

The Investigative Committee of the Georgia Board of Nursing met Thursday, February 21, 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 21, 2019**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Debra Amick  
Merry Fort, RN

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Janet Freeman, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline  
Edey 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 4:02 p.m. on Thursday, February 21, 2019.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Phipps 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, February 21, 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.

**RNI170672** – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Client Care, Ethics of Nursing Practice and Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses.

**RNI190344** – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses. Review, sign and return attached article “Legal Basis of Consent for Health Care and Vaccination for Adolescents”.

**LPNI190144** – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for revocation of license and deny the renewal.

**LPNI190143** – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for revocation of license and deny the renewal.

**LPNI190142** – Deny the application.

**LPNI190100** – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with a \$500 fine for Action in Another Jurisdiction.

**RNI190370** – If license is renewed during the lapsed–late renewal period, refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a public consent order for Actions in Another Jurisdiction. Close the case with no action if license is not renewed.

**RNI190415** – Refer for an Investigative Interview.

**LPNI190022** – Refer to Office of Inspector General to obtain facility investigation and interview/letter of explanation from respondent.

**RNI190477** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**LPNI180359** – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Ethics of Nursing Practice, and Narcotic Drugs: Handling and Documentation.

**RNI190735** – 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.

**LPNI170439** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension. May petition to lift with payment of \$100.

**RNI181370** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an expedited 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.

**LPNI180200** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a mandatory three (3) month summary suspension, may petition to lift with MPE.

**RNI190688** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand for Action in Another Jurisdiction.

**RNI190729** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an a public consent order, five (5) years probation with quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare), monthly PEth for 12 months, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order and a course in Substance Use in Nursing.

**RNI170749** – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Narcotic Drugs: Handling and Documentation, Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses and Ethics of Nursing Practice.

**RNI190118** – License by reinstatement with a Letter of Concern (Action in Another Jurisdiction).

**LPNI170488** – Refer Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct, two (2) years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer), standard work restrictions, quarterly urine drug screenings and courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

**RNI190727** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension. May petition to lift with 12 months of documented sobriety and a current mental physical examination.

**RNI180512** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct, five (5) years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, psychotherapy with an addictionologist), substance abuse stipulations, standard work restrictions, quarterly hair follicle testing (Hairstat 5) for 12 months, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing and Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing.

**LPNI190145** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office to license with private consent agreement to include three (3) years monitoring, quarterly reports (self, employee, aftercare), substance abuse stipulations, standard work restrictions, quarterly urine drug screenings and a course in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing.

**RNI190603** – Close the case with a Letter of Concern (Action in Another Jurisdiction).

**RNI190776** - Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a private consent order to include five (5) years monitoring, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare), monthly PEth for 12 mos., quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, substance abuse stipulations, standard work restrictions and a course in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing.

**RNI190894** – Table until full board meeting March 6-8, 2019.

**RNI190782** – Close case with a Letter of Concern (Criminal).

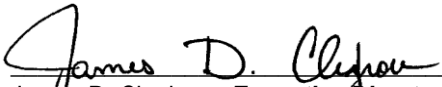
**RNI190834** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a private consent order to include a fine of \$500 for a CE violation.

**RNI190104** – 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), monthly PEth x 12 months, quarterly hair follicle testing for 24 months, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout order, Substance Abuse Stipulations, standard work restrictions and courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing, and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

**RNI190892** – Request additional information from applicant.

Floyd seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 4:26 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.

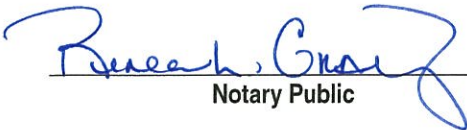
**Comes now the presiding officer identified below and, before an official duly authorized to administer oaths, makes this affidavit in satisfaction of the statutory requirements outlined above.**

1. I am the presiding officer of the 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 21, 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

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

Sworn and subscribed before me  
This 21st day of February, 2019

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

