

The Investigative Committee A of the Georgia Board of Nursing met Thursday, February 27, 2020 via conference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT

Darrell Thompson, RN, DPN, ACNP-BC, President
Holly Free, RN, MSN
Candice Broce, Consumer Member
Tracey Blalock, RN, MSN, MBA, NEA-BC

STAFF PRESENT

Jim Cleghorn, Executive Director
Janet Freeman, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline
Edey Tillman-Johnson, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline
Natara 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, February 27, 2020.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Free moved, Thompson 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 27, 2020 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)

Free moved to present the following recommendations to the Board.

RNI201004 – Deny application. Applicant may reapply within 24 months of continuous documented sobriety along with a qualified outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant.

RNI200283 – 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 and proof of standard practice requirements.

LPNI200007 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI191370 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

LPNI190596 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI191367 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI200807– Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a private consent order to include a fine of \$500 for falsification of a renewal application for 2018-2020 renewal period and a \$500.00 fine for failure to disclose the arrest on her NLC application on 10/31/2019. Issue a multistate license upon receipt of fines.

RNI200296 – Investigative Interview

RNI201021 – Table and forward to March Board meeting.

LPNI200014 – Close the case with a letter of concern for action in another jurisdiction.

LPNI200041 – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Client Care, Resident's Rights.

RNI200866 – 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 and proof of standard practice requirements.

RNI200901 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent order, five (5) years probation, quarterly reports (4) (self, employer, aftercare and psychotherapy), submit completed Intensive Outpatient Program records within thirty days substance abuse stipulations, quarterly hair follicle testing for twelve months (Hairstat 7), quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, standard work restrictions, courses in Understanding Substance Use in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know and Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing.

LPNI200065 – Close the case with a letter of concern for Unprofessional Conduct.

RNI200914 – 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 and proof of standard practice requirements.

RNI200512 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent order, five (5) years probation, two (2) years narcotic restrictions quarterly reports (5) (self, employer, aftercare and psychotherapy, medication management), substance abuse stipulations, monthly PEth for twenty-four months, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, standard work restrictions, work week not to exceed forty hours. Courses in Understanding Substance Use in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know and Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing.

LPNI180294 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI200185 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI181297 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include a \$500.00 fine for impairment, five (5) years probation, two (2) years narcotic restrictions quarterly reports (4) (self, employer, aftercare and psychotherapy – addictionologist), quarterly hair follicle testing (Hairstat 10), for twenty-four months, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, standard work restrictions, courses in Courses in Understanding Substance Use in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know and Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing.

RNI200417 – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

RNI160735 – Accept request to work in private duty nursing.

RNI171108 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension. May petition to lift with submission of quarterly reports, courses, fine payment and drug tests.

LPNI200272 – Reinstate license with a letter of concern - criminal.

RNI200044 – Close case with a letter of concern for substandard practice

LPNI200086 – Send letter of use of title "nurse", "licensed practical nurse".

RNI190972 –Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a public consent order, five (5) years probation, quarterly reports (4) (self, employer, aftercare and psychotherapy) substance abuse stipulations, monthly PEth twenty-four months, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, must submit documentation of completion of Intensive Outpatient Program within six months, standard work restrictions, work week not to exceed forty hours, (until addictionologist notes otherwise). Courses in Understanding Substance Use in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know and Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing.

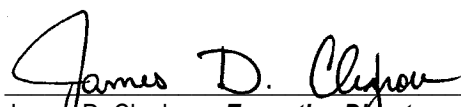
LPNI190147 – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a psychosexual outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of psychosexual mental physical examination and proof of standard practice requirements.

LPNI190473 Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Narcotic Drugs: Handling and Documentation, Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Client Care, Resident’s Rights.

RNI201052 - Send a letter to applicant to request 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 for consideration of licensure.

Blalock seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Thursday, February 27, 2020 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 February 27, 2020 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 W. Hampton
Presiding Officer

Sworn and subscribed before me
This 27th day of February, 2020.

Renea L. Gray
Notary Public

