses in Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing, Professional Wrongdoing: Reconciliation and Recovery, Principles of Safe Prescribing and Risk Advisor for Nursing Professionals: Reducing Legal Risk While Caring for Patients.

**RNI180967** – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for an expedited 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. Mental physical examination cannot be performed by licensee’s psychiatrist.

**RNI170935** – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for an expedited inpatient 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.

**RNI180177** – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a public consent order to include three (3) years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, psychotherapy), urine drug screens, Substance Abuse Stipulations and a course in Ethics and Professional Conduct: Striving for a Professional Ideal.

**RNI181196** – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office to license with a public consent agreement to include five (5) years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare) monthly PEth tests for 24 months and quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, Substance Abuse Stipulations and a course in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing.

**RNI181395** – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a public consent agreement to include a fine of \$500 for Failure to Disclose.

**RNI181407** – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a public consent agreement to include five (5) years probation, two (2) years narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare), random urine drug screens throughout the order, Substance Abuse Stipulations and work setting restrictions. May petition to lift with five (5) years documented continuous sobriety.

**LPNI180402** – License by endorsement with Letter of Concern (Criminal).

**RNI181102** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**LPNI170427** – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct, courses in Documentation Accurate and Legal, Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Ethics of Nursing Practice and Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills.

**LPNI180403** – License with a Letter of Concern (Criminal).

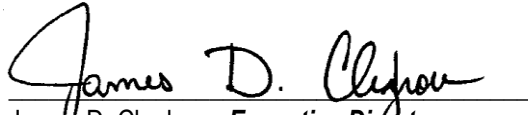
**RNI180772** – Refer to for an Investigative Interview.

**RNI180026** – Close with no disciplinary action.

**RNI181417** – Close with no disciplinary action.

Barton seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Thursday, June 28, 2018 at 4:47 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 June 28, 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 28th day of June 2018

  
Notary Public

