

The Georgia Board of Nursing met December 10, 2020, via teleconference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

## **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 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-Ollard, RN, MSN  
Linda Floyd, RN, EdD, PMHNP-BC  
Merry Fort, RN, BS  
Ashlan Porter, RN  
Roger Pierce Jr., RN  
Maceo Tanner, LPN  
Renee Dickerson, RN  
Candice Broce, JD, Consumer Member

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

K. Andrea Phipps, LPN  
Fredetena (Tina) Fletcher, LPN

### **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, Assistant Attorney General  
Betsy Cohen, Assistant Attorney General  
Elizabeth Simpson, Assistant Attorney General

Thompson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 10, 2020. A quorum to conduct disciplinary matters was present.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Byant 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, December 10, 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)

**RNI200399** – Floyd moved to send investigative letter with courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses; Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know; and Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing Free-Ollard seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI200406** – Bryant moved to Close case with no disciplinary action. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI170290** – Porter moved to refer to Attorney General's Office for a a Public consent order with \$500 fine for unprofessional conduct. Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI210512** – Porter moved to send applicant a letter asking 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, to be considered for licensure. Bryant seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI201093** – Porter moved to send investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know and Difficult or Challenging: Dealing With Patient. Floyd seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI210234** – Porter moved to refer to Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand with a \$500 fine for adjudication in another jusisdiction. Floyd seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI210528** – Porter moved to refer to Attorney General's Office for Private Consent Order with \$1,000.00 fine for failure to disclose arrest x 2 renewals. Bryant seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI210515** – Pipkin moved to issue license. Applicant is eligible for a multistate license. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

**RNI210054** – Floyd moved to close to rescind previous motion and refer to Attorney General's Office for a private consent order with a \$500 fine for falsification of 2020-22 renewal application. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

**RNI171054** – Bryant moved to approve request to work in home health. Pipkin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

**RNI210236** –

**RNI210523** - Floyd moved to refer to Office of Investigations to obtain facility investigation of fraudulent ACLN Card. Refer to Attorney General's Office for a private consent order for continuing education violation with a \$500 fine. Free seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI200829** – Porter moved to refer to Attorney General's Office for private consent order with five years probation, quarterly reports (self,employer,aftercare,psychotherapy), substance abuse stipulations, standard work restrictions, courses: Substance Use in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know. Pierce seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI200255** – Pipkin moved to deny request to work in agency nursing due to consent order just being issued and her history of impairment at work. Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI190705** - Floyd moved to approve request to lift suspension. Pierce seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI210529** – Pipkin moved to request send applicant a letter asking 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, for consideration of reinstatement. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI210112** – Porter moved to Issue temporary license for reentry upon receipt of signed consent agreement to include five years probation with two years of narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self,employer,aftercare), quarterly urine drug screens ththroughout the order, standard work restrictions, substance abuse stipulations and course in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing. Bryant seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI210530** – Floyd moved to deny application, may reapply after completion of one year in Florida IPN and copy of contract provided from Florida. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI190439** – Porter moved to refer to Attorney General's Office for Public Reprimand \$500 fine for positive urine drug screen at work, with five years probation. Must enroll in treatment within 30 days of start date of order, stayed suspension language (incomplete treatment, positive drug test, and noncompliance with aftercare would impose suspension), quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare), substance abuse stipulations, standard work restrictions, quarterly hair reports (Hairstat 10) x 12 months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, courses to include Substance Use in Nursing, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know. Investigative Costs: \$270.98. Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI210432** – Floyd moved to refer to Attorney General's Office for public consent order with five years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare), substance abuse stipulations, monthly PEth 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. Free seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI210077** - Floyd moved to deny application. 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)

**RNI210429** – Floyd moved to close the case. Free seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI210030** – Porter moved for no action. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

**RNI201262** - Bryant moved to close case, deceased. Floyd seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

**RNI201406** – Porter moved to close case. Floyd seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI210364**– Pipkin moved to close the case. Pierce seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI210278** – Porter moved to accept counter offer. Pipkin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI200132** - Bryant moved to seek clarification from peer reviewer. Free seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI200426** – Pipkin moved to approve counter offer. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI201163** – Porter moved 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 following recommendation from Dr. Antin Floyd seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI210187** – Floyd moved close case with a letter of concern. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI201301** – Porter moved to deny request for private consent order – 2 year probation with 1 year narcotic restrictions Pierce seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPN200411** – Tanner moved for indefinite suspension, may petition to lift with outpatient mental physical examination from addictionologist with a letter of safe to practice. Floyd seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI200270**

