

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

**MINUTES OF THE HEARING PANEL HELD WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2018**

**Call to Order:** The Hearing Panel of the Board of Nursing was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by L. Bonanno, President, on Wednesday, September 12, 2018, at the Louisiana State Board of Nursing 17373 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70810

**Roll Call:** The following Board members were in attendance:  
Laura Bonanno, DNP, CRNA, President  
Tim Cotita, MSHCE, RN, CDE, Alternate Officer  
Kenneth Alexander, MS. RRT  
Jennifer Couvillon, PhD, RN-BC, CNE  
Nancy Davis, MN, RN, NE-BC  
Jacqueline Hill, PhD, RN

The following staff members were in attendance:  
Karen C. Lyon, PhD, APRN, ACNS-BC, NEA-BC, Executive Director/CEO  
Wanda Matthews, MPA, Chief Regulatory Officer  
William Little, JD, MPA, Director of Investigations  
Melodie Knippers, RN, Compliance Officer  
Sharetha Brown, Compliance Investigator  
Miranda Christopher, Compliance Investigator  
Lisa Booth, Recovering Nurse and Monitoring Program Manager  
Lauren Reed, JD, Board Attorney  
Domoine Rutledge, JD, Board Attorney  
Carrie LeBlanc Jones, JD, Board Attorney

**Agenda Approval:** Jaime Rene Smith signed a Consent Order and will appear under Multiple Actions.

**Motion:** by T. Cotita, seconded, to approve the Agenda as amended.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; Cotita-yes;  
J. Couvillon-yes; N. Davis-yes; J. Hill-yes

Motion Carried

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

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes;

J. Couvillon-yes; N. Davis-yes; J. Hill-yes

Motion Carried

**Motion:** by T. Cotita, 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.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes;  
J. Couvillon-yes; N. Davis-yes; J. Hill-yes;

Motion Carried

**Mary Elizabeth Bell**

Summary Suspension 05/02/2018  
Complaint 05/02/2018

Ms. Bell entered the hearing room at 9:25 a.m. with counsel Carol Schriefer and George F. Indest, III, J.D.

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

Lisa Booth was sworn in and testified as a witness for the Board.

Tammy Kauffman was sworn in and testified as a witness for the Board.

Faye Hodges was sworn in and testified as a witness for the Board.

Amy Bunch was sworn in and testified as a witness for Ms. Bell

Kametria Mason was sworn in and testified as a witness for Ms. Bell

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

Eleven (11) exhibits were entered into evidence labeled Board 1 through 11.

Twelve (12) exhibits were entered into evidence labeled Respondent 1 through 12.

**Holly Elizabeth Connor**

Complaint 12/29/2017

Ms. Conner entered the hearing room at 5:25 p.m. with counsel Carol Schriefer and George F. Indest, III, J.D.

Sharetha Brown was sworn in and testified as to the background of the matter.

Debra Mercer was sworn in and testified as a witness for Ms. Connor.

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

Ten (10) exhibits were entered into evidence labeled Board 1 through 10

Sixteen (16) exhibits were entered into evidence labeled Respondent 1 through 16.

**Danielle Young Cannon**

Complaint 05/23/2018

Ms. Cannon entered the hearing room at 8:35p.m. without counsel.

Maranda Christopher was sworn in and testified as to the background of the matter.

Helen Meyer was sworn in and testified as a witness for the Board.

Jaime Quave-Lewis was sworn in and testified as a witness for the Board.

Gaynel Hornsby was sworn in as a witness and testified as a witness for Ms. Cannon.

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

Seven (7) Exhibits were entered into evidence labeled Board 1 through 7.

**CONSENT ORDERS:**

The following Consent Orders went on record as presented:

**Nurse Practice Act Violations**

**Javier Trejon Anderson**  
**Amber McClure Banks**  
**Kim Michelle DeBessonnet**  
**Alichia Kraus Henry**  
**Loren Ashley Kupihea**

**Tori Leigh Lowrey  
Ciji Nannette West**

**Reinstatement**

**Ryaneshia Jemi Austin  
Joshua Miles Doggett  
Chanda Wheat Harbor**

**Students**

**Drew David Chatelain  
Joshua Luke Hines  
Stephanie Ellen Mayer  
Rivers Anthony Sam**

**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:

**Joe Michael Brown  
Justin Edward Cochran  
Mary Carey Dean  
Amy Renee Gray**

**RATIFICATION OF MULTIPLE ACTIONS:**

The following Multiple Actions by staff were presented to the Board for ratification:

