

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING
17373 PERKINS ROAD
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70810**

MINUTES OF THE HEARING PANEL HELD WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2019

Call to Order: The Hearing Panel of the Board of Nursing was called to order at 9:15 a.m. by T. Cotita, President, on Wednesday, May 8, 2019, at the Louisiana State Board of Nursing, 17373 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70810.

Roll Call: The following Board members were in attendance:
Tim Cotita, MSHCE, RN, CDE, President
Laura Bonanno, DNP, CRNA, Vice President
Kenneth Alexander, MS, RRT
Ann Carruth, DNS, RN
Tracey Moffatt, MHA, BSN, RN
Jamie Wiggins, MS, RN, FACHE

The following staff members were in attendance:
Karen C. Lyon, PhD, APRN, ACNS-BC, NEA-BC, Executive Director/CEO
William Little, JD, MPA, Director of Investigations
Urhonda Beckwith, MSN, APRN, FNP, RNP Director
Melodie Knippers, RN, Compliance Officer
Domoine Rutledge, JD, Board Attorney
Carrie LeBlanc Jones, JD, LSBN General Counsel
Lauren Reed, JD, Board Attorney
Suzanne C. Armand, CCR, CVR, Court Reporter

Agenda Approval:

Motion: by L. Bonanno, seconded, to adopt the Agenda as presented.

T. Cotita-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes; T. Moffatt-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Motion: by L. Bonanno, seconded, to authorize one panel member to approve the Minutes of today's Hearing Panel. L. Bonanno will review and approve.

T. Cotita-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes; T. Moffatt-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Motion: by L. Bonanno, seconded, to go into Executive Session pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17 (1) to adjudicate scheduled cases and for reviewing consent orders, automatic suspensions and other disciplinary actions in the cases listed on the Agenda.

T. Cotita-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes; T. Moffatt-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Maggie Mae Neil

Show Cause Order Filed: 03/12/2019

The Hearing began at 9:18 a.m. Ms. Neil was not present for the hearing and was not represented by counsel.

Melodie Knippers was sworn in and testified to the background of the matter.

April Usie was sworn in and testified as a witness for the Board.

Jill Bueche was sworn in and testified as a witness for the Board.

Eight (8) Exhibits were entered into evidence labeled Board Exhibit 1 through 8.

Rebecca Nations Powers

Reconsideration/Rehearing: 01/14/2019

Ms. Powers entered the hearing room at 11:07 a.m. and was represented by her counsel, Mr. Jason Ourso

One (1) Exhibit was entered into evidence labeled Joint Exhibit 1.

One (1) Exhibit was entered into evidence labeled Board Exhibit 1.

One (1) Exhibit was entered into evidence labeled Respondent Exhibit 1.

Jackson Davis

Reconsideration/Rehearing: 02/08/2019

Mr. Davis entered the hearing room at 12:39 p.m. and was not represented by counsel.

Mr. Davis was sworn in as a witness and testified in his own behalf.

Dr. K. Lyon was sworn in and testified as a witness for the Board.

Two (2) Exhibits were entered into evidence labeled Joint Exhibit 1 and 2.

Cydney Arriane Johnson

Reconsideration/Rehearing: 02/19/2019

Ms. Johnson entered the hearing room at 1:12 p.m. and was not represented by counsel.

Ms. Johnson was sworn in as a witness and testified in her own behalf.

One (1) Exhibit was entered into evidence labeled Joint Exhibit 1.

One (1) Exhibit was entered into evidence labeled Board Exhibit 1.

Brandon John Viator

Reconsideration/Rehearing: 09/28/2018

Mr. Viator entered the Hearing room at 1:40 p.m. and was not represented by counsel.

Mr. Viator was sworn in as a witness and testified in his own behalf.

One (1) Exhibit was entered into evidence labeled Joint Exhibit 1.

One (1) Exhibit was entered into evidence labeled Board Exhibit 1.

CONSENT ORDERS:

The following Consent Orders went on record as presented:

Nurse Practice Act Violations

**Shandy Victoria Harrison
Kathleen Istre Roy
Cynthia Draper Sanders
Patricia Modica Workman**

Reinstatements

Tammy Dalrymple

**Katie Benoit Danos
Stacy Fruge**

Students

**Laura Christine Blanchard
Jessica Michelle Gotch**

RATIFICATION OF AUTOMATIC SUSPENSIONS:

The following Automatic Suspensions by staff were presented to the Board for ratification. The record of these individuals and W. Matthews' affidavit and summary were introduced as Exhibit Number 1 in globo to support the position that these automatic suspensions were in order:

**Wendy Cockerham Pesnell
Lacy Lee Rosenbalm
Erica Nicole Simmons**

RATIFICATION OF DELAY/DENIAL BY STAFF ACTION:

The following Delay/Denial by staff was presented to the Board for ratification. The record of this individual and W. Matthews' affidavit and summary were introduced as Exhibit Number 1 in globo to support the position that this delay/denial was in order:

Sheena Sherecka Rose

RATIFICATION OF MULTIPLE ACTIONS:

The following Multiple Action by staff was presented to the Board for ratification:

Kerri Bartron Melerine

Motion: by L. Bonanno, seconded, to go into Open Session

T. Cotita-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes; T. Moffatt-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

