

The Investigative Committee A of the Georgia Board of Nursing met Thursday, March 3, 2022 via conference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT

Merry Fort, RN, BS, Vice President
Stephanie Dickerson, RN
Darrell Thompson, RN, DNP, ACNP-BC, FNP-BC

STAFF PRESENT

Zelma Delgado, Executive Director, Georgia Board of Nursing
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
Kimberly Emm, Assistant Attorney General
Kathy Winstead, Board Support Specialist

Fort called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 3, 2022.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Thompson moved, Dickerson 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, March 3, 2022, 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)

Thompson moved to present the following recommendations to the Board.

LPNI220113 – Refer back to the Office of additional information.

RNI220881 – Table – GBON ED to reach out to Ohio BON ED to find out if the license is considered unencumbered.

LPNI220256 – Table – GBON ED to reach out to LA BON ED to find out if they consider the 1st offender pardon a felony that removes the ability to receive a multistate license.

RNI220733 – Table pending criminal case resolution. (If convicted of a Title 16 violation, will need possible suspension with MPE as a condition to lift)

RNI220825– Close Continuing Education case – now compliant. Merry Fort abstained

LPNI210599 – Investigative Letter with courses to include Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, and Patient Privacy.

LPNI220234 – Close case, now compliant.

RNI211262– Refer to Attorney General's Office for a Private Consent order with \$500 fine for Failure to Disclose arrest on 2020-22 renewal application and consider another \$500 fine for Failure to Disclose arrest on the eNLC application. When fines are

paid, may issue eNLC license.

RNI210007 – Refer to Attorney General's office for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension. May petition to lift suspension with payment of fine, documentation of completed coursework and quarterly reports.

RNI211178 – Investigative letter with courses in Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses and Ethics and Professional Conduct: Striving for a Professional Ideal (article at ncsbn.org).

RNI220884 – Refer to Attorney General's Office for Private Consent Agreement for Failure to Disclose arrests and \$500.00 fine.

RNI211323 – 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.

RNI220869 – Refer to Attorney General's Office for Private Consent Order with \$500.00 fine for failure to disclose arrest on eNLC application. Notify applicant that he must submit documentation that felony charge has been dismissed before issuing multistate license.

LPNI190436 – Refer to Attorney General's Office for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension. May petition to lift with documentation of completed coursework and a quarter of compliance with order.

LPNI220245 – 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. MSL application to remain pending while waiting for MPE results. Allow applicant to withdraw application if requested.

RNI211235 – Revoke temporary permit since he no longer meets qualifications, send letter regarding 14-day notification.

RNI220403 - Refer back to Office of Investigations to obtain MAR's for the patients in August and September the respondent had medication discrepancies on (the patients that had MAR's but did not have pain reassessment documentation noted).

RNI210849 – Letter of concern regarding the LOC issued by ND BON.

RNI211180 – 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.

RNI200276 - Refer to Attorney General's Office for Private consent order with \$500 fine each for failure to disclose an arrest on two renewal applications. (Total fine \$1000.00).

RNI220788 – 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.

RNI220356 – 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, Standard work restrictions, Monthly PEth x 12 months, quarterly urine drug screens with EtG and EtS throughout the order, courses Substance Use in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

RNI220244– Refer to Office of Investigations to obtain medical records from Primary Healthcare Center and once received, have NP complete a peer review.

RNI220268 – Close case.

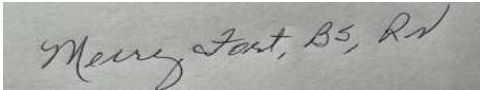
RNI220284 – Refer to Office of Investigations to obtain pediatric patient's medical records from The Genesis Center and from Scottish Rite (CHOA). Once obtained, refer for peer review.

RNI220205 – Refer to Office of Investigations to obtain medical records from Columbus Specialty Hospital. Once records are received, send back to Board for review.

RNI220870 – Close complaint with no disciplinary action.

Dickerson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Thursday, March 3, 2022 at 4:55 p.m.

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Merry Fort, BS, RD".

Merry Fort, **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 March 3, 2022 IC(A) 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 March, 2022.



Notary Public

