

The Georgia Board of Nursing met October 15, 2020, via teleconference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT

Darrell Thompson, RN, DNP, ACNP-BC, FNP-BC, President
Tammy Bryant, MSN - RN, Vice President
Jennifer Pipkin, RN, MSN, CRNA
Holly Free, RN, MSN
Linda Floyd, RN, EdD, PMHNP-BC
Merry Fort, RN, BS
Ashlan Porter, RN
Roger Pierce Jr., RN
Maceo Tanner, LPN

MEMBERS ABSENT

Candice Broce, JD, Consumer Member
K. Andrea Phipps, LPN
Fredetena (Tina) Fletcher, LPN
Stephanie Dickerson, RN

STAFF PRESENT

La Trenda Tyler-Jones, Division Director, Professional Licensing Boards Division
Kirsten Daughdril, JD, Assistant Attorney General
Janet Freeman, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline
Edye Tillman-Johnson, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline
Natara Miller, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline
Cara Lugo, JD, Assistant Attorney General
Betsy Cohen
Mary

Thompson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 15, 2020. A quorum to conduct disciplinary matters was present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Fort moved, Pipkin seconded and the Board 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, October 15, 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.

CASE REVIEW

(RNI=Registered Nurse Investigative Case Number, LPNI=Licensed Practical Nurse Investigative Case Number)

RNI201343 – Floyd moved to close the case with no disciplinary action. Free seconded the motion and it carried with Thompson recusing.

RNI201288 – Bryant moved to send investigative letter requesting courses to include Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Jurisprudence Georgia-RN, Patient Rights and Responsibilities. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201413 – Floyd moved to refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$500 for action in another jurisdiction. Pipkin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201567 – Floyd moved to close the case on with no disciplinary action. Pipkin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201414 – Bryant moved to close the case with no disciplinary action. Blalock seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201378 – Floyd moved to send an investigative letter requesting courses in Narcotic Drugs, Documentation, Professional Accountability, Disciplinary Actions. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201365 – Bryant moved to close the case with no disciplinary action. Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

RNI201296 – Free moved to close the case with no disciplinary action. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

RNI201111 – Pipkin moved to close the case with a letter of concern (documentation). Blalock seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

RNI201434 - Floyd moved to accept Texas reentry program and issue license by endorsement. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201088 – Fort moved to refer to Investigations to obtain additional information. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI200116 – Porter moved to send an investigative letter requesting courses in Disciplinary Actions, Righting A Wrong, and Documentation. Floyd seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

LPNI190239 – Bryant moved to refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include a fine of \$500 for Practicing Beyond Scope of Practice, two years probation, two years narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer), standard work restrictions, may not call in prescriptions to pharmacy, substance abuse stipulations, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, courses in Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing, and Engaging in the Nursing Scope and Standards. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

LPNI200078/LPNI190257 – Bryant moved to reinstate license with a public consent agreement to include a fine of \$1500 for failure to disclose, must enroll in individual counseling 2x/month or IOP for alcohol use within thirty days of docket date of order and submit documentation of completed treatment within ten days of completion, five years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare), standard work restrictions, substance abuse stipulations, monthly PETH tests for twenty-four months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, courses in Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing. Free seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI200411 – Floyd moved to refer to the Attorney General's for a public reprimand to include a \$500 fine for narcotic discrepancies, two years probation, two years narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer), standard work restrictions, substance abuse stipulations, monthly PETH tests for twelve months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, courses in Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing, Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing, and Narcotic Drugs: Documentation and Handling. Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201374 – Floyd moved to reinstate license with a public consent agreement to include five years probation, must enroll in individual therapy with addiction professional or enroll in IOP within thirty days of docket date of order, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, psychotherapy), standard work restrictions, substance abuse stipulations, monthly PEth tests for twenty-four months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, courses in Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing, and Ethics of Nursing Practice. Pipkin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI190024 – Free moved to table case pending receipt of physician statement. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

(**RNI=Registered Nurse Investigative Case Number, LPNI=Licensed Practical Nurse Investigative Case Number**)

RNI201572 – Floyd moved to close the case with no disciplinary action. Pipkin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201571 – Bryant moved to close the case with no disciplinary action. Free seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI190816 – Fort moved to rescind previous motion and accept order as presented. Blalock seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

LPNI190176 – Bryant moved to close case with a letter of concern (falsifying documentation and unprofessional conduct). Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

LPNI200305 – Porter moved to close the case with no disciplinary action. Pipkin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201382 – Free moved to close case. Applicant may withdraw application. Bryant seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

LPNI190474 - Bryant moved for narcotic restrictions for 6 months, reduce fine to \$250, may use Subutex with physician statement noting she is safe to practice. All other terms the same. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201212 – Floyd moved to close case with no disciplinary action. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201235 – Floyd moved to close case with no disciplinary action. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201250 - Floyd moved to close case with no disciplinary action. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201249 – Floyd moved to close case with no disciplinary action. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201215 – Floyd moved to close case with no disciplinary action. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201231 – Floyd moved to close case with no disciplinary action. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201222 – Floyd moved to close case with no disciplinary action. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201234 - Floyd moved to close case with no disciplinary action. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201274 – Floyd moved to close case with no disciplinary action. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201246 – Floyd moved to close case with no disciplinary action. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI200740 – Bryant moved to rescind previous motion and send investigative letter requesting courses in Documentation, Professional Accountability, Disciplinary Actions. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201230 – Bryant moved to close case with no disciplinary action. Free seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

PETITION FOR RULE VARIANCE OR WAIVER – CHATTAHOOCHEE TECHNICAL COLLEGE – 410-2-03(4)(d)

Fort moved to approve petition for the cohort graduating August 3, 2020. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

PROBATION TERMINATIONS BETWEEN MEETINGS

(RNI=Registered Nurse Investigative Case Number) (LPNI = Licensed Practical Nurse Investigative Case Number)

Blalock moved to accept the following terminations of probation between meetings.

