

The Investigative Committee of the Georgia Board of Nursing met Thursday, January 31, 2019 via conference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

## **THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2019**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Debra Amick  
Tammy Bryant, RN, MSN  
Linda Floyd, RN, EdD, PMHNP-BC  
Merry Fort, RN  
K. Andrea Phipps, LPN

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Janet Freeman, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline  
Edye Tillman-Johnson, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline  
Tara Miller Nursing, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline  
Mary Brannen, JD, Assistant Attorney General

Bryant called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. on Thursday, January 31, 2019.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Amick moved, Floyd 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, January 31, 2019 Bryant 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)

Phipps moved to present the following recommendations to the Board.

**LPNI190114** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**LPNI190141** – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Action: What Every Nurse Should Know, Resident’s Rights, Difficult or Challenging: Dealing with Patients, and Restraint Use: Evidence Based Practice.

**RNI190246** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**RNI190624** – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a private consent order to include a fine of \$500 for CE violation.

**RNI170980** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**RNI180444** – Refer for an Investigative Interview.

**LPNI190027** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**RNI181127** – 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.

**LPNI170306** – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Professional Boundaries in Nursing, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing, Jurisprudence – Georgia LPN and Narcotic Drugs: Handling and Documentation.

**RNI190403** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to include five (5) years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, psychotherapy, medication management) substance abuse stipulations, quarterly hair follicle analysis for 12 months (Hairstat 5), monthly PEth for 12 months, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout order, standard work restrictions and a course in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing.

**LPNI190045** – Close case with a Letter of Concern (Unprofessional Conduct).

**RNI190141** – Refer for an Investigative Interview. Bryant abstained.

**LPNI170426** – Make contact with licensee during renewal period, if unsuccessful, close the case.

**LPNI180283** – Make contact with licensee during renewal period, if unsuccessful, close the case.

**RNI180018** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**RNI140267** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office to lift suspension with a public consent order to include five (5) years probation, two (2) years narcotic restriction, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, psychotherapy), substance abuse stipulations, standard work restrictions, quarterly hair follicle tests for 24 months, monthly PEth for 24 months, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order and courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know and Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing.

**LPNI180031 (AW)** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to include a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct and courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Documentation: Accurate and Legal and Disciplinary Action: What Every Nurse Should Know.

**LPNI180031(JT)** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to include a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct and courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Documentation: Accurate and Legal and Disciplinary Action: What Every Nurse Should Know.

**RNI190193(JJ)** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**RNI190193(TJ)** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**RNI190148** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**RNI190170** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**RNI180763** – Table.

**RNI171098** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination. If not compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of MPE within 30 days of petition.

**RNI181100** – Refer for an Investigative Interview.

**RNI190255** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to include a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct and courses in Documentation: Accurate and Legal, Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know and Patient Rights.

**LPNI190104** – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Difficult or Challenging: Dealing with Patients, Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills and Resident's Rights.

**RNI190284** – Refer to the Office of Inspector General to obtain a certified copy of the medical records and refer for a peer review.

**RNI190088** – Flag to ask for a Letter of Explanation if attempts to renew and turn on Nurse Alert.

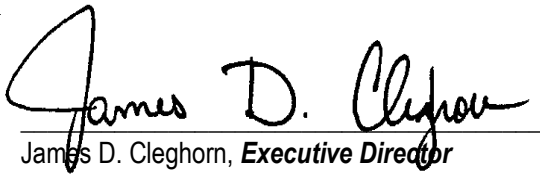
**RNI190699** – Issue license with a Letter of Concern (Unprofessional Conduct).

**RNI181381** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a private consent order to include five (5) years monitoring, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, psychotherapy) substance abuse stipulations, monthly PEth for 24 months, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, standard work restrictions and a course in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing. Must submit final disposition of DUI case within 10 days of adjudication.

**RNI161192** – Approve to terminate order.

Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Thursday, January 31, 2019 at 4:32 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 January 31, 2019 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

*Jammy Bryant, RN, MSN*

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

Sworn and subscribed before me  
This 31st day of January 2019

*Renea L. Gray*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

