The Investigative Committee A of the Georgia Board of Nursing met Thursday, November 4, 2021 via conference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT

Merry Fort, BS, RN – Vice President
Darrell Thompson, RN, DNP, ACNP-BC, FNP-BC
Stephanie Dickerson, RN, BSN
Joshua Batson NP-C

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
Alexis Cromartie, JD, Assistant Attorney Genera
Kirsten Daughdril, JD, Assistant Attorney General
Kathy Winstead, Board Support Specialist

Fort called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 4, 2021.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Batson 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, November 4, 2021, 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)

Dickerson moved to present the following recommendations to the Board.

RNI211160 – Send Investigative letter with courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Narcotic Drugs: Handling and Documentation, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

RNI220388 – Refer to Attorney General's Office for private consent order with $500 fine for Continuing Education violation.

RNI211171 – Refer to Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand for Unprofessional Conduct with $500 fine and courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Patient Privacy (includes a HIPAA section), and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know. Investigative cost $204.51

RNI211175 – Investigative letter with courses in Narcotic Drugs: Handling and Documentation, Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

RNI211177 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

RNI211221 – Close case with no disciplinary action

RNI211222 – Send Investigative letter with courses in Patient Privacy (includes section on HIPAA), Professional

Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, and Ethics of Nursing Practice.

LPNI210200 - Refer to Attorney General's Office for a Private Consent Order with $500.00 fine for 2017-2019 renewal, $500.00 fine for 2019-2021 renewal ($1,000.00 total)

LPNI220141 – Close case, is now compliant.

LPNI220008 – 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, suspend the privilege to practice in Georgia and notify Tennessee Board of Nursing.

RNI211350 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

RNI210800 – 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.

LPNI210609 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

RNI220202 – Close with Letter of Concern – Unprofessional Conduct.

RNI211246 – Send Investigative letter with courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

RNI220103 – Close case with no disciplinary action.

RNI211244 – Send Investigative Letter with Courses to include Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, and Medication Errors: Causes and Prevention.

LPNI220155 – Issue single state LPN License by Endorsement with Letter of Concern – Criminal.

RNI220102 – Close case. No action.

RNI210338 - Refer to Attorney General's Office for Public Reprimand, $500 fine for Unprofessional Conduct (substandard care) and courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know. Inv. costs of $166.80 + $48.12 and peer review cost of $100.

RNI170641 - Accept request to change aftercare groups._Refer to Attorney General's Office to amend current Consent Order to include a stayed suspension (superseding order). Public Consent Order five years' probation, and two years of narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer, after care, medication management), substance abuse stipulations, standard work restrictions, quarterly Hair x 24mos, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, stayed suspension language.

RNI140295 – Grant request to terminate Consent Order early.

LPNI140065 – Grant request to terminate Consent Order early.

RNI220372 – Refer to Attorney General's office to amend current Consent Order to include a stayed suspension (superseding order). Public Consent Order with three years' probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, after care), substance abuse stipulations, Monthly PEth x 12 months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, Standard work restrictions, Stayed suspension language, $500 fine for violation of Consent Order, Restart all drug testing.

LPNI190147 - Refer to Attorney General's Office for Public Consent Order with three years' probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, after care), substance abuse stipulations, Standard work restrictions, Monthly PEth x 12mos, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, Courses in Substance Use in Nursing, Professional Accountability and Legal Liability, $500 fine for failure to disclose arrest, must submit final disposition of criminal case within 5 days of adjudication. Investigative Costs: $310.66.

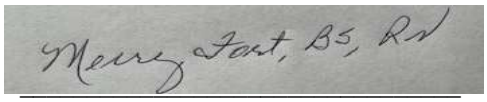
LPNI220136

LPNI220113 – Voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension, may petition to lift with one full quarter of compliance with Consent Order.

RNI220320 - Close case with no disciplinary action.

Thompson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Thursday, November 4, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.



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 November 4, 2021 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 4th day of November, 2021.

Notary Public

RENEA L. GRAY
NOTARY PUBLIC
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 6/1/2023
HOUSTON COUNTY, GEORGIA