

The Investigative Committee A of the Georgia Board of Nursing met Thursday, August 4, 2022 via conference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT

Merry Fort, RN, BS, Vice President
Darrell Thompson, RN, DNP, ACNP-BC, FNP-BC
Cynthia Summerlin, NP-C, DNP
Joshua Batson, NP-C
Roger Pierce, RN, MSN

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, Assistant Attorney General

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pierce moved, Batson 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, July 7, 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)

Batson moved to present the following recommendations to the Board.

RNI221367 – 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, voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension. and deny renewal. May petition to lift with MPE and standard practice language.

RNI220617 – Refer to SOS Investigations to obtain a certified copy of the medical record for Barbara Gold, including but not limited to, Ms. Gold’s surgical record for spine stabilization and all post-op nursing records from Houston Medical Center in or about July 2018.

RNI220885 – Letter of Concern for unprofessional conduct.

LPNI210331 – Investigative letter with courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know and Narcotic Drugs: Handling and Documentation.

RNI220999 – 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, voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension. and deny renewal. May petition to lift with MPE and standard practice language.

RNI230071 – Close case. Continuing Education documents have been received.

LPNI220337– 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, voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension. and deny renewal. May petition to lift with MPE and standard practice language.

LPNI220305 – 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, voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension. and deny renewal. May petition to lift with MPE and standard practice language.

RNI230075 – Table application and refer to full board on 08/11/22.

RNI230077 – Table application and refer to full board on 08/11/22.

RNI230076 – Issue single state license. Applicant does not meet requirements of eNLC

RNI221281 – Refer to Attorney General's Office for Private Consent Order, five years' probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, psychotherapist), Substance Abuse Stipulations, Standard work restrictions – no managerial position, Monthly PEth x 24 months, quarterly urine drug screens with EtG and EtS throughout the order, courses in Substance Use in Nursing, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.

RNI221378 – 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, voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension. and deny renewal. May petition to lift with MPE and standard practice language.

RNI230082 – Must complete the required clinical and theoretical hours in Nursing Care of Children. Applicant is deficient in both (0 hours completed).

RNI220216 – Refer to Attorney General's Office for Public Reprimand \$500 fine for falsifying documentation at work, courses in Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing, Jurisprudence RN, Applicable Investigative Costs

RNI220556 – Refer to Attorney General's Office for Public Reprimand \$500 fine for impairment at work, five years' probation quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare), Substance Abuse Stipulations, Standard work restrictions, Monthly PEth x 12months, quarterly urine drug screens with EtG and EtS throughout the order. Applicable Investigative Costs

RNI220891 - Investigative Letter with courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability, Jurisprudence GA RN, Ethics of Nursing Practice.

RNI220531 – Close case no action.

RNI230070 - Grant initial authorization to practice as APRN

RNI201078 - Refer to Attorney General's Office for Public Reprimand \$500 fine for forging prescriptions, enroll in IOP within 30 days of docket date of Consent Order, Stayed suspension - impose suspension if he does not enroll and complete IOP, five years' probation, 2 years of Narcotic Restrictions , quarterly reports, (self, employer, after care), Substance Abuse Stipulations, Standard work restrictions, quarterly hair reports Hairstat 5 x 24 months, quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order, courses in Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing, Jurisprudence RN, Substance Use in Nursing, Professional Accountability and Legal Liability.

LPNI220243 – Close case with no disciplinary action

RNI220633 – Investigative Letter with courses to include Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Jurisprudence – Georgia RN

RNI220940 – Close case with Letter of Concern-unusual Drug Screen

RNI220900 – Close case no disciplinary action.

RNI230027 – Refer to Attorney General's Office for Private Consent Order for Continuing Education violation with \$500.00

fine.

RNI220340 – 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, voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension. and deny renewal. May petition to lift with MPE and standard practice language.

RNI220952 – Close case no action.

RNI220911 – Refer to SOS Investigations to obtain patient medical records from Savannah Orthopedics Associates. Obtain confirmation of Respondent's resignation date and/or termination date and reason for leaving employment. Obtain a statement from Dr. Jonathan Shults confirming Respondent had a discussion with him regarding the patient's post op symptoms. Board staff to obtain a copy of all protocol agreement(s), current and expired, from GCMB. Refer documents for peer review.

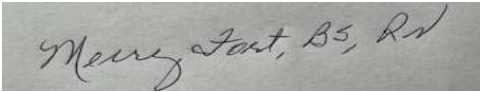
LPNI220224 – Close case no action.

RNI220332 – Close case no action.

RNI220341 – Close case no action.

Summerlin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Thursday, August 4, 2022 at 4:39 p.m.

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

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.

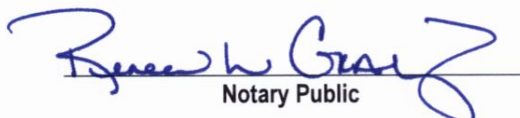
1. I am the presiding officer of the Georgia Board of Nursing.
2. I am over the age of 18 and in all other aspects competent to make this sworn statement. I acknowledge that I am giving this statement under oath and penalty of perjury and that I have read the contents of this affidavit prior to signing it.
3. On August 4, 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 4th day of August, 2022.



Notary Public

