

The Georgia Board of Nursing met December 16, 2021, via teleconference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

**THURSDAY DECEMBER 16, 2021**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Tammy Bryant, MSN, BSN, RN, President  
Merry Fort, BS, RN, Vice President  
Darrell Thompson, RN, DNP, ACNP-BC, FNP-BC  
Roger Pierce, RN, MSN  
Ashlan Porter, RN  
Maceo Tanner, LPN  
K. Andrea Phipps, LPN  
Joshua Batson NP-C  
Jennifer Pipkin, RN, MSN, CRNA

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Candice Broce, JD, Consumer Member  
Stephanie Dickerson, RN, BSN

**STAFF PRESENT**

Zelma Delgado, Executive Director, Georgia Board of Nursing  
Natara Miller, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline,  
Janet Freeman, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline  
Edye Tillman-Johnson, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline  
Linda Morgan, PhD, MSN, RN - Education Consultant  
Kirsten Daughdril, JD, Assistant Attorney General  
Betsy Cohen, Assistant Attorney General  
Sandy Bailey, Assistant Attorney General  
Alexis Cromartie, Assistant Attorney General  
Elizabeth Simpson, Assistant Attorney General  
Kathy Winstead, Board Support

Bryant called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm on Thursday, December 16, 2021. *A quorum to conduct disciplinary matters was present.*

**OPEN SESSION**

**RULES HEARING – NOH\_60\_Day\_Policy\_Nursing-Signed  
Court Reporter – Pat Hodges**

**Written comments on proposed Rule – NONE**

**Comments on those present – NONE**

**Vote to Adopt** – Fort moved to adopt the proposed Rules. Batson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**Vote to release AG’s Memo for Authority to Governor’s Office** – Tanner moved to release to the Attorney General's Office for Authority to the Governor's Office. Phipps seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**Leave Meeting** – Fort moved to leave open session meeting. Batson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**Court Reporter left meeting @ 4:09**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A quorum of a committee was present, and Thompson moved, Pierce 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 Committee Meeting session on Thursday December 16, 2021, Bryant 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)

**RNI220539** – Batson moved to issue License with Letter of Concern - Criminal. Pierce seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI220024**– Porter moved to refer to Attorney General’s Office for for Public Consent Agreement with 5 years probation, two years of narcotic restrictions. Quarterly Reports (self, employer, after care, medication management), substance abuse stipulations, standard work restrictions, drug screens (Hairstat 10 with Kratom testing) X 24 months), and courses to include: Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing and Maintaining Your Professional License. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI220357** – Batson moved to refer to Office of Investigations to interview complainant (physician). Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI190146** – Porter moved to approve request to terminate Consent Order 6 months early. Batson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI220266** – Tanner moved to close case with no disciplinary action. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI220357**– Pierce moved to close case with Letter of Concern - Unprofessional Conduct. Batson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI211256** - Porter moved to refer to close case with no disciplinary action. Pierce seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI211292** - Porter moved to refer to Attorney General’s Office for revocation of license due to history. Pierce seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI211322** – Pierce moved to refer for Peer Review. Thompson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI220275** - Porter moved to close case with no disciplinary action. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI220328**– Porter moved to close case with no disciplinary action. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI220540** - Tanner moved to refer back to licensing analyst to have applicant submit educational documents and transcripts to CGFNS for review and bring back to the Board. Batson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI210529** – Porter moved to refer to Attorney General's Office for or a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension. May petition to lift with a full quarter of compliance with Consent Order and completion of course work. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

**RNI210818** – Tanner moved to Refer to Attorney General's Office for Public Reprimand for Unprofessional Conduct with \$500 fine, quarterly reports (self, employer) 12 months for sleeping @ work, courses to include Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Ethics in professionalism, deactivate Multistate license. Investigative Costs: \$60.15. Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI220179** – Porter moved to allow Respondent to withdraw Multistate application. Refer to Attorney General's Office for Public Consent Order with two years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, after care), substance abuse stipulations, Monthly PEth x 12 months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order with EtG and EtS, courses to include Substance Use in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know. Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI220006** – Tanner moved to refer to Attorney General's Office for Public Reprimand for drug diversion and positive drug test at work, Consent Order, two years probation with 2 years of narcotic restrictions. Quarterly reports (self, employer, after care, psy-addictionologist, psy-psychotherapy), substance abuse stipulations, quarterly Hair (Hairstat 14) x 12 months, Monthly UDSs with EtG and EtS, Standard work restrictions, courses to include Substance Use in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism. Thompson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Bryant abstained.

