# MINUTES OF THE INDIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

on Thursday, October 5, 2023 at 8:30 a.m.

\*TO BE HELD THROUGH WEBEX\* TO JOIN, CALL: (240) 454-0887 or LOG ON: <u>indiana.webex.com</u> MEETING CODE: 172 253 3540

#### **Administrative Law Judge:**

Jason King, DNP, RN

#### **PLA Staff:**

Nicholas Hart Dinena Moore Kayla Perkins Rose Kremple Rebecca Tinsley Catherine Briney Toni Herron

### **Advisory Counsel:**

Donald Hannah Claire Dyer

## I. Personal Appearances

- Cynthia Soto: Soto appeared for a positive response on her initial LPN application. She had a
  reckless driving case from 2012 and possession of marijuana. Successfully completed the
  criminal case and has no subsequent issues. She expressed regret. The ALJ recommended
  issuance of her license free and clear based on her testimony and length of time since criminal
  case.
- 2. Kimberly Brook: Brook appeared with counsel Lorie Brown on a positive response on her renewal application with a lapsed license for the last 2 years. She had a criminal case that has been successfully concluded. There is a PSA pending with the OAG. The ALJ made a recommendation to renew the license free and clear given the pending case with OAG.
- 3. Aaron Winters: Winters appeared for a positive response on his renewal application. Winters was arrested in November 2021 for resisting arrest. There were traffic cones on a street that he drove through. The police followed with sirens and Winters didn't immediately stop, which resulted in the charge. He was going through a divorce at the time. He sought out counseling to deal with the stress in his life. The criminal case is resolved with a reduced conviction. Probation is complete. No other issues since then. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear.

- 4. Lauren Davis: Davis appeared for a positive response due to a termination. Policy at her employer was to have a second nurse help complete a skin assessment. A coworker told Davis to sign for her. Her employer found out and terminated her. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear.
- 5. Kyla Heavrin: Heavrin appeared for a positive response on her renewal application. She was terminated from a nursing position. A review of her pyxis access resulted in suspicion of diversion. They suspected that she was diverting medication. She indicated that she was not diverting. She worked at the same employer for 6 years without incident. She was put on probation at work with conditions related to medication administration. Her employer told her that she missed administration of medication during the probation period. She was terminated from that employer. Heavrin is currently employed. She has had no issues with passing medication at that employer. She indicated that she has changed behaviors related to medication administration to improve. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear based on her testimony that she has learned from the experience.
- 6. Katherine Clearwater: Clearwater appeared for a positive response on her renewal application. She was arrested for OWI. She was arrested in July 2021. Her criminal case has been successfully concluded. She received an ISNAP evaluation that indicated she is not a candidate from monitoring. She has been abstinent from alcohol since the event. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear.
- 7. Olga Ventura: Ventura appeared for a positive response on her renewal application due to a termination from Community South. She was terminated for attendance issues (6 absences in less than one year) which she indicated were due to her baby having several illnesses. She has received subsequent employment PRN. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear.
- 8. Ronald Cunningham: Cunningham appeared for a positive response on his renewal application. The positive response related to a domestic violence case with alcohol involved. He was given a diversion agreement. He has not had a drink since then. The ALJ recommended renewal of his license free and clear.
- 9. Lacey Maul: Maul appeared with counsel Edna Cook. Maul indicated that her two positive responses were in error. She provided a positive response on her application for the malpractice question but it is still at the panel level. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear.
- 10. Navjot Wahi: Wahi appeared with counsel Patrick Callahan. Wahi provided a positive response on her renewal application due to a termination. She missed an appointment working at a home hospice. She was terminated due to missing the appointment for being somewhere else to pick up medication. Wahi indicated that missing the appointment was due to a change in territories for her company she had a large geography to cover. She was also 7 months pregnant at the time. Wahi has no previous issues at work or with the law. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear based on her testimony.
- 11. Phyllis Carr: Carr appeared with counsel Patrick Callahan for a positive response on her renewal application. She was charged with OWI this year and has took a plea. She has completed her criminal probation. The probation included a substance use evaluation that indicated she doesn't have an alcohol problem. No other issues. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear.
- 12. Melanie Jackson: Jackson appeared for a positive response on her renewal application. She indicated that she failed to scan some items unintentionally at Meijer. The criminal case is completed. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear.
- 13. Stephanie Douglass: Douglass appeared for a positive response on her renewal application. She got in trouble at work due to diversion, which she admitted to. She went to ISNAP and completed an inpatient rehab program. She is enrolled in a 5-year RMA in April 2022. IU Health has not terminated her. She has a criminal diversion which is not completed to be completed in March

- 2024. She has been sober for 19 months and is still working for IU Health. ISNAP diagnosed her with polysubstance use disorder. She indicated that she is compliant in her RMA. The RMA included a narcotics restriction. The ALJ recommended renewal on probation for the length of her RMA with signed board orders, quarterly reports, keep board informed of any changes and her info/employer's info, compliance in RMA and with criminal probation. Douglass agreed to the terms.
- 14. Caitlin Staples: Staples appeared for a positive response on her renewal application. She was charged with OWI in 2021. She was given a diversion which she has completed. She informed her employer and didn't get in trouble with them. She expressed regret over the situation. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear.
- 15. Kaylyn Stidham: Stidham appeared for a positive response on her renewal application. She was convicted of OWI in 2022. Her BAC was 0.1. She has completed probation as of March 2023. She did a drug and alcohol evaluation that indicated she didn't have an alcohol problem. She had a previous alcohol-related criminal offense from 2018. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear
- 16. Holly Young: Young appeared for a positive response on her renewal application. She was arrested for going into the scene of a car accident that involved her son. She is in a diversion that is currently ongoing. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear.
- 17. Stephanie Burge: Burge appeared for a positive response on her renewal application. Burge was arrested in January 2023 for OWI. The OWI has been dismissed since but she has a reckless driving case. Her probation ends in November 2023. She expressed regret over the incident. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear based on Burge's testimony and transparency.
- 18. Folake Fawibe: Fawibe provided a positive response on her renewal application. She has pending charges against her license in the State of Texas. The ALJ made a recommendation to renew and refer a complaint to the OAG.
- 19. Julie Smith: Smith appeared on a reinstatement application. Her license expired in 2016. Her license expired on license probation. She hasn't practice since 2012. The ALJ recommended requiring her to do the NCLEX review course with a predictor score, take and pass NCLEX, and then complete a refresher course with a clinical component. OR applicant can return to school. The licensee will remain on her existing terms of probation from 2013.
- 20. Caleb Rodgers: Rodger provided a positive response on his renewal application. Rodgers was terminated from an employer for taking a video of coworkers getting undressed in the work locker room. He told his pastor and apologized, has received counseling, etc. His primary state of licensure is Illinois. He hasn't disclosed this event to them yet since renewals haven't opened. The ALJ made a recommendation to renew free and clear.
- 21. Morgan Orton: Orton appeared for a positive response on her renewal application. She was out with friends drinking and exited the bar. The bouncer wouldn't let her back in and told her she had been kicked out of the bar. Orton argued with the bouncer and the police became involved. She charged with resisting arrest, and Orton pleaded to that. She had 1 year of probation which she has since completed in July 2023. She continues going to therapy. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear.
- 22. Nicole Robertson- VACATED
- 23. Courtney Faucett: Faucett appeared for a positive response on her renewal application. Faucett was arrested for a OWI in 2022. She reported to her employer and ISBN. She completed an ISNAP assessment and completed an RMA with them successfully. She will be complete with her criminal probation at the end of October 2023. She is in therapy. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear.

- 24. Jeong Hwang VACATED
- 25. Amber Steele: Steele appeared with counsel Lorie Brown. Steele provided a positive response on her renewal application for a pending criminal case. She had a criminal case for OWI/Reckless driving. The case is done. She also gave a positive response to question 5. She indicated that she was not terminated and would be eligible for rehire at Community. Steele provided CEUs and other documentation to support her renewal. The ALJ recommended renewal of the license free and clear based on criminal case being resolved and PA testimony.
- 26. Rebecca Ahlbrand: Ahlbrand appeared for a positive response on her renewal application. She was working during her initial probationary period and smacked her coworker on the bottom. She felt bad and tried to apologize. Ultimately, she was terminated. She indicated that she didn't intend to touch her coworker's bottom that he hand was on her lower back and she intended to give her a high five. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear. Ahlbrand expressed regret over the situation.
- 27. Danielle Hudgins: Hudgins appeared with counsel Lorie Brown. Hudgins gave a positive response to question 5 on her renewal application. Hudgins tested positive for marijuana at work (Lutheran in Fort Wayne) during random UDS. She failed to disclose that she might test positive on her pre-test questionnaire. Hudgins admitted that she tested positive due to taking THC gummies. Hudgins resides in Michigan where marijuana is legal. She was terminated from work for this. Hudgins has completed CEUs and received an evaluation that indicates she does not have an addiction issue. Her Michigan license is unencumbered. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear due to evaluation and her unencumbered Michigan license.
- 28. Joan Graff: Graff provided a positive response on her renewal application. Graff indicated that a coworker overheard a conversation about politics(?) and that the coworker reported her to HR. Graff's employer terminated her. This occurred in 2020 and Graff indicated that she did fail to disclose on her 2020 renewal application. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear.
- 29. Patrick Hutson: Hutson appeared for a positive response on his renewal application. On March 16, 2023, Hutson was arrested for domestic battery related to a drunken incident with his spouse. He is on a criminal diversion agreement. He is in counseling. He has been sober since that date. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear. The ALJ indicated that his recommendation was due to Hutson receiving outside counseling, notes from his evaluation reflect positive progress, he has abstained from alcohol use since the incident, and he sought reconciliation with his wife since the incident.
- 30. Kara Ashcraft: Ashcraft appeared for a positive response related to a pending alcohol related case. Advisory counsel advised Ashcraft of her 5<sup>th</sup> Amendment rights. There was a dispute between Ashcraft's male friend and ex-boyfriend. A bartender tried to break the fight up and Ashcraft swung at the bartender. The case for battery remains pending. The ALJ recommended renewal with the filing of a consumer complaint with OAG.
- 31. Michelle Daniels: Daniels appeared for a reinstatement application with a license that expired in 2017. Daniels indicated that she last worked as a nurse in 1995. She had a Michigan license at one point as well. The ALJ recommended requiring her to do the NCLEX review course with a predictor score, take and pass NCLEX, and then complete a refresher course with a clinical component. OR applicant can return to school.
- 32. Shelbie Hashem CONTINUED
- 33. LaDonna Holloway: Failed to appear. Reschedule.
- 34. Heidi Cook: Cook appeared for a positive response on her renewal application. She was working at a restaurant and was charged with assault related to an altercation. She entered into a diversion

- agreement and the case has since been dismissed. She took anger management classes. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear.
- 35. Danielle Web: Failed to appear. Reschedule.
- 36. Alexis Nolan: Nolan appeared for a positive response on an endorsement application. She has an alcohol-related DUI conviction/diversion in California. She currently lives in California. She has completed requirements but is still on informal probation. The ALJ recommended issuance of the endorsement application. There is no discipline on her out of state licenses.
- 37. Robert Wolski: Wolski appeared for a positive response on his renewal application. He was convicted of OWI. He was on a diversion agreement which he has since completed. His case resulted in a reckless driving conviction. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear.
- 38. Toni Vanhorn: Vanhorn appeared with counsel Bradley Keffer for a positive response on her renewal application. She had an OWI case that resulted in plea agreement. She has completed criminal probation and her employe provided letters of recommendation on her behalf. Keffer indicated that the alcohol use was related to grief over the death of her brother, but that she has taken steps to deal with that since the event. Vanhorn reported that her BAC was 0.18 and took responsibility for her actions. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear.
- 39. Florian Fabris: Fabris appeared for a reinstatement application for a license that expired in 2007. He hasn't worked as a nurse since 2010 as an administrator at the University of Chicago. He retired but would like to return to work. The ALJ recommended requiring him to do the NCLEX review course with a predictor score, take and pass NCLEX, and then complete a refresher course with a clinical component. OR applicant can return to school.
- 40. Casey Elliott: Elliott appeared for a reinstatement application. She has a license that lapsed on disciplinary suspension. The ALJ recommended reinstatement on suspension with the requirement of a refresher course with a clinical component.
- 41. Neil Kirkpatrick VACATED
- 42. Kenyatta O'Hearn: Failed to appear. Reschedule.
- 43. Susan Greene: Failed to appear. Reschedule.
- 44. Kristian Green: Green appeared for an initial application as an LPN with a positive response. She had a 2018 domestic dispute case which was dismissed. She has a more recent case for this year for stealing at a self-checkout. She indicated that her 2-year-old put something in the cart. She entered into a diversion agreement in that case which is ongoing through November of this year. The ALJ recommended permitting Green to test and issue license free and clear with a referral to the OAG. Issuance of the temporary license.
- 45. Jaclyn Dargie: Dargie appeared for an application for a 5<sup>th</sup> attempt at NCLEX. She completed an NCLEX review course at PLA request before her 4<sup>th</sup> attempt at NCLEX. The ALJ recommended denial of the application.
- 46. Alicia Abeyta: Failed to appear. Reschedule.
- 47. Grace Lovan: Lovan appeared for a positive response on her renewal application. Lovan was terminated from an urgent care. Lovan, in consultation with a physician, referred a patient with a punch to the face to go to an ED. He got in a car crash on the way to the hospital. She was terminated due to failure to appropriately note this referral, which was a violation of policy. Lovan now works at another employer. The ALJ recommended renewal free and clear.
- 48. Melissa Jenkins: Jenkins appeared on an initial compact license application. She had an OWI case which has been concluded. The ALJ made a recommendation to issue the compact license.