

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING  
FORMAL HEARINGS  
July 20, 2017**

**TIME AND PLACE:** The meeting of the Virginia Board of Nursing was called to order at 9:01 A.M. on July 20, 2017 in Board Room 2, Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico Virginia.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Louise Hershkowitz, CRNA, MSHA; Vice President, Chair  
Marie Gerardo, MS, RN, ANP-BC  
Guia Caliwagan, RN, MAN, EdS  
Alice Clark, Citizen Member  
Kelly S. McDonough, DNP, RN – **joined at 2:30 P.M.**  
Trula Minton, MS, RN

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Jay P. Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE; Executive Director  
Jane Elliott, RN, PhD; Discipline Staff  
Huong Vu, Executive Assistant

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Erin Barrett, Assistant Attorney General, Board Counsel  
Senior Nursing Students from VA Western Community College

**ESTABLISHMENT OF A PANEL:**

With five members of the Board present, a panel was established

**FORMAL HEARINGS:**

**Indea Jovone Thomas Watkins, RMA 0031-006162**  
Ms. Watkins did not appear.

Carla Boyd, Adjudication Specialist represented the Commonwealth. Ms. Barrett was legal counsel for the Board. Lori Larsen, court reporter with Crane-Snead & Associates, recorded the proceedings.

Lee Barlow, Human Resource Coordinator, Rosewood Village Assisted Living, and Ben Butler, LALA, Administrator, Riverdale Assisted Living, were present and testified. Kevin Pultz, Senior Investigator, Department of Health Professions, testified via telephone.

**CLOSED MEETING:**

Ms. Gerardo moved that the Board of Nursing convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(27) of the *Code of Virginia* at 9:30 A.M., for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Ms. Watkins. Additionally, Ms. Gerardo moved that Ms. Douglas, Dr. Elliott, Ms. Vu and Ms. Barrett, Board counsel, attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting is deemed necessary and their presence will aid the Board in its deliberations. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**RECONVENTION:**

The Board reconvened in open session at 9:38 A.M.

Ms. Gerardo moved that the Board of Nursing certify that it heard, discussed or considered only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Ms. Clark moved that the Board of Nursing accept the findings of fact and conclusions of law as presented by Ms. Boyd. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**ACTION:**

Ms. Gerardo moved that the Board of Nursing revoke the right of Indea Jovone Thomas Watkins to renew her registration to practice as medication aide in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

This decision shall be effective upon the entry by the Board of a written Order stating the findings, conclusions, and decision of this formal hearing panel.

**RECESS:**

The Board recessed at 9:40 A.M.

**RECONVENTION:**

The Board reconvened at 1:02 P.M.

**FORMAL HEARINGS:**

**Barbara Lynn Starnes, RN Texas RN 804561 with multistate privilege**  
Ms. Starnes did not appear.

Amy Weiss, Adjudication Specialist, represented the Commonwealth. Ms. Barrett was legal counsel for the Board. Lori Larsen, court reporter with Crane-Snead & Associates, recorded the proceedings.

Erwin Cheng, Administrator at Pro Healthcare Servicing (PHS), and Rona Powell, LCSW, Hospice Social Worker at PHS, were present and testified. Mark Cranfill, Senior Investigator, Department of Health Professions, testified via telephone.

**CLOSED MEETING:**

Ms. Gerardo moved that the Board of Nursing convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(27) of the *Code of Virginia* at 2:01 P.M., for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Ms. Starnes. Additionally, Ms. Gerardo moved that Ms. Douglas, Dr. Elliott, Ms. Vu and Ms. Barrett, Board counsel, attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting is deemed necessary and their presence will aid the Board in its deliberations. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**RECONVENTION:**

The Board reconvened in open session at 2:14 P.M.

Ms. Gerardo moved that the Board of Nursing certify that it heard, discussed or considered only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting

requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Ms. Clark moved that the Board of Nursing accept the findings of fact and conclusions of law as presented by Ms. Weiss and amended by the Panel. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**ACTION:**

Ms. Caliwagan moved that the Board of Nursing revoke the multistate privilege of Barbara Lynn Starnes to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia and to impose a monetary penalty of \$5,000.00 to be paid to the Board within 90 days from entry of the Order. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

This decision shall be effective upon the entry by the Board of a written Order stating the findings, conclusions, and decision of this formal hearing panel.

Ms. Douglas and the students left the meeting at 2:16 P.M.

**RECESS:**

The Board recessed at 2:16 A.M.

**RECONVENTION:**

The Board reconvened at 2:30 P.M.

Dr. McDonough and Ms. Krohn joined the meeting at 2:30 P.M.

**FORMAL HEARINGS:**

**Suzanne Lynn Griffin, RN 0001-153051**

Ms. Griffin did not appear.

