

The Georgia Board of Nursing met February 14, 2019 via telephone conference from the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Georgia Secretary of State, located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2019**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Janice Izlar, RN, CRNA, DNAP, President  
Tracey Blalock, RN, MSN, MBA, NEA-BC  
Tammy Bryant, RN, MSN  
Linda Floyd, RN, EdD, PMHNP-BC  
Merry Fort, RN  
Darrell Thompson, RN, DNP, ACNP-BC, FNP-BC  
Andrea Phipps, LPN

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Blair Train, Consumer Member  
Debra Amick, RN, MSN, CJCP, CPHQ, NE-BC  
Rebecca Coleman, RN, DNP, RNC-OB, C-EFM  
Tracy Torgerson, RN, MSN, CRNI  
Fredetena (Tina) Fletcher, LPN

**STAFF PRESENT**

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

Izlar called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 14, 2019. A quorum to conduct disciplinary matters was determined to exist.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Phipps moved, Fort seconded and the Board 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 cases and pending cases. The motion passed unanimously.

At the conclusion of the Executive Session on Thursday, February 14, 2019, Izlar 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.

**CASE REVIEW (Legal and Discipline cases)**

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

**RNI180063** – Bryant moved to refer for an Investigative Interview. Blalock seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI180233** – Fort moved to 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 petition. Floyd seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI190209** – Bryant moved to refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a private consent order to include a fine of \$500 for a continuing education violation. Blalock seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI180201** – Phipps moved to refer for an Investigative Interview. Bryant seconded the motion and it carried with Blalock abstaining.

**RNI190037** – Phipps moved to send an investigative letter requesting courses in Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Client Care, Ethics in Nursing and HIPAA and Confidentiality. Floyd seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI181239** – Blalock moved to refer for an Investigative Interview. Floyd seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI180095** – Bryant moved to close the case with no disciplinary action. Place hold on renewal. Phipps seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI190640** – Fort moved to close the case with no disciplinary action. Floyd seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI190479** – Bryant moved to close the case with no disciplinary action. Phipps seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI190068** – Blalock moved to refer for an Investigative Interview or send an Investigative Letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability, Narcotic Drugs: Handling and Documentation, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, and Medication Errors: Causes and Prevention. Phipps seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI130615** – Phipps moved to approve termination of the consent order. Floyd seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI190830** – Fort moved to upgrade license to eNLC with a Letter of Concern (Criminal). Thompson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI190737** – Fort moved to close the case with no disciplinary action. Thompson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI150139** – Blalock moved to license as a RN by reinstatement and allow initial authorization as an APRN. Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI190146** – Floyd moved to refer to the Attorney General's Office to license with a private consent agreement to include three (3) years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, psychotherapy - addictionologist), Substance Abuse Stipulations, standard work restrictions, monthly PEth for 12 months, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order and a course in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing. May petition to lift three (3) years from docket date. Phipps seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI180264** – Bryant moved to refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include two (2) years probation, one (1) year narcotic restriction, quarterly reports (self, employer), a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct, 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. Phipps seconded the motion and it carried with Blalock abstaining.

**RNI190183** – Table until March 6-8, 2019 meeting.

**RNI190696** – Table until March 6-8, 2019 meeting.

**RNI190320** – Blalock moved to 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), Substance Abuse Stipulations, standard work restrictions, monthly PEth for 12 months, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order and a course in Understanding Substance Use Disorder. Phipps seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Phipps seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI190715** – Phipps moved to send a Letter of Modification with a new sobriety date of February 4, 2019. Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI150322** – Bryant moved to license with a Letter of Concern (Action in Another Jurisdiction). Thompson seconded the

motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI180329** – Phipps moved to rescind the previous motion and to refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to include five (5) years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare), monthly PEth for 24 months, quarterly urine drug screenings, Substance Abuse Stipulations, standard work restrictions, and courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing. Blalock seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI160195** – Floyd moved to deny the renewal. Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI180763** - Blalock moved to refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to include five (5) years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare), Substance Abuse Stipulations, standard work restrictions, monthly PEth for 12-24 months, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know. Thompson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI190200** – Bryant moved to request additional information from the applicant regarding clinical placements, evidence of completion of courses, etc. Work with AG to develop list of necessary documentation. Floyd seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

### **ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE**

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

**LPNI150053** – Floyd moved to rescind the previous motion and to accept the order as presented. Phipps seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI180199** –Table until the March 6-8, 2019 meeting.

