

The Investigative Committee A of the Georgia Board of Nursing met Thursday, December 3, 2020 via conference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT

Merry Fort, RN, BS
Ashlan Porter, RN
Maceo Tanner, LPN
Jennifer Pipkin, RN, MSN, CRNA
Roger Pierce, RN

STAFF PRESENT

La Trenda 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
Kathy Winstead, Board Support Specialist

Fort called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 3, 2020.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Porter moved, Pierce 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, Fort 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)

Pipkin moved to present the following recommendations to the Board.

RNI200178 – Refer to Attorney General’s Office for a public reprimand with \$500 fine for practicing outside the scope of practice. Peer review cost of \$150 for initial review and \$150 for follow-up review. Investigative cost of \$358.49 for initial investigation and \$182.86 for follow-up investigation. Courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Client Care, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know and Ethics of Nursing Practice.

LPNI200426 – Send Investigative Letter with Courses to include: Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Jurisprudence -GA LPN, and Resident's Rights

RNI201408 – Investigative interview.

RNI210488 – Close case

LPNI200300 – Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for Public Reprimand with 2 years probation, quarterly reports (self, employers) standard work restrictions, \$500 fine for practicing outside the scope of practice, peer review cost of \$150 for initial review and \$150 for follow-up review. Investigative cost of \$358.49 for initial investigation and \$182.86 for follow-up investigation. Courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Client Care, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know and Ethics of Nursing Practice.

RNI201194 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

LPNI210107 – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a private consent order with \$1,000.00 fine for failure to disclose 2017 arrest on eNLC and renewal application.

LPNI210100 – Close case, now compliant.

RNI210505 – Refer to Attorney General's Office for private consent order with \$1,000.00 fine for failure to disclose 2014 arrest on eNLC and renewal application.

RNI210477 – Close case, now compliant.

RNI210504 – 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.

RNI210478 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

RNI210388 – Refer to Attorney General's Office for public reprimand and \$300.00 fine for adjudication in another jurisdiction.

RNI201483 – Refer to Attorney General's Office 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. May petition to lift suspension with mental physical examination and standard practice requirements.

RNI200230 - Refer to Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand with \$500 fine for unprofessional conduct – substandard care; Investigative Cost: \$245.41 + \$288.72; Peer review cost of \$300.00; requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know and Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills. Please submit a copy of Board member notes written by Jennifer Pipkin in Bridge to the AG's office along with the file.

RNI210347 – Refer to Office of Investigations to obtain the patient medical record and upon receipt refer for peer review.

RNI210326 – Letter of Concern for unprofessional conduct. May issue multistate license

LPNI190813 – Grant request to lift suspension of license.

RNI190443 – Letter of concern for arrest.

RNI210302 – Letter of Concern - unprofessional conduct.

RNI210269 – Refer to Office of Investigations for investigator to interview respondent and request for statement, interview can be done from phone if out of state.

LPNI210108 – Letter of Concern for Felony arrest (license as LPN)

RNI210440 – Refer to Attorney General's Office for public consent order with five years probation and 2 years of narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer, after care), substance abuse stipulations, quarterly hair reports (Hairstat 10) for 24 months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, standard work restrictions along with no more than 40 hour work weeks, requesting courses to include Substance Use in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

RNI200511 – Approve request to work in second facility of Allegiant Anesthesia (1 additional location only)

RNI200969 – Refer to Attorney General's Office for public consent order, with five years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, after care, psychotherapist -addictionologist), substance abuse stipulations, monthly PEth x 12 months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, standard work restrictions, requesting courses to include Substance Use in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

RNI210506 – Refer to Attorney General's Office to amend the superseding order to include stayed suspension language and new sobriety date of 10/9/20- Terms of order: two years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer), substance abuse stipulations, quarterly hair reports (Hairstat 5) for 12 months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, standard work restrictions, \$500 fine for positive drug test.

LPNI210109 - Refer to the Attorney General's Office to amend superseding consent order to a 3 year probation not related to sobriety date. Terms: quarterly reports (self, employer), quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, public reprimand.

RNI201107

RNI201085– Refer to Attorney General's Office or Violation of mental physical examination order if safe practice is not received. Staff to question respondent of current residence- address multistate license if current residence is not in GA

RNI210508 – Deny license.

RNI201351 – Send Investigative Letter with Courses in Risk Advisor for Advanced Practice Nurses: How to Protect Your License, Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

Pierce seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Thursday, December 3, 2020 at 4:55p.m.

La Trenda Tyler-Jones

La Trenda 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 December 3 2020 (IC-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

Pa Tienda Tyler-Jones

Presiding Officer

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

Reneal Gray

Notary Public

