

The Investigative Committee of the Georgia Board of Nursing met Thursday, June 27, 2019 via conference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT

Darrell Thompson, RN, DNP, ACNP-BC, FNP-BC
Tracey Blalock, RN, MSN, MBA, NEA-BC
Irene Cordell, RN
Blair Train, Consumer Member

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tina Fletcher, LPN

STAFF PRESENT

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 Brannen, JD, Assistant Attorney General

Thompson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 27, 2019.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Blalock moved, Train 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, June 27, 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.

LPNI190230 – Send an investigative letter with courses to include: Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Narcotic Drugs: Handling and Documentation.

RNI181146 – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a public reprimand to include three (3) years probation, quarterly reports (employer, personal, aftercare), Substance Abuse Stipulations, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, courses to include Substance Use in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know and a \$500.00 fine for unprofessional conduct.

RNI180647 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI191326 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

LPNI180241 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

LPNI190668 – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a private consent order to include a fine of \$500 for a continuing education violation.

LPNI190462 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

LPNI190246 – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Resident Rights, and Difficult or Challenging? Dealing with Patients.

RNI190081 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand and a fine of \$500 for Failure to Disclose.

LPNI170292 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent agreement to include three (3) years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, psychotherapy), standard work restrictions, no correctional facility work, courses in Don't Cross the Line: Professional Boundaries, Professional Boundaries in Nursing-must complete the assignment book (extra activities), and Righting A Wrong – Ethics & Professionalism In Nursing.

LPNI180361 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand and fine of \$500.00 for Action in Another Jurisdiction and a fine of \$500 for Failure To Disclose (\$1,000.00 total).

LPNI180290 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

LPNI190068 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI180071 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include quarterly reports (personal, employer) for 24 months, courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Ethics of Nursing Practice, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills, and \$500 fine for Unprofessional Conduct.

RNI190420 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand and a fine of \$500 for Action in Another Jurisdiction.

RNI190837 – Send an Investigative letter requesting courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing and Understanding the Disease of Addiction.

RNI191431 – Issue license with a Letter of Concern (Criminal).

RNI1801125 – 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), monthly PEth and quarterly hair follicle testing for 12 months (Hairstat 7), quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, Substance Abuse Stipulations, standard work restrictions plus no more than 40 work hours per week, courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

RNI191346 – Close the case with a Letter of Concern (Unprofessional Conduct).

RNI191458 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI160025 – Approve the request to terminate the consent order.

RNI181129 – Table until July board meeting.

RNI191071 – Table until July board meeting.

RNI190589 – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Marijuana and CBD: Effective Treatment and Use and Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing.

LPNI130187 – Refer for an Investigative Interview. If licensee fails to respond or does not attend scheduled interview, refer to the Attorney General's Office for a voluntary surrender/indefinite suspension. If licensee comes into compliance before the interview, close case with a Letter of Concern (Noncompliance).

LPNI180346 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct, courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Jurisprudence – GA LPN, Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Client Care and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

RNI191157 – Request medical records and send out for peer review.

RNI180447 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI191427 - Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI180523 - Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI180527 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI191429 - Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a private consent order to include a fine of \$500 for a Continuing Education violation.

RNI180528 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

Train seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Thursday, June 27, 2019 at 4:34 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 June 27, 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

Daniel Thompson
Presiding Officer

Sworn and subscribed before me
This 27th day of June, 2019

Reneal L. Gray
Notary Public