RNI160266 RNI150853 LPNI160273 RNI170408 RNI140247 LPNI190290 RBI10355
RNI160184 LPNI080059

Floyd seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

REQUEST TO LIFT NARCOTIC RESTRICTIONS

(RNI=Registered Nurse Investigative Case Number) (LPNI = Licensed Practical Nurse Investigative Case Number)

Bryant moved to accept the following recommendations for the cases listed below:

RECOMMENDED ACTION	
RNI180106	Private Consent Order

Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE A

(LPNI = Licensed Practical Nurse Investigative Case Number) (RNI=Registered Nurse Investigative Case Number)

Porter moved to ratify the following cases from the July 30, 2020 Investigative Committee meeting:

RNI201342 RNI201370 RNI201106 RNI201188 RNI201095 RNI201144 RNI201156
RNI200141 RNI201409 RNI201122 RNI201431 LPNI200297 RNI200551 RNI201078
RNI201486 RNI201397 RNI201309 RNI200913 RNI200948 RNI181253 RNI191341
LPNI200280 LPNI200280 RNI170612 RNI201301 LPNI190307 RNI201405 RNI210031
RNI210134 RNI200468

Pipkin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE B

(LPNI = Licensed Practical Nurse Investigative Case Number) (RNI=Registered Nurse Investigative Case Number)

Bryant moved to ratify the following cases from the July 23, 2020 Investigative Committee meeting:

RNI201182 RNI201310 RNI201137 RNI201164 RNI201533 RNI201041 RNI201149
RNI190443 RNI190783 RNI200510 RN201534 RNI201027 LPNI200376 RNI201131
RNI201320 LPNI200354 RNI201484 LPNI200301 RNI201158 LPNI200182 RNI200717
RNI200822 RNI190024 LPNI200332 LPNI200315 RNI201511 RNI201515 RNI210108
RNI200283 RNI200897 RNI200424 LPNI200214 RNI210054

Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

REQUEST TO CHANGE AFTERCARE

(RNI=Registered Nurse Investigative Case Number) (LPNI = Licensed Practical Nurse Investigative Case Number)

Bryant moved to accept the following recommendations for the case listed below

RN106675

Free seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

VOLUNTARY SURRENDER

(RNI=Registered Nurse Investigative Case Number) (LPNI = Licensed Practical Nurse Investigative Case Number)

Porter moved to accept the recommendations of the licenses listed below:

LPNI190518

Free seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

PRIVATE CONSENT AGREEMENTS FOR FAILURE TO DISCLOSE

(RNI=Registered Nurse Investigative Case Number) (LPNI = Licensed Practical Nurse Investigative Case Number)

Bryant moved to ratify the Private Consent Agreements for licensure with a fine of \$500 for failure to disclose arrest(s)/disciplinary action on applications that were issued according to the Board’s policies.

RNI210112

Floyd seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

PRIVATE CONSENT AGREEMENTS FOR UNLICENSED AND UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE

(LPNI = Licensed Practical Nurse Investigative Case Number) (RNI=Registered Nurse Investigative Case Number)

Pipkin moved to ratify the Private and Public Consent Agreements for unlicensed/unauthorized practice that were issued according to the Board’s policies.

RN210071 RN210101 RN210196

Bryant seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Porter moved to accept the July 8-9, 2020 meeting minutes as presented. Blalock seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Floyd moved to accept the July 23, 2020 Investigative Committee B meeting minutes as presented. Bryant seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Porter moved to accept the July 30, 2020 Investigative Committee A meeting minutes as presented. Blalock seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

TEMPORARY PERMITS FOR NEW GRADUATES

The Board directed Cleghorn to extend the expiration date of temporary permits issued under Emergency Rule 410-2-0.5-.08 through November 11, 2020.

GEORGIA HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION

The Board reviewed correspondence from the Georgia Health Care Association requesting that the Board send an email to all licensees with information regarding open job opportunities in long term care facilities. The Board directed Cleghorn to send an email to all licensees to include the information from the Georgia Health Care Association as well as information for the Georgia Department of Public Health and the Georgia Nurses Association. The Board's rationale for granting the request was based on the public health emergency.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned on Thursday, October 15, 2020, at 6:20 p.m.



Darrell Thompson, **President**



La Trena Tyler-Jones, **Division Director, Professional Licensing Boards Division**

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF BIBB

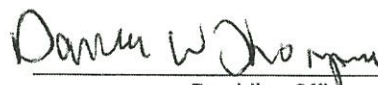
**AFFIDAVIT SUPPORTING CLOSING OF
PUBLIC MEETING**

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.

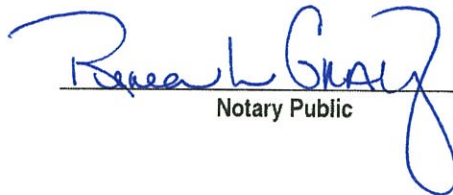
1. I am the presiding officer of the Georgia Board of Nursing.
2. I am over the age of 18 and in all other aspects competent to make this sworn statement. I acknowledge that I am giving this statement under oath and penalty of perjury and that I have read the contents of this affidavit prior to signing it.
3. On September 2-3, 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



Presiding Officer

Sworn and subscribed before me
This 3rd day of September, 2020.


Notary Public