**RNI150552** – Bryant moved to rescind the previous motion and accept the order as presented. Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI170442** – Blalock moved to rescind the previous motion and accept the order as presented. Phipps seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI190095** – Bryant moved to close the case with a Letter of Concern (CE Violation). Phipps seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI190293** - Blalock moved to rescind the previous motion and accept the order as presented. Bryant seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI180682** – Phipps moved to uphold the previous motion. Blalock seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI180726** – Bryant moved to rescind the previous motion. Uphold public order, amend to two (2) years probation. All other terms the same. Phipps seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI190162** – Floyd moved to uphold the previous motion. Phipps seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI190070** – Bryant moved to rescind the previous motion and accept inactive status. Blalock seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI170882** – Fort moved to rescind the previous motion. Accept wording of consent order and two (2) years documented sobriety, no narcotic restrictions on APRN authorization. Blalock seconded the motion and it carried with Phipps opposing.

**RNI180656** – Floyd moved to rescind the previous motion. Uphold public consent order, amend to quarterly PEth for 12 months, sobriety date of November 2017. Approve in home hospice, may petition to increase work hours for one (1) year. Phipps seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**PROBATION TERMINATIONS BETWEEN MEETINGS**

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

Fort moved to accept the following terminations of probation between meetings.

LPNI100309    RNI150767    RNI140515    RNI160215    RNI150327    RNI151166    RNI110258  
RNI170008    RNI150696

Thompson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**REQUEST TO LIFT NARCOTIC RESTRICTIONS**

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

Phipps moved to accept the following recommendations for the cases listed below:

CASE NUMBER	RECOMMENDED ACTION
RNI150857	Lift narcotics restriction
RNI160037	Lift narcotics restriction

Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE A 02/07/2019**

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

Fort moved to ratify the following cases from the investigative committee meeting:

RNI190270    RNI190626    RNI180611    RNI190207    RNI190628    RNI190249    LPNI190113  
RNI190279    RNI180204    RNI180774    RNI181188    RNI190648    RNI190455    RNI180821  
RNI190261    RNI170605    RNI171085    RNI181125    RNI190773    LPNI190200    RNI180153  
RNI180979    RNI180381    RNI190331    RNI170408    LPNI181381    LPNI190164    RNI190687  
RNI190850    RNI170526    RNI181325    RNI190306    RNI160708    RNI190791    RNI150415

Bryant seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE B 01/31/2019**

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

Bryant moved to ratify the following cases from the investigative committee meeting:

LPNI190114    LPNI190141    RNI190246    RNI190624    RNI170980    RNI180444    LPNI190027  
LPNI190027    LPNI170306    RNI190403    LPNI190045    RNI190141    LPNI170426    LPNI180283  
RNI180018    RNI140267    LPNI180031    RNI190193    RNI190148    RNI190170    RNI180763  
RNI171098    RNI181100    RNI190255    LPNI190104    RNI190284    RNI190088    RNI190699  
RNI181381    RNI181324    RNI161192

Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**REQUEST TO CHANGE AFTERCARE GROUPS**

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

Fort moved to accept the following recommendations for the cases listed below:

	RECOMMENDED ACTION
RNI170084	Change aftercare group

Blalock seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**VOLUNTARY SURRENDER**

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

Bryant moved to accept the voluntary surrender of the licenses listed below:

**RNI170773      LPNI150018      LPNI170393      RNI180967      RNI180108**

Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**PRIVATE CONSENT AGREEMENTS FOR FAILURE TO DISCLOSE**

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

Blalock moved to ratify the Private Consent Agreements for licensure with a fine for failure to disclose arrest(s)/disciplinary action on applications that were issued according to the Board's policies.

**RNI190793      RNI190806      RNI190829      RNI190857**

Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**CONSENT AGREEMENTS FOR UNLICENSED AND UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE**

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

Fort moved to ratify the Public and Private Consent Agreements for unlicensed/unauthorized practice that were issued according to the Board's policies.

**RNI190789    RNI190871    RNI190875    LPNI190209**

Blalock seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**

Bryant moved to accept the January 16-18, 2019 Board meeting minutes as presented. Blalock seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Phipps moved to accept the February 7, 2019 Teleconference Executive Session meeting minutes as presented. Blalock seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Bryant moved to accept the February 7, 2019 Investigative Committee A meeting minutes as presented. Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Phipps moved to accept the January 31, 2019 Investigative Committee B meeting minutes as presented. Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

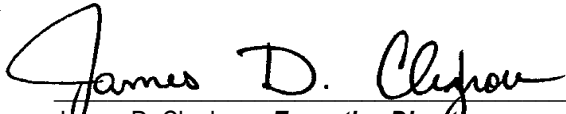
Thompson moved to accept the February 7, 2019 Teleconference meeting minutes as presented. Bryant seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LEGISLATION**

Fort moved to oppose Senate Bill 76. Floyd seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned February 14, 2019 at 6:08 p.m.

  
Janice Izlar, RN, CRNA, DNAP **President**

  
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 Georgia Board of Nursing.
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 14, 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

Jamie K. Law  
Presiding Officer

Sworn and subscribed before me  
This 14th day of February, 2019

Renea L. Gray  
Notary Public