Cynthia Gaines, Adjudication Specialist, represented the Commonwealth. Ms. Barrett was legal counsel for the Board. Lori Larsen, court reporter with Crane-Snead & Associates, recorded the proceedings.

Andria Christian, Senior Investigator, Department of Health Professions, and Kathy Ward, MS, CSAC, Case Manager, Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program, testified via telephone.

**CLOSED MEETING:**

Ms. Gerardo moved that the Board of Nursing convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(27) of the *Code of Virginia* at 2:52 P.M., for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Ms. Griffin. Additionally, Ms. Gerardo moved that Ms. Krohn, Dr. Elliott, Ms. Vu and Ms. Barrett, Board counsel, attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting is deemed necessary and their presence will aid the Board in its deliberations. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**RECONVENTION:**

The Board reconvened in open session at 3:02 P.M.

Ms. Garardo moved that the Board of Nursing certify that it heard, discussed or considered only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Ms. Clark moved that the Board of Nursing accept the findings of fact and conclusions of law as presented by Ms. Gaines and amended by the Panel. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**ACTION:**

Ms. Minton moved that the Board of Nursing continue the license of Suzanne Lynn Griffin to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on indefinite suspension and issue a reprimand. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

This decision shall be effective upon the entry by the Board of a written Order stating the findings, conclusions, and decision of this formal hearing panel.

**FORMAL HEARINGS:**

**Tracey Cheatwood, CNA 1401-150976**

Ms. Cheatwood appeared.

Steve Bulger, Adjudication Specialist, represented the Commonwealth. Ms. Barrett was legal counsel for the Board. Lori Larsen, court reporter with Crane-Snead & Associates, recorded the proceedings.

Kim Kirsch, RN, Assistant Director of Nursing, Oakwood Health and Rehabilitation, was present and testified.

**CLOSED MEETING:**

Ms. Gerardo moved that the Board of Nursing convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(27) of the *Code of Virginia* at 4:00 P.M., for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Ms. Cheatwood. Additionally, Ms. Gerardo moved that Ms. Krohn, Ms. Vu and Ms. Barrett, Board counsel, attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting is deemed necessary and their presence will aid the Board in its deliberations. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**RECONVENTION:**

The Board reconvened in open session at 4:14 P.M.

Ms. Gerardo moved that the Board of Nursing certify that it heard, discussed or considered only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**ACTION:** Dr. McDonough moved that the Board of Nursing dismiss the matter due to insufficient evidence to warrant disciplinary action. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

This decision shall be effective upon the entry by the Board of a written Order stating the findings, conclusions, and decision of this formal hearing panel.

Ms. Hershkowitz left the meeting at 4:17 P.M.

Ms. Gerardo chaired the meeting.

Ms. Douglas rejoined the meeting at 4:57 P.M.

Ms. Krohn left the meeting at 4:57 P.M.

**FORMAL HEARINGS:** **Shelia A. Murphy, RN Maryland R153466 with multistate privilege**  
Ms. Murphy did not appear.

Steve Bulger, Adjudication Specialist, represented the Commonwealth. Ms. Barrett was legal counsel for the Board. Lori Larsen, court reporter with Crane-Snead & Associates, recorded the proceedings.

Mark Cranfill, Senior Investigator, Department of Health Professions, testified via telephone. Linda Frix, former employee at Northern Virginia Surgery Center, Amie Boice, RN Operating Room Manager at Northern Virginia Surgery Center, and Charlene Benvenuto, Staffing Coordinator at Accountable Healthcare Staffing, Inc., were present and testified.

**CLOSED MEETING:** Ms. Minton moved that the Board of Nursing convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(27) of the *Code of Virginia* at 5:18 P.M., for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Ms. Murphy. Additionally, Ms. Minton moved that Ms. Douglas, Dr. Elliott, Ms. Vu and Ms. Barrett, Board counsel, attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting is deemed necessary and their presence will aid the Board in its deliberations. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**RECONVENTION:** The Board reconvened in open session at 5:33 P.M.

Ms. Minton moved that the Board of Nursing certify that it heard, discussed or considered only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Ms. Caliwagan moved that the Board of Nursing accept the findings of fact and conclusions of law as presented by Mr. Bulger and amended by the Panel. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**ACTION:**

Dr. McDonough moved that the Board of Nursing reprimand Shelia A. Murphy and require her to complete the following courses within 90 days from entry of the Order:

- *Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses,*
- *Documentation: A Critical Care Aspect of Client Care, and*
- *Ethics of Nursing Practice*

The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

This decision shall be effective upon the entry by the Board of a written Order stating the findings, conclusions, and decision of this formal hearing panel.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The Board adjourned at 5:36 P.M.

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Jay Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE  
Executive Director