**RNI201412** – Batson moved to approve request to work with agency. Must obtain approval if changing work assignments. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI210355** – Tanner moved to approve request if agency supplies name of facility and unit. Must notify Board of any change in assignments. Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

**RNI220532** - Porter moved to grant multistate license. Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI220536** - Phipps moved to License by endorsement with Letter of Concern - alcohol. Thompson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI210091** – Phipps moved to refer to Attorney General's Office for 6 Month Mandatory Suspension due to felony conviction. May petition to lift with documentation of completion of IOP treatment, Safe to practice statement from physician certified in addiction medicine. Investigative Costs: \$357.48, and Standard Practice Language. Thompson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Porter abstained.

## **ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE**

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

**RNI150716** - Porter moved to rescind Previous Board Motion and close case. Consent agreement sent to applicant on September 2, 2021, to date applicant has not returned agreement. Thompson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI220072** – Tanner moved rescind Previous Board Motion. Respondent has provided documentation demonstrating his/her full complaint, which have been confirmed by Board staff. Close Case. Fort seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI190008** – Phipps moved to rescind Previous Board Motion. Close case- grant ENLC. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI211060** – Tanner moved to rescind Previous Board Motion. Revoke Temp permit. Phipps seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI220005** – Porter moved to Uphold Previous Board Motion – Applicant may withdraw application. Phipps seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RMI220190**

**RNI220125** – Porter moved to Amend Previous Board motion, change 5 years probation to 3 years, with monthly Peth through out the probation. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI210767** – Tanner moved to Amended Previous Board Motion - Respondent has signed a Voluntary Surrender in lieu of the Consent Order. Close Case. Batson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI220167** – Porter moved to rescind Previous Board Motion, refer to Office of Investigations to obtain arrest history (CBC) and criminal documents. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI201175**

**RNI200469** – Phipps moved to rescind Previous Board Motion. Respondent has provided documentation demonstrating his/her full compliance, which have been confirmed by the Board staff. Close Case. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI210415** – Porter moved to rescind Previous Board Motion. Respondent has provided documentation demonstrating his/her full compliance, which have been confirmed by the Board staff. Close Case. Phipps seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LPNI210412** – Porter moved to rescind Previous Board Motion. Respondent has provided documentation demonstrating his/her full compliance, which have been confirmed by the Board staff. Close Case. Phipps seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RNI160894** – Pierce moved to rescind Previous Motion – Reinstate license. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

At the conclusion of the executive session on Thursday 21, 2021, Bryant 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.

**OPEN SESSION**

**INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE B**

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

Tanner moved to ratify the following cases from the December 2, 2021 Investigative Committee B meeting:

|                  |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>RNI211049</b> | <b>LPNI220032</b> | <b>LPNI220082</b> | <b>LPNI210506</b> | <b>LPNI210347</b> | <b>LPNI210327</b> | <b>LPNI220181</b> |
| <b>RNI220502</b> | <b>RNI220358</b>  | <b>RNI220371</b>  | <b>LPNI220180</b> | <b>RNI211289</b>  | <b>RNI220418</b>  | <b>RNI210476</b>  |
| <b>RNI210766</b> | <b>RNI220277</b>  | <b>RNI210509</b>  | <b>LPNI210364</b> | <b>LPNI220118</b> | <b>LPNI220173</b> | <b>RNI220478</b>  |
| <b>RNI220499</b> | <b>LPNI220138</b> | <b>RNI220313</b>  | <b>RNI211004</b>  | <b>RNI220241</b>  | <b>RNI201015</b>  | <b>RNI220513</b>  |

Batson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**APPROVED ADA ACCOMODATIONS**

