

The Georgia Board of Nursing met April 15, 2021, via teleconference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT

Darrell Thompson, RN, DNP, ACNP-BC, FNP-BC, President
Jennifer Pipkin, RN, MSN, CRNA
Merry Fort, RN, BS
Ashlan Porter, RN
Roger Pierce Jr., RN
Maceo Tanner, LPN
Renee Dickerson, RN
Joshua Batson NP-C

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tammy Bryant, MSN - RN, Vice President
Candice Broce, JD, Consumer Member
K. Andrea Phipps, LPN
Fredetena (Tina) Fletcher, LPN

STAFF PRESENT

Zelma Delgado, Executive Director, Georgia Board of Nursing
Linda Morgan, Education Consultant
Janet Freeman, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline
Edye Tillman-Johnson, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline
Natarra Miller, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline
Cara Lugo, Assistant Attorney General
Betsy Cohen, Assistant Attorney General
Sandy Bailey, Assistant Attorney General

Thompson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 15, 2021. 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)

RNI210359– Dickerson moved to refer to Office of Investigations to obtain witness statement (name of witness is included in file) and obtain positive drug screen from facility. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI210755 – Pipkin moved to Close case with no disciplinary action. Dickerson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI210894 – Pipkin moved to refer to Attorney General's Office for a Public consent order with \$500 fine for continuing education violation. Dickerson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

LPNI210147 – Pipkin 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. Pierce seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

LPNI210138 – Porter moved to refer to Attorney General's Office for a Public Consent Agreement to include Re-entry language, five years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare), substance abuse stipulations, standard work restrictions, monthly PEth x 24 months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, courses in Substance Use in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know 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. Dickerson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201548 – Dickerson moved to 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. May petition to lift suspension with mental physical examination and standard practice requirements. Safe to practice statement practice language. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201483 – Porter moved to refer to Attorney General's Office for 12-month suspension, outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved addictionologist, results to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. Pierce seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI210886 – Pierce moved to refer to Attorney General's Office for a 12 month suspension. May petition to lift with an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved certified addictionologist. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant with safe to practice statement. Dickerson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

RNI210908 – Porter moved to license with for a Public Consent Agreement and \$500.00 fine for failure to disclose action in another jurisdiction. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

RNI210903 – Pipkin moved to License by reinstatement as an APRN/RN. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

RNI210902 - Pipkin moved to proceed with Licensure by Endorsement with letter of concern- pending action in another jurisdiction. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI210896 – Porter moved to deny reinstatement, may reapply for reinstatement with 12 months documented continuous sobriety and 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. Pierce seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI210897 – Pipkin moved to refer to Attorney General's Office for Public Consent Agreement: include re-entry (temporary permit after re-entry proposal is approved) stayed suspension language (standard stipulations), three years monitoring, 2 years narcotic restrictions, may petition to lift narcotic restrictions after 12 months, standard work restrictions plus may not work in the ED, ICU, Cardiac Cath Lab, L&D, OR and PACU; quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare), random urine drug screens throughout the order, substance abuse stipulations, and courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know. Pierce seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI210153 - Porter moved to refer to Attorney General's Office for a Public Reprimand for – action in another jurisdiction. Pierce seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201545 – Pipkin moved to close complaint with no disciplinary action. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201489 – Pipkin moved to for Peer Review. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI236738 – Pipkin moved to deny request to have work restrictions lifted. Dickerson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

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

RNI210542 – Pipkin moved close case, continuing education violation now compliant. Dickerson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI201546 – Pierce moved deny request. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

RNI200650 - Pipkin moved to close pending MPE results. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

LPNI200238 – Pipkin moved to accept request changes, remove quarterly urine screens and substance abuse stipulation except the 3 months suspension. Maintain 3 months suspension. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI210117– Pipkin moved to maintain indefinite suspension, may petition to lift upon successful completion of IOP. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI200969 – Pipkin moved to agree to reduce required documented sobriety from 5 years to 3 years. Pierce seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI200697 - Porter moved to agree to reduce probation from 5 years to 3 years. Pipkin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

LPNI210107 – Pierce moved to Attorney General's Office closing case since applicant has not signed drafted CO within 90 days, withdraw application when application expires at 1 year. Dickerson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RNI210504 – Pierce moved to Attorney General's Office closing case since applicant has not signed drafted CO within 90 days, withdraw application when application expires at 1 year. Dickerson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S STATUS REPORT

- 63% of Nursing Board cases being settled in 60 days.
- April 27 -15to 16 cases going forward – consent calendar

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 April 1, 2021 Investigative Committee meeting:

LPNI200405	RNI201480	RNI201564	RNI210520	LPNI210095	LPNI210103	RNI210316
LPNI210078	RNI210245	LPNI210245	LPNI190476	LPNI210214	LPNI210215	RNI210576
LPNI210247	LPNI210243	LPNI210246	RNI210831	RNI210884	RNI210533	RNI190813
RNI201314	RNI210885	LPNI210250	RNI210887	RNI201256	RNI200964	RNI210892
RNI201107	RNI201085					

Dickerson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE B

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

Pipkin moved to ratify the following cases from the March 25, 2021 Investigative Committee meeting:

RNI210833	LPNI210212	RNI210837	LPNI180225	RNI210383	RNI191441	RNI210563
RNI210374	RNI210842	LPNI065998	RNI201499	RNI210236	RNI210138	LPNI200217
RNI210841	RNI210269	RNI210227	RNI210557	RNI210439	RNI210512	RNI210529
RNI201508	RNI201467	LPNI190147	RNI150716	RNI210347		

Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

PROBATION TERMINATIONS BETWEEN MEETINGS

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

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

LPNI180380	RNI130622	RNI170201	RNI160901	RNI160351	LPNI180232	LPNI190152
LPNI170147	RNI160765	LPNI190152	RNI161089	LPNI110413	LPNI200122	RNI150161
RNI160167	RNI161056	RNI151215	RNI160741	RNI151283	LPNI160171	

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)

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

RECOMMENDED ACTION	
RNI190687	Public Consent Order
RNI170602	Public Consent Order
RNI180531	Public Consent Order
LPNI190474	Public Consent Order
RNI190311	Public Consent Order
LPNI180308	Public Consent Order

Tanner 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)

Tanner 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.

RN210905

Dickerson 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)

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

RN210888 RN210891 RN210893 RN210900 RN210915 RN211007 RN211065
RN211068

Pierce seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

2021 – 2023 – RN RENEWAL CE VIOLATIONS

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

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

RNI210916	RNI210917	RNI210918	RNI210919	RNI210920	RNI210921
RNI210922	RNI210923	RNI210924	RNI210926	RNI210928	RNI210929
RNI210930	RNI210931	RNI210957	RNI210958	RNI210961	RNI210962
RNI210966	RNI210968	RNI210969	RNI210971	RNI210973	RNI210975
RNI210977	RNI210979	RNI210981	RNI210983	RNI210986	RNI210988
RNI210990	RNI210992	RNI210994	RNI210996	RNI210997	RNI211008
RNI211009	RNI211010	RNI211011	RNI211012	RNI211013	RN211014
RNI211015	RNI211016	RNI211017	RNI211018	RNI211019	RNI211020
RNI211021	RNI211022	RNI211023	RNI211024	RNI211025	RNI211029
RN254215	RN095660	RN276997	RN225985	RN184739	RN026298
RNI211031	RNI211033	RNI211035	RNI211037	RNI221039	RNI211040
RNI211043	RNI211045	RNI211047	RNI211048	RN211046	RNI211044
RNI211042	RNI211041	RNI211038	RNI211036	RNI211034	RNI211032
RNI211030	RNI211028	RNI211027	RNI211026	RNI211003	RNI211002
RNI211001	RNI211000	RNI210999	RNI210998	RNI210995	RNI210993
RNI210991	RNI210989	RNI210987	RNI210985	RNI210984	RNI210982
RNI210980	RNI210978	RNI210976	RNI210974	RNI210972	RNI210970
RNI210967	RNI210965	RNI210964	RNI210963	RNI210960	RNI210959
RNI210956	RNI210955	RNI210954	RNI210953	RNI210952	RNI210951
RNI210950	RNI210949	RNI210948	RNI210940	RNI210939	RNI210938
RNI210937	RNI210936	RNI210935	RNI210934	RNI210933	RNI210932
RNI210927	RNI210925				

Pierce seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Pipkin moved to accept the March 17-18, 2021 meeting minutes as presented. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Porter moved to accept the March 17-18, 2021 Executive minutes as presented. Pipkin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Tanner moved to accept the April 1, 2021 Investigative Committee A meeting minutes as presented. Dickerson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Pipkin moved to accept the March 25, 2021 Investigative Committee B meeting minutes as presented. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

GOVERNANCE – MPE PROVIDER

Pipkin moved to table. Dickerson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

EDUCATION – AOA

Porter moved to table for Attorney General's Office & Board to look @ Licensee's education qualifications. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

EDUCATION REPORT

Education Report

Education Consultant Report

Education – 01 – April 2021 GBON Education Report

Program Approval

Education – 02 - South Georgia Technical College

Education – 07 - Aspen University – Program Approval -Hybrid in Atlanta

Education – 08 - West Georgia Technical College - Approval

Substantive Changes

Education – 03 – Wiregrass Georgia Technical College – Leadership Change

Education - Correspondence

Education – 04 – Erudite Marketing – Solicitation – Marietta – become a nurse in 6 weeks

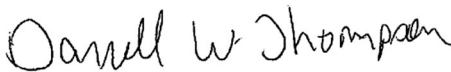
FYI for the Board – forward complaints to AG's Office or GMGEC

Education – Site Visits

Education – 05 – Toccoa Falls College – Site Visit – zoomed in with Zelma – Leadership is new to role – needs to remove some of her workload – CCE certified – recommended a mentor- Kelly Barnett @ Pruitt was suggested.

Education – 09 – Andrew College – Site Visit – zoomed in with Zelma – looks good – Leadership is new dean & she is leaving. Met with President & Dean of Accedemics to find replacement ATI complete

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned on Thursday, April 15, 2021, at 5:55 p.m.



Darrell Thompson, **President**



Zelma Y Delgado, **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.

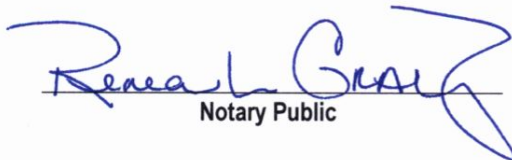
Comes now the presiding officer identified below and, before an official duly authorized to administer oaths, makes this affidavit in satisfaction of the statutory requirements outlined above.

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 April 15, 2021 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 15th day of April, 2021.


Notary Public

