

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

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Debra Amick

### **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 Nursing, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline  
Mary Brannen, JD, Assistant Attorney General

Bryant called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 21, 2019.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Floyd moved, Fort 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, March 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)

Floyd moved to present the following recommendations to the Board.

**RNI190881** – Refer to Attorney General’s Office for a public consent order to include five (5) years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, psychotherapy), substance abuse stipulations, monthly PEth for twelve months, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, standard work restrictions and a course in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing.

**RNI190332** – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a public reprimand to include five(5) years probation, two (2) years narcotic restrictions, a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare), substance abuse stipulations, quarterly hair follicle testing (Hairstat 12) for 24 months, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, 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.

**RNI190287** – Refer to Attorney General’s Office for a private consent order to include five years monitoring, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, psychotherapy), substance abuse stipulations, monthly PEth for 12 months, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout order, standard work restrictions and a course in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing.

**RNI180626** – Refer for an Investigative Interview.

**RNI190396** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a private consent order to include five 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.

**LPN190201** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to include five (5) years probation, two (2) years narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare), substance abuse stipulations, standard work restrictions, quarterly hair follicle testing (Hairstat 12) for 24 months, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, and a course in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing.

**RN191006** – License with a Letter of Concern (Criminal). Upon completion, must submit letter of successful completion of probation.

**RN190889** – Close case with no disciplinary action

**RNI190842** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$300 for Action in Another Jurisdiction.

**RNI190927** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**RN180698** – Refer to Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$500 for Failure to Disclose.

**RNI190705** – Close case with no disciplinary action.

**RNI190030** – Refer for an Investigative Interview.

**LPNI190258** – 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 within 30 days of petition.

**RNI190913** – 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, standard work restrictions, monthly PEth for 24 months, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order and a course in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing.

**RNI190840/RNI190943** – 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 within 30 days of petition.

**LPNI180375** – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses and Medication Errors: Causes and Prevention.

**RNI190245** – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills, Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses and Difficult or Challenging? Dealing with Patients. Issue multistate license if criminal background check is clear.

**RN191012** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**RN191028** – Refer Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to include five (5) years probation, two (2) years narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare), quarterly hair follicle testing for 12 months (Hairstat 5), random urine drug screenings throughout the order, substance abuse stipulations, standard work restrictions, and a course in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing.

**RN190292** – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Narcotic Drugs: Handling and Documentation, Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Client Care and Medication Errors: Causes and Prevention.

**RN191011** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**RNI180815** – Refer for an investigative interview.

**LPNI190130** – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability, Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Client Care and Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing.

**LPNI170435** – 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 within 30 days of petition.

**RNI180044** - Refer for an investigative interview.

**RNI191013** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**RNI181042** - Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to include three (3) years probation, six (6) months narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare), monthly PEth for 12 mos., quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, substance abuse stipulations, standard work restrictions and must submit final court disposition of criminal charges within 10 days of adjudication.

**RNI180862** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**RNI191027** – Reinstate license as registered nurse with Letter of Concern (Substance Abuse).

**LPNI190290** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an expedited outpatient mental physical examination for consideration of licensure 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.

**LPNI190291** – Issue multistate upgrade and refer to the Attorney General's Office for a private consent order to include a fine of \$500 for Falsification of Renewal Application and a fine of \$500 for Failure to Disclose and arrest on multistate license application.

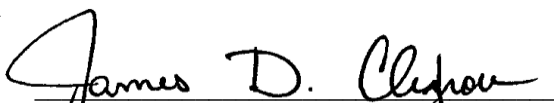
**RNI190183/RNI190696** – Deny the license. Fort abstaining.

**RNI181351** – Close the case with no disciplinary action and authorize practice as an APRN.

**RNI190156** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a private consent order to include a fine of \$500 for Failure to Disclose.

Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Thursday, March 21, 2019 at 4:27 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.

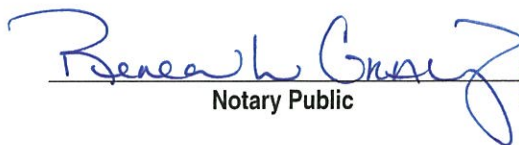
**Comes now the presiding officer identified below and, before an official duly authorized to administer oaths, makes this affidavit in satisfaction of the statutory requirements outlined above.**

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 March 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 March, 2019

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