**Betina LeJeune Clark  
Hayley Denise Pickering  
Rebecca Ashley Reiser  
Jaime Rene Smith**

**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:

**Alan Matthew Maddox  
Christina Schilleci Trapani**

**Motion:** by N. Davis, seconded, to go into Open Session

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes;  
J. Couvillon-yes; N. Davis-yes; J. Hill-yes;

Motion Carried

**ACTIONS ON DISCIPLINARY MATTERS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2018:**

**Roll Call:**                    The following Board members were in attendance:  
Laura Bonanno, DNP, CRNA, President  
Tim Cotita, MSHCE, RN, CDE, Alternate Officer  
Kenneth Alexander, MS. RRT  
Jennifer Couvillon, PhD, RN-BC, CNE  
Nancy Davis, MN, RN, NE-BC  
Jacqueline Hill, PhD, RN

The following staff members were in attendance:  
Karen C. Lyon, PhD, APRN, ACNS-BC, NEA-BC, Executive Director/CEO  
Wanda Matthews, MPA, Chief Regulatory Officer  
William Little, JD, MPA, Director of Investigations  
Melodie Knippers, RN, Compliance Officer  
Sharetha Brown, Compliance Investigator  
Miranda Christopher, Compliance Investigator  
Lisa Booth, Recovering Nurse and Monitoring Program Manager  
Lauren Reed, JD, Board Attorney  
Domoine Rutledge, JD, Board Attorney  
Carrie LeBlanc Jones, JD, Board Attorney

**Mary Elizabeth Bell**

**Motion:**                    by T. Cotita, seconded, that the Board accept the Findings of Fact as presented by the Prosecuting Attorney with the following changes:

Number 9, ii, change “signed” to “received” and delete the word “demonstrating.” Sentence now reads, “On December 18, 2017, Respondent received a Formal Counseling Agreement after it was reported that unprofessional behavior was alleged. Specifically, Respondent:

Number 10 delete “demonstrated the inability to practice nursing with reasonable skill and safety due to alleged use of alcohol.” Sentence now reads, “On January 3, 2018, while employed as a Registered Nurse at Baton Rouge General Medical Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Respondent refused to submit to a for-cause Blood Alcohol test after the breathalyzer results were inconclusive. Respondent did submit to a urine drug screen which returned negative. The UDS did not screen for ethanol (alcohol, ethyl alcohol).

Number 10, ii, delete the word “Breathalyzer and”. After “Blood Alcohol tests” add “after the Breathalyzer test was inconclusive.” The remainder is unchanged. Sentence now reads, “, Respondent failed to cooperate with the Breathalyzer and Blood Alcohol tests after the Breathalyzer test was inconclusive. Specifically, Respondent:”

Number 10, ii, delete Bullets 1 and 3.

Number 11, delete “demonstrated suspicious and paranoid behaviors during the process of completing the for-cause drug tests.” Delete the word “Specifically” and keep “Respondent:” Sentence now reads, “On January 3, 2018, while employed as a Registered Nurse at Baton Rouge General Medical Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, during the process of undergoing a for-cause impairment evaluation, Respondent:”

Number 11, Bullet Number 1, remove “erratic and”. Sentence now reads, “Became increasingly agitated;”

Number 11, Bullet 4 is deleted.

Number 11, Bullet 5, remove “; and” at the end of the sentence. Sentence now reads, “Stated she ‘had enough’ and felt something obviously was going on that started 3 weeks ago.”

Number 11, Bullet 6 is deleted.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; N. Davis-yes; J. Hill-yes;

Motion Carried

**Motion:** by T. Cotita, seconded, that the Board adopt the following Board Order as presented by the Prosecuting Attorney with the following changes:

Number 3 delete bullets 1 and 3.

Number 4 remove “constitutes” and replace with “does not constitute”. The sentence now reads, “The evidence presented does not constitute sufficient cause pursuant to La. R.S. 37:921 to ratify the license summary suspension issued by Board staff on May 2, 2018.”

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; N. Davis-yes; J. Hill-yes;

Motion Carried

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

“It is **ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED** that on May 2, 2018 license summary suspension issued by Board staff is hereby rescinded and Respondent is formally reprimanded for not using appropriate judgment.”

Number 8, “Submit 0 payment as a fine.”

Number 9, “Submit 0 payment as cost of the hearing.”

Number 10, “Rescind the \$4900.50 to the Board as cost of legal fees.”

Under Reporting: “This will be reported to the NPDB as 99: “Other-Failed to Utilize Appropriate Judgment.”