Fort moved to ratify the following ADA testing accommodations approved by staff using Board guidelines:

| <b>APPLICANT</b> | <b>DIAGNOSIS</b> | <b>RECOMMENDED ACTION</b>   |
|------------------|------------------|---|
| <b>2976798</b>   |                  | Extended time (Time and a half); Private Room                           |
| <b>2978326</b>   |                  | Extended time (time and a half); Private Room; Allowed use of ear plugs |

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)

Phipps moved to accept the following terminations of probation between meetings

**RNI160895      LPNI160070      RNI200395      LPNI190116      RNI160911      RNI180525      RNI160699**  
**RNI170653**

Batson 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)

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

| <b>RECOMMENDED ACTION</b> |                             |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>RNI191083</b>          | Lift narcotic restrictions. |
| <b>RNI180676</b>          | Lift narcotic restrictions. |

Batson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**REQUEST TO CHANGE AFTERCARE GROUPS**

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

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

| <b>RECOMMENDED ACTION</b> |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>RNI1210362</b>         | Change aftercare group – Jeremith Scott LA Plata Integrated Health                     |
| <b>RNI180656</b>          | Change aftercare group – Professionals Group at Valdosta Psychiatric with Jeff Bickers |

Tanner 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)

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

**RN220518      RN210565      RN220521      RN220538      RN220559      LPN220098**

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)

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

**RN220547      RN220587      LPN220191      RN220517**

Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**VOLUNTARY SURRENDER**

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

Porter moved to accept the voluntary surrender of the licenses listed below:

**RNI210767**

Pierce seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

**APPROVED PRECEPTORSHIP APPLICATIONS**

Porter moved to ratify the following nontraditional applicant preceptorships that were approved by staff using Board guidelines:

| APPLICANT | LICENSE OBTAINED BY METHOD | LOCATION                                |
|-----------|----------------------------|---|
| 2933936   | Examination                | Northeast GA Med Center-Gainesville, GA |

Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**APPROVED RE-ENTRY PROPOSALS**

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

Tanner moved to ratify the following reentry proposals that were approved by staff using Board guidelines:

| APPLICANT | METHOD LICENSE OBTAINED | LOCATION                            | TEMP PERMIT ISSUE DATE |
|-----------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 2980155   | Reinstatement           | Southern Crescent Technical College | 11/19/2021             |
| 2944036   | Endorsement             | Foothills AHEC                      | 11/13/2021             |
| 2971173   | Reinstatement           | Ycarte'Health Center                | 12/06/2021             |
| 2979356   | Reinstatement           | Three Rivers AHEC                   | 12/2/2021              |
| 2958986   | Reinstatement           | Clayton State University            | 12/3/2021              |
| 2974025   | Endorement              | Blue Ridge Area Health              | 12/9/2021              |
| 2958226   | Endorement              | Clayton State University            | 12/10/2021             |
| 2926001   | Reinstatement           | Clayton State University            | 11/8/2021              |
| 2970116   | Reinstatement           | Three Rivers AHEC                   | 11 /23/2021            |

Porter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

**APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**

Thompson moved to accept the November 17-18, 2021 Executive meeting minutes as presented. Batson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Thompson moved to accept the November 17-18, 2021 meeting minutes as presented. Phipps seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Tanner moved to accept the December 2, 2021 Investigative Committee B meeting minutes as presented. Batson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

## RULE WAIVER

**2970058** - Phipps moved to deny Rule Waiver. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously – Response to applicant to include: Did not provide enough information that adequately demonstrates that the purpose of the underlying statute upon which the rule is based has been achieved by other specific means and that strict application of the rule would create a substantial hardship. Therefore, you must complete a Board approved reentry program prior to licensure.

## BOARD RULES MODIFICATION PROPOSALS

**Board Rule - 410-08-03 (7)** - Organization and Administration – There was no board discussion, Phipps moved to approve the Economic Impact. Phipps seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**Board Rule - 410-8-05 (11)** – Faculty – There was no board discussion, Porter moved to approve the Economic Impact. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**Board Rule - 410-8-05 (6)** – Faculty – There was no board discussion, Phipps moved to approve the Economic Impact. Pipkin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Porter moved to refer modified Board Rules to Attorney General's Office. Tanner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned on Thursday, December 16, 2021, at 6:25 pm



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Tammy Bryant, **President**



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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 December 16, 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 16th day of December, 2021.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

