

The Investigative Committee A of the Georgia Board of Nursing met Thursday, May 14, 2020 via conference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

## **THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2020**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Darrell Thompson, RN, DNP, ACNP-BC, FNP-BC, President  
Linda Floyd, RN, EdD, PMHNP-BC  
Holly Free, RN, MSN  
Tina Fletcher, LPN

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Jim Cleghorn, Executive Director  
Janet Freeman, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline  
Edye Tillman-Johnson, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline  
Natar 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, May 14, 2020.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Floyd moved, Free 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, May 14, 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)

Floyd moved to present the following recommendations to the Board.

**RNI191291** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**RNI200354** – Send investigative letter requesting courses in Patient Privacy, Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

**RNI200407** – Refer to the Attorney General’s office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$500 for fraudulent documentation and courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Ethics of Nursing Practice, Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Client Care and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

**RNI200654** – Send formal voluntary surrender form.

**RNI200726** – 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, deny renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical exam and proof of standard practice requirements.

**RNI201369** – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a private consent order to include a fine of \$500 for continuing education violation. Floyd abstaining.

**RNI200426** – Refer to Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator, results 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 renewal, may petition to lift suspension with mental physical examination, include standard practice requirements to lift suspension.

**RNI191192** – Close care with no disciplinary action

**RNI200271** – Send investigative Letter requesting courses in, Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Patient Privacy, and a Nurses Guide to the Use of Social Media. Refer complaint to the Office of Civil Rights.

**RNI200476** – Refer to Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to include a fine of \$500 for unprofessional conduct, one-year probation, quarterly reports (self, employer), courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Action: What Every Nurse Should Know, and Ethics of Nursing Practice.

**RNI191373** – Close case with no disciplinary action.

**RNI200689** – Close case with letter of concern (Practicing Beyond Scope of Practice).

**RNI201394** – Refer to Attorney General's Office for private consent order to include a fine of \$500 for failure to disclose arrest.

**RNI200255** – Obtain additional information and refer for peer review.

**RNI200256** – Close case.

**LPNI190237** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$500 for unprofessional conduct, three years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer), quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, and courses in Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing, and Professional Accountability and Legal Liability in Nursing.

**RNI200233** – Obtain additional information and refer for peer reviewer.

**RNI200292** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**RNI200300** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**RNI200344** – Close the case with letter of concern (unprofessional conduct).

**RNI200318** – Close the case with letter of concern (unprofessional conduct).

**RNI190223** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$500 fine for diversion, five years probation, two years narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, psychotherapy), substance abuse stipulations, monthly PEth x tests for twenty-four months, quarterly hair follicle testing (Hairstat 5) for twenty-four months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, standard work restrictions, courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing, and Jurisprudence – GA RN

**RNI200907** - Refer to the Attorney General's Office for Private Consent Order, five years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, psychotherapy), substance abuse stipulations, monthly PEth for 24 months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, standard work restrictions, courses in Substance Use in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

**RNI191167** – Refer to Attorney Generals Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$1000 fine for failure to disclose, five years probation, two years narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare), substance abuse stipulations, monthly PEth tests for twelve months, quarterly hair follicle testing (Hairstat 14) for twelve months, quarterly urine drug screens 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.

**LPNI200026** – Refer to Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$500 for unprofessional conduct, three years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer), quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, and Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing.

**RNI201201** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent agreement to include five years probation, two years narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, psychotherapy), substance abuse stipulations, quarterly hair follicle testing (Hairstat 5) for twenty-four months, quarterly urine drug screens 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.

**RNI201412** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent agreement to run concurrent with Texas order, to include substance abuse stipulations, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare), standard work restrictions, narcotic restrictions until lifted from the Texas order.

**LPNI200221** – Refer to Investigations to obtain additional information.

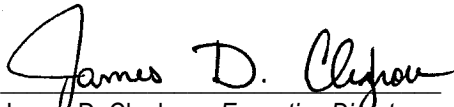
**RNI201376** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension. May petition to lift with one quarter of consent order compliance.

**RNI200252** – Close case with no disciplinary action.

**RNI200769** – Close the case with letter of concern (substandard care).

Free seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Thursday, May 14, 2020 at 4:23 p.m.

  
James D. Cleghorn, Executive Director

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF BIBB

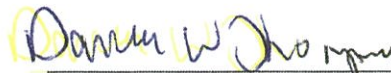
**AFFIDAVIT SUPPORTING CLOSING OF  
PUBLIC MEETING**

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.

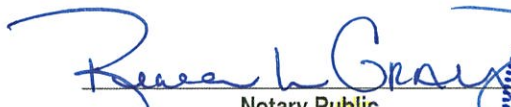
**Comes now the presiding officer identified below and, before an official duly authorized to administer oaths, makes this affidavit in satisfaction of the statutory requirements outlined above.**

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 May 14, 2020 IC(A), 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 14th day of May, 2020.

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