ACTIONS ON DISCIPLINARY MATTERS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2019:

Roll Call: The following Board members were in attendance:
Tim Cotita, MSHCE, RN, CDE, President
Laura Bonanno, DNP, CRNA, Vice President
Kenneth Alexander, MS, RRT
Ann Carruth, DNS, RN
Tracey Moffatt, MHA, BSN, RN

Jamie Wiggins, MS, RN, FACHE

The following staff members were in attendance:

Karen C. Lyon, PhD, APRN, ACNS-BC, NEA-BC, Executive Director/CEO
William Little, JD, MPA, Director of Investigations
Urhonda Beckwith, MSN, APRN, FNP, RNP Director
Melodie Knippers, RN, Compliance Officer
Domoine Rutledge, JD, Board Attorney
Carrie LeBlanc Jones, JD, LSBN General Counsel
Lauren Reed, JD, Board Attorney
Suzanne C. Armand, CCR, CVR, Court Reporter

Maggie Mae Neil

Motion: by J. Wiggins, seconded, that the Board accept the Findings of Fact as presented by the Prosecuting Attorney.

T. Cotita-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes; T. Moffatt-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Motion: by J. Wiggins, seconded, that the Board accept the Conclusions of Law as presented by the Prosecuting Attorney.

T. Cotita-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes; T. Moffatt-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Motion: by J. Wiggins, seconded, that the Board adopt the Board Order as presented by the Prosecuting Attorney with the following changes:

\$2,500 to the Board as a fine.
\$750 to the Board as cost of the hearing.

T. Cotita-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes; T. Moffatt-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Jackson Davis

Motion: by T. Moffatt, seconded, that the Board adopt the following Board Order:

“It is ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Petitioner’s Petition for Reconsideration or Rehearing is GRANTED and, based upon a review of the record, the denial of Petitioner’s application to practice as a student nurse or to enter/progress into clinical nursing courses, ratified by the Board on March 13, 2019, is modified as follows: It is further ordered we suspend the Executive Director’s decision for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days and refer the matter to the Executive Director for further consideration.”

T. Cotita-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes; T. Moffatt-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Cydnie Arriane Johnson

Motion: by K. Alexander, seconded, that the Board adopt the following Board Order:

“It is ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Petitioner’s *Petition for Reconsideration or Rehearing* is DENIED and the denial of Petitioner’s application to practice as a student nurse or to enter/progress into clinical nursing courses, ratified by the Board on March 13, 2019, is affirmed.”

T. Cotita-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes; T. Moffatt-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Rebecca Nations Powers

Motion: by L. Bonanno, seconded, that the Board adopt the following Board Order:

“It is ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that the Petitioner’s *Petition for Reconsideration or Rehearing* is DENIED, and the suspension of Petitioner’s license, ratified by the Board on February 13, 2019, is affirmed.”

T. Cotita-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes; T. Moffatt-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

Brandon John Viator

Motion: by K. Alexander, seconded, that the Board adopt the following Board Order:

“It is ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Petitioner’s *Petition for Reconsideration or Rehearing* is DENIED and the denial of Petitioner’s application to practice as a student nurse or to enter/progress into clinical nursing courses, ratified by the Board on October 10, 2018, is affirmed.”

T. Cotita-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes; T. Moffatt-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

CONSENT ORDERS:

There were nine (9) matters considered by the Board as Consent Orders.

Motion: by L. Bonanno, seconded, that the Board accept the Consent Orders on the following individuals:

Nurse Practice Act Violations

**Shandy Victoria Harrison
Kathleen Istre Roy
Cynthia Draper Sanders
Patricia Modica Workman**

Reinstatement

**Tammy Dalrymple
Katie Benoit Danos
Stacy Fruge**

Students

**Laura Christine Blanchard
Jessica Michelle Gotch**

T. Cotita-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes; T. Moffatt-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

RATIFICATION OF AUTOMATIC SUSPENSIONS:

There were three (3) matters considered by the Board as ratification of Automatic Suspensions by Board staff.

Motion: by J. Wiggins, seconded, that the Board ratify the Automatic Suspensions by Board staff on the following individuals:

**Wendy Cockerham Pesnell
Lacy Lee Rosenbalm
Erica Nicole Simmons**

T. Cotita-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes; T. Moffatt-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

RATIFICATION OF DELAY/DENIAL BY STAFF ACTION

There was one (1) matter considered by the Board as Ratification of Delay/Denial.

Motion: by K. Alexander, seconded, that the Board ratify the Delay/Denial on the following individual:

Sheena Sherecka Rose

T. Cotita-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes; T. Moffatt-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

RATIFICATION OF MULTIPLE ACTIONS:

There was one (1) matter considered by the Board as Ratification of Multiple Actions.

Motion: by A. Carruth, seconded, that the Board ratify the Multiple Actions on the following individual:

Kerri Bartron Melerine

T. Cotita-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; K. Alexander-yes; A. Carruth-yes; T. Moffatt-yes;
J. Wiggins-yes

Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: by K. Alexander, seconded, to adjourn.

The Hearing Panel adjourned at 2:44 p.m.



TIM COTITA, PRESIDENT
LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING