

The Investigative Committee of the Georgia Board of Nursing met Thursday, February 7, 2019 via conference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tracey Blalock, RN, MSN, MBA, NEA-BC
Tina Fletcher, LPN
Darrell Thompson, RN, DNP, ACNP-BC, FNP-BC

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
Mary Brennen, JD, Assistant Attorney General

Thompson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 7, 2019.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Blalock moved, Fletcher 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, February 7, 2019 Thompson 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.

RNI190270 – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, and Difficult or Challenging: Dealing with Patients.

RNI190626 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI180611 – 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 a mental physical examination.

RNI190207 – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, and A Nurses Guide to the Use of Social Media.

RNI190628 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI190249 – Close the case with a Letter of Concern (Unprofessional Conduct).

LPNI190113 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI190279 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI180204 – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for revocation of license.

RNI180774 – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct and courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Professional Boundaries in Nursing and Ethical Decision Making.

RNI181188 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI190648 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI190455 - Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI180821 – 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 a mental physical examination.

RNI190261 – Close the case with a Letter of Concern (Substandard Work).

RNI170605 – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a public reprimand to include five (5) years probation, a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, psychotherapy), substance abuse stipulations, standard work restrictions, monthly PEth for two (2) years, quarterly urine drug screens throughout order, courses in Substance Use Disorder in Nursing, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing and a fine of \$500 for Failure to Disclose arrest.

RNI171085 – Close the case with a Letter of Concern (Practicing Beyond the Scope of Practice).

RNI181125 – Send the applicant a letter requesting an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator as a consideration of the application. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant.

RNI190773 – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a private consent order to include a fine of \$500 for falsification of 2016-2018 renewal application.

LPNI190200 – Table pending receipt of additional information from Florida Board of Nursing regarding approval of nursing education program.

RNI180153 – 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 a mental physical examination.

RNI180979 – 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 a mental physical examination.

RNI180381 – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a public reprimand to include two (2) years probations, quarterly reports (self, employer), a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct and courses in Substance Use Disorder in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know and Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing.

RNI190331 – 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 a mental physical examination.

RNI170408 – Deny APRN authorization until narcotic restrictions are lifted.

LPNI181381 – 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 a mental physical examination.

LPNI190164 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a three (3) month mandatory suspension. May petition to lift with a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct, 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 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.

RNI190687/RNI190850 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to include five (5) years probation, two (2) years narcotic restriction, quarterly reports (self, employee, aftercare, psychotherapy), quarterly hair follicle testing (HairStat 10) for 24 months, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, substance abuse stipulations, standard work restrictions, a course in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing and a fine of \$500 for a CE violation.

RNI170526 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office to lift suspension with a public reprimand to include five (5) years probation, two (2) years narcotic restriction, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, medication management), quarterly hair follicle testing (Hairstat 5) for 12 months and quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, substance abuse stipulations, standard work restrictions, courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know and Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing.

RNI181325/RNI190306 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to include five (5) years probation, quarterly reports (self, employee, aftercare, psychotherapy), PEth for 24 months and quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, substance abuse stipulations, standard work restrictions and a course in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing.

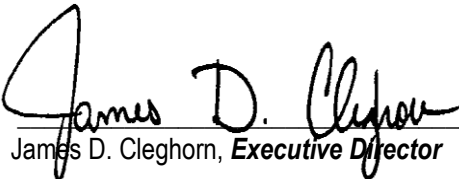
RNI160708 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$500 for violation of a consent order. If no March 2019 quarterly reports, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension. May petition to lift with two quarters of documented compliance and a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct.

RNI190791 – Deny the application. May reapply with 24 months of documented sobriety and a MPE within 30 days of the application. May release a copy of the application to Montana Board of Nursing.

RNI150415 – Approve the request.

Fletcher seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Thursday, February 7, 2019 at 4:51 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 February 7, 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

Danell W Thompson

Presiding Officer

Sworn and subscribed before me
This 7th day of February 2019

Renea L Gray
Notary Public