NPDB Narrative: “By Final Order, the suspension of Respondent’s Registered Nurse license on May 2, 2018 was rescinded and the Respondent was issued a Formal Reprimand for failure to utilize appropriate judgment.”

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; N. Davis-yes; J. Hill-yes;

Motion Carried

**Holly Elizabeth Connor**

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

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; N. Davis-yes; J. Hill-yes;

Motion Carried

**Motion:** by J. Hill, seconded, that the Board accept the Conclusions of Law as presented by the Prosecuting Attorney with the following changes:

Under 3, delete Bullets 1 and 5.

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; N. Davis-yes; J. Hill-yes;

Motion Carried

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

Number 1, first sentence is changed to read, “Within 30 days, submit to an out-patient evaluation, at Respondent’s expense, at a Kentucky, Tennessee, or Ohio Board-Recognized evaluation center.” The remainder is unchanged.

Number 3, second sentence is changed to read, “If monitoring is recommended, license suspension with stay and probation shall be required and Respondent may be monitored in Kentucky, Tennessee or Ohio. This stipulation shall continue until Respondent is fully discharged by the respective professionals and until approved by the Board staff.” The remainder is unchanged.

Number 14, last sentence, delete “Not be employed in agency/pool/staffing, home health services or nursing homes.”

Number 19, deleted.

Number 21, “Submit a payment of \$500 to the Board as a fine.”

Number 22, “Submit a payment of \$1200 to the Board for the cost of the hearing.”

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; N. Davis-yes; J. Hill-yes;

Motion Carried

**Danielle Young Cannon**

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

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; N. Davis-yes; J. Hill-yes;

Motion Carried

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

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; N. Davis-yes; J. Hill-yes;

Motion Carried



**Motion:** by J. Couvillon, seconded, that the Board adopt the following Board Order as presented by the Prosecuting Attorney with the following change:

Number 8, "Submit a payment of \$2,000 to the Board as a fine."

Number 9, "Submit payment of \$900 to the Board for the cost of the hearing."

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; J. Couvillon-yes; N. Davis-yes; J. Hill-yes;

Motion Carried

**CONSENT ORDERS:**

There were fourteen (14) matters considered by the Board as Consent Orders.

**Motion:** by N. Davis, seconded, that the Board accept the Consent Orders for the following individuals:

**Nurse Practice Act Violations**

**Javier Trejon Anderson  
Amber McClure Banks  
Kim Michelle DeBessonet  
Alichia Kraus Henry  
Loren Ashley Kupihea  
Tori Leigh Lowrey  
Ciji Nannette West**

**Reinstatement**

**Ryaneshia Jemi Austin  
Joshua Miles Doggett  
Chanda Wheat Harbor**

**Students**

**Drew David Chatelain  
Joshua Luke Hines  
Stephanie Ellen Mayer  
Rivers Anthony Sam**

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; J. Couvillon-yes;

N. Davis-yes; J. Hill-yes;

Motion Carried

**RATIFICATION OF AUTOMATIC SUSPENSION**

There were four (4) matters considered by the Board as ratification of Automatic Suspension by Board staff.

**Motion:** by J. Couvillon, seconded, that the Board ratify the Automatic Suspension by Board staff on the following individuals:

**Joe Michael Brown**  
**Justin Edward Cochran**  
**Mary Carey Dean**  
**Amy Renee Gray**

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; J. Couvillon-yes;  
N. Davis-yes; J. Hill-yes;

Motion Carried

**RATIFICATION OF DELAY/DENIAL BY STAFF ACTION**

There were two (2) matters considered by the Board as Ratification of Delay/Denial

**Motion:** by J. Hill, seconded, that the Board ratify the Delay/Denial on the following individuals:

**Alan Matthew Maddox**  
**Christina Schilleci Trapani**

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; J. Couvillon-yes;  
N. Davis-yes; J. Hill-yes;

Motion Carried

**RATIFICATION OF MULTIPLE ACTIONS:**

There were four (4) matters considered by the Board as Ratification of Multiple Actions.

**Motion:** by T. Cotita, seconded, that the Board ratify the Multiple Actions on the following individuals:

**Betina LeJeune Clark**  
**Hayley Denise Pickering**

**Rebecca Ashley Reiser**  
**Jaime Rene Smith**

Voice Vote: K. Alexander-yes; L. Bonanno-yes; T. Cotita-yes; J. Couvillon-yes;  
N. Davis-yes; J. Hill-yes;

Motion Carried

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

The Hearing Panel adjourned at 10:46 p.m.

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**L. BONANNO, PRESIDENT**  
**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING**