

VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING
FORMAL HEARINGS
Monday November 13, 2023

TIME AND PLACE: The meeting of the Virginia Board of Nursing was called to order at 9:11 A.M., on November 13, 2023, in Board Room 2, Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia.

BOARD MEMBERS
PRESENT:

Ann T. Gleason, PhD, Citizen Member; **First Vice-President**
Delia Acuna, FNP-C
Carol Cartte, RN, BSN
Margaret Friedenberg, Citizen Member
Robert Scott, RN
Meenakshi Shah, BA, RN

STAFF PRESENT:

Robin Hills, DNP, RN, WHNP, Deputy Executive Director
Christina Bargdill, BSN, MHS, RN; Deputy Executive Director
Sylvia Tamayo-Suijk, Senior Discipline Specialist

OTHERS PRESENT:

Laura A. Booberg, Assistant Attorney General
Students from South University Richmond and Riverside College
Of Health Careers

ESTABLISHMENT
OF A PANEL:

With six members of the Board present, a panel was established.

FORMAL HEARINGS:

James Larry Gorham, RN
North Carolina License #121804 with multistate privilege

Mr. Gorham appeared represented by Nathan Mortier and William Daisley III, his legal counsel.

Michael Parsons, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division, represented the Commonwealth. Ms. Booberg was legal counsel for the Board. Juan Ortega, Freelance Court Reporter, recorded the proceedings.

Bryan Horowitz, Senior Investigator, Enforcement Division; Rachel Jenkins, Activities Specialist, Commonwealth Center for Children and Adolescents (CCCA); David Everson, Public Safety Officer, CCCA; James Stevens, Acting Facility Director, CCCA; and Kathryn Tonnessen, former LPN at CCCA were present and testified. Melissa Ebach, Psychiatric Care Technician, testified via telephone.

RECESS: The Board recessed at 10:02 A.M.

RECONVENTION: The Board reconvened at 10:09 A.M.

RECESS: The Board recessed at 11:00 A.M.

RECONVENTION: The Board reconvened at 11:13 A.M.

RECESS: The Board recessed at 11:17 A.M.

RECONVENTION: The Board reconvened at 11:27 A.M.

RECESS: The Board recessed at 1:08 P.M.

RECONVENTION: The Board reconvened at 1:17 P.M.

CLOSED MEETING: Ms. Shah moved that the Board of Nursing convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(27) of the Code of Virginia at 1:34 P.M., for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of **James Larry Gorham**. Additionally, Ms. Shah moved that Dr. Hills, Ms. Bargdill, Ms. Tamayo-Suijk and Ms. Booberg, 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 by Ms. Cartte and carried unanimously.

RECONVENTION: The Board reconvened in open session at 2:30 P.M.

Ms. Shah 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 by Ms. Cartte and carried unanimously.

ACTION: Ms. Shah moved that the Board of Nursing issue an order of reprimand to **James Larry Gorham** and impose terms on his privilege to practice as a professional nurse in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cartte and carried unanimously.

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

RECESS: The Board recessed at 2:31 P.M.

RECONVENTION: The Board reconvened at 2:57 A.M.

FORMAL HEARINGS: **Valerie Gail Falls, RMA** **0031-011880**

Ms. Falls did not appear.

David Kazzie, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division, represented the Commonwealth. Ms. Booberg was legal counsel for the Board. Juan Ortega, Freelance Court Reporter, recorded the proceedings.

Steve Keene, Senior Investigator, Enforcement Division; Whitney Shoemaker, CAN; and Jessica Gale, LNHA, were present and testified.

CLOSED MEETING: Ms. Shah moved that the Board of Nursing convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(27) of the Code of Virginia at 3:38 P.M., for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of **Valerie Gail Falls**. Additionally, Ms. Shah moved that Dr. Hills, Ms. Bargdill, Ms. Tamayo-Suijk and Ms. Booberg 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 by Ms. Cartte and carried unanimously.

RECONVENTION: The Board reconvened in open session at 3:49 P.M.

Ms. Shah 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 by Ms. Cartte and carried unanimously.

ACTION: Ms. Shah moved that the Board of Nursing revoke the registration of **Valerie Gail Falls** to practice as a medication aide in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cartte and carried unanimously.

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

RECESS: The Board recessed at 3:49 P.M.

RECONVENTION: The Board reconvened at 3:59 P.M.

FORMAL HEARINGS: **Augustin Kamto, CNA** **1401-210910**

Mr. Kamto appeared.

David Kazzie, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division, represented the Commonwealth. Ms. Booberg was legal counsel for the Board. Juan Ortega, Freelance Court Reporter, recorded the proceedings.

The case of Augustin Kamto was continued.

ADJOURNMENT: The Board adjourned at 4:20 P.M.

Robin L. Hills, DNP, RN, WHNP
Deputy Executive Director