

The Investigative Committee A of the Georgia Board of Nursing met Thursday, October 22, 2020 via conference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

## **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2020**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Tammy Bryant, MSN-RN, Vice President  
Merry Fort, RN, BS  
Ashlan Porter, RN  
K. Andrea Phipps, LPN  
Jennifer Pipkin, RN, MSN, CRNA

### **STAFF PRESENT**

La Trena Tyler-Jones, Division Director, Professional Licensing Boards Division  
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  
Kirsten Daughdril, JD, Assistant Attorney General  
Elizabeth Simpson, JD, Assistant Attorney General  
Kathy Winstead, Board Support Specialist

Bryant called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 22, 2020.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Fort moved, Phipps 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, October 22, 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)

Fort moved to present the following recommendations to the Board.

**LPNI200312** – Refer to Attorney General’s Office for a Public Reprimand for unprofessional conduct (practicing outside the scope of practice) with \$500 fine and courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Ethics of Nursing Practice and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know. Inv. cost \$48.12.

**LPNI200182** – Send investigative letter requesting courses to include Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Client Care, and Medication Errors: Causes and Prevention.

**RNI201428** – Close case with no disciplinary action

**RNI210173** – Send investigative letter with course to include Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Action: What Every Nurse Should Know, Righting A Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing.

**RNI210259** – Close case with no disciplinary action.

**RNI201467** – Refer to the 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 and standard practice requirements.

**RNI200755** – Send investigative letter with courses to include Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, A Nurses Guide to the Use of Social Media, and Ethics of Nursing Practice.

**RNI210409** – Request applicant to submit to an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator, results to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant for consideration of licensure.

**LPNI200329** – Close case.

**RNI201198** – Send investigative letter with courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know and 3.) Ethics of Nursing Practice.

**RNI201199** – Close case with no disciplinary action.

**RNI210349** – Send 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.

**RNI210380** – Refer to Attorney General's Office for Private Consent Order with \$500.00 fine for continuing education violation.

**RNI200471** - Deny licensure. Provide option to respondent to withdraw his application and may reapply for reinstatement after recommended treatment is completed and maintained sobriety. Needs re-entry to be reinstated.

**RNI201140** – Close case with no disciplinary action.

**LPNI200309** – Close case with no disciplinary action.

**LPNI210020** – Send investigative letter with courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know and 3.) Ethics of Nursing Practice.

**RNI210379** – Refer to Attorney General's Office to amend consent order to include stayed suspension language and start over terms of consent order with five years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, after care, psychotherapist), substance abuse stipulations, monthly PEth x 12 months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, standard work restrictions, courses Substance Use in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

**RNI210353** – Refer to Attorney General's Office to amend consent order to include stayed suspension language and start over terms of consent order with five years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, after care, psychotherapist), substance abuse stipulations, monthly PEth x 24mo, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, dispensing medication restriction, standard work restrictions.

**RNI210400** – Refer to Attorney General's Office for Public consent order with five years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, after care, psychotherapist), substance abuse stipulations, standard work restrictions, monthly PEth x 2yrs, quarterly hair reports (Hairstat 5) x 12 months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, courses in Substance Use in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

**RNI210405** – Issue License by Endorsement with letter of concern for-adjudication in another jurisdiction.

**RNI210406** – Issue temporary license to attend approved reentry program upon signing of Public Consent Agreement with five years monitoring, two years narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer, after care), quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, substance abuse stipulations and standard work restrictions, requesting courses in Substance Use Disorder in Nursing and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

**RNI210408** – Request applicant to submit to an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator, results to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant for consideration of licensure

**RNI210143** – Refer to Attorney General’s Office for Public Reprimand to include a \$500 fine X 9 for forging prescriptions, five years probation with two years of narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer, after care, psychotherapist), quarterly hair reports x 24mos (Hairstat 7), quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, standard work restrictions, courses to include Substance Use in Nursing, Righting a Wrong: Ethics & Professionalism in Nursing, Georgia RN –Jurisprudence, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know. Investigative Costs: \$192.48.

**RNI201432**– Refer to the Attorney General’s Office to reinstate License with a Public Consent Agreement five years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, after care, medication management), substance abuse stipulations, monthly PEth x 12 months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, standard work restrictions, courses to include Substance Use in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

**RNI201100** –

**RNI210191** - Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a public reprimand to include \$500 fine for drug diversion five years probation with two years of narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer, after care, medication management), substance abuse stipulations, monthly PEth x 24 months, quarterly hair reports (Hairstat 14) x 24 months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, standard work restrictions, courses to include Substance Use in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing, must submit final disposition of criminal case within 10 days of adjudication. Investigative Costs: \$192.48

**RNI210362** – Refer to Attorney General’s Office to amend consent order to include stayed suspension language and keep terms and conditions of consent order with five years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, after care, psychotherapist, PDMP), substance abuse stipulations, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order - add quarterly hair reports (Hairstat 5) x 12 months and courses to include Substance Use in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

**RNI210423** – Table for November’s Board meeting.

**RNI210407** – Refer to Attorney General’s Office to amend consent order to include stayed suspension language and continue with same terms and conditions of consent order five years probation with two years of narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer, after care), substance abuse stipulations monthly PEth x 12 months, quarterly hair reports (Hairstat 7) x 12mos, quarterly urine , standard work restrictions along with 2 year restriction of less than 40 hours per week.

Phipps seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 4:40 p.m.



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Tammy Bryant, **Vice President**

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.

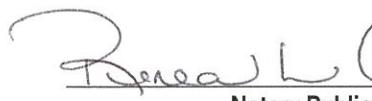
**Comes now the presiding officer identified below and, before an official duly authorized to administer oaths, makes this affidavit in satisfaction of the statutory requirements outlined above.**

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 October 22, 2020 (B) 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 22nd day of October, 2020.

  
Notary Public