**RNI200460** – Porter moved to table until Attorney General's Office receives clarification from DR on drug screens (positive / negative). Bryant seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI190239** – Tanner moved for narcotic restrictions for one year – Deny all other requests. Floyd seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI210518** – Bryant moved to table - need clarification on Job description ULP – Acting as ADMIN not practicing nursing  
Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE A**

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

Floyd moved to ratify the following cases from the November 19, 2020 Investigative Committee meeting:

LPNI210022	LPNI200365	RNI201178	LPNI200379	LPNI210093	LPNI200380	RNI200111
RNI201315	RNI201156	RNI200642	RNI210200	RNI210373	RNI210199	LPNI210102
LPNI210031	RNI210482	RNI201314	RNI210080	RNI210284	RNI210432	RNI200549
RNI201511	RNI200307	RNI200328	RNI181126	RNI210468	RNI130568	

Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE B**

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

Porter moved to ratify the following cases from the December 3, 2020 Investigative Committee meeting:

RNI200178	LPNI200426	RNI201408	RNI210488	LPNI200300	RNI201194	RNI210489
LPNI210107	LPNI210100	RNI210505	RNI210477	RNI210504	RNI210478	RNI210388
RNI201483	RNI200230	RNI210347	RNI210326	LPNI190813	RNI190443	RNI210302
RNI210269	LPNI210108	RNI210440	RNI200511	RNI200969	RNI210506	LPNI200082
LPNI210109	RNI201107	RNI201085	RNI210508	RNI201351		

Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**PROBATION TERMINATIONS BETWEEN MEETINGS**

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

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

RNI160160	RNI160579	RNI151066	LPNI150259	RNI150772	RNI160662	RNI120414
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Porter 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)

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

RECOMMENDED ACTION	
RNI170641	Public Consent Order
RNI180101	Public Consent Order
LPNI180264	Public Consent Order
RNI180870	Public Consent Order

Porter 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)

Free 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.

**LPNI210111      LPNI210123**

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)

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

**RNI210507      RNI210518**

Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**

Floyd moved to accept the November 30, 2020 Summary Suspension meeting minutes as presented. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Bryant moved to accept the November 12-13, 2020 meeting minutes as presented. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Porter moved to accept the September 2-3, 2020 Executive minutes as presented. Bryant seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Fort moved to accept the November 19, 2020 Investigative Committee A meeting minutes as presented. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Tanner moved to accept the December 3, 2020 Investigative Committee B meeting minutes as presented. Pipkin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

### **RECORDS REQUEST**

Free moved to approve Records Request Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

### **EDUCATION REPORT**

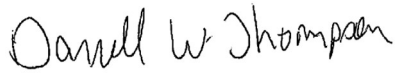
Chamberlain University – No action needed

South College – No action needed

### **BOARD MEMBER DEBRIEFING**

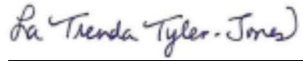
- Discussion on staff and workload – the need for additional staff – working on approval for the additional staff
- Discussion on the application process and the changes in how background screens are handled.
- Board is extremely appreciative of all that the GBON staff are doing and recognize all the effort that is being done to keep the department moving ahead.
- Staff should plan to telework thru the end of the year
- Board also mentioned dedication and effort the Nurses contributed on the recent OSHA meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned on Thursday, December 10, 2020, at 6:20 p.m.



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Darrell Thompson, **President**



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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.

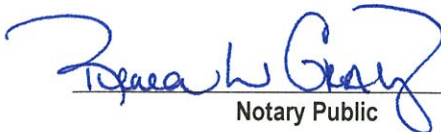
**Comes now the presiding officer identified below and, before an official duly authorized to administer oaths, makes this affidavit in satisfaction of the statutory requirements outlined above.**

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 10, 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 10<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2020.

  
Notary Public

