

CALL TO ORDER 8:30 a.m.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

DATE: March 5, 2025

TIME: 8:30 a.m.

LOCATION: Via Microsoft TEAMS

MEETING MINUTES

Name	Member	Present (Y/N)	AAG/DPH STAFF	Present (Y/N)
Gina Reiners, PhD, APRN, PMHNP-BC, PMHCNS-BC, Chairperson	RN Member	Y	Elizabeth Bannon, AAG	Y
Cynthia L. Arpin, EdD, MSN, RN	RN Member	Y	Alina Bricklin-Goldstein, AAG	Y
Salvatore Diaz, DNP, MSN, RN	RN Member	Y	Ryan Burns, DPH	Y
Mary E. Dietmann, EdD, RN, ACNS-BC, CNE	RN Member	N	Aden Baume, DPH	Y
Lisa Freeman, BA	Public Member	Y	Linda Fazzina, DPH	Y
Camille Payne, MPH, MSN, APRN, DNP	APRN Member	Y	Anthony Nanni, DPH	Y
Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez, DNP, MSN, MPH, RN	RN Member	Y	Julienne Cutaia, DPH	Y
			Brett Moody, DPH	Y
			Patricia Calderone, DPH	Y
			Charai Bellini, DPH	Y
			Inna Erlikh, DPH	Y
			Dana Dalton, DPH	Y
			Lavita Sookram, DPH	Y
			Luis Maldonado, DPH	Y
			Meaghan Christinat, DPH	Y
			Leslie Greer, DPH	Y
			Sara Montauti, DPH	Y

A regular meeting of the Board of Examiners for Nursing was held via Microsoft Teams on March 5, 2025. The meeting was convened at 8:30 a.m. Attendance was taken by roll call.

Elizabeth Rivera-Rodrigues moved to add the following items to the agenda: 1) Motion for Summary Suspension; 2) Motion to Withdraw the Department’s Summary Suspension and Statement of Charges, related to Guerlande A. Jean, LPN, Petition No. 2022-1105. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Lisa Freeman was not present for the vote.

Cynthia Arpin moved to add to add the following item to the agenda: Motion to Withdraw Statement of Charges related to Lori M. Aleksiewicz, LPN, Petition No. 2024-1776. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Lisa Freeman was not present for the vote.

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 19, 2025, REGULAR MEETING

The draft minutes of the February 19, 2025, meeting were reviewed. Cynthia Arpin moved to approve the minutes with an amendment to note that Salvatore Diaz returned prior to the discussion of the University of Bridgeport. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Lisa Freeman was not present for the vote.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Olga Kwasnik, RN Petition No. 2025-52. Staff Attorney Anthony Nanni represented the Department. The Respondent was not present. Cynthia Arpin moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension citing that the Respondent posed a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety if allowed to continue the practice of nursing. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

MOTION TO WITHDRAW THE DEPARTMENT'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION AND STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Guerlande A. Jean, LPN Petition No. 2022-1105. Staff Attorney Anthony Nanni represented the Department. The Respondent was not present. Salvatore Diaz moved to grant the Motion to Withdraw the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension and Statement of Charges. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

CONSENT ORDER

Tiffany C. Kuczynski, RN, Petition No. 2024-913. Staff Attorney Julienne Cutaia represented the Department. The Respondent was present. Cynthia Arpin moved to approve the Consent Order. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Catherine E. Seemer, RN, Petition No. 2023-1241. Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina represented the Department. Neither the Respondent nor her counsel was present. Cynthia Arpin moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension citing that the Respondent posed a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety if allowed to continue the practice of nursing. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

MOTION TO WITHDRAW STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Lori M. Aleksiewicz, LPN, Petition No. 2024-1776. Staff Attorney Anthony Nanni represented the Department and informed the Board that the Respondent voluntarily surrendered her license. The Respondent was not present. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez moved to grant the Motion to Withdraw Statement of Charges. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Tammy Piccirillo, LPN, Petition No. 2024-1479. The Respondent was not present. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez moved to approve the Memorandum of Decision. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

HEARINGS

Yesenia L. Cruz, RN Petition No. 2024-1754. Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina appeared for the Department. The Respondent was present and represented herself.

Following the close of the hearing, the Board conducted fact-finding. Cynthia Arpin made a motion to find that the Department met its burden of proof and that the Respondent be found on all charges (paragraphs 1-6) of the Statement of Charges. Lisa Freeman seconded the motion. Camille Payne abstained. The motion was approved unanimously. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez was not present for the vote.

For remedy, Cynthia Arpin made a motion to restart the original Consent Order with the same terms, set forth in the original Consent Order. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez was not present for the vote.

The Respondent requested that the Summary Suspension be lifted. The Department objected. Cindy Arpin made a motion to vacate the Respondent's Summary Suspension, effective immediately. Lisa Freeman seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez was not present for the vote.

Kellina N. Beckford, RN Petition No. 2024-1608. Staff Attorney Julienne Cutaia appeared for the Department. Neither the Respondent nor her counsel was present.

Lisa Freeman moved to grant the Department's Motion to Deem Allegations Admitted. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez was not present for the vote.

During the entry of exhibits, it was discovered that Attorney Mitchel-Hoffler's letter of representation included a statement that all allegations were denied. The Department clarified that the letter had been submitted during the investigation phase, prior to the filing of the Statement of Charges.

Salvatore Diaz moved to vacate the Board's order granting the Motion to Deem Allegations Admitted and to deny the motion. Lisa Freeman seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez was not present for the vote.

Following the close of the hearing, the Board conducted fact-finding. Cynthia Arpin made a motion to find that the Department met its burden of proof and that the Respondent be found on all charges (paragraphs 1-5) of the Statement of Charges. Lisa Freeman seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez was not present for the vote.

For remedy, Cynthia Arpin made a motion for revocation. Lisa Freeman seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 4-1 vote. Gina Reiners, Cynthia Arpin, Salvatore Diaz, and Camille Payne voted in favor while Lisa Freeman voted against. Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez was not present for the vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Salvatore Diaz made a motion to adjourn. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.