

VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING
FORMAL HEARINGS
January 27, 2025

TIME AND PLACE: The meeting of the Virginia Board of Nursing was called to order at 1:03 P.M., on January 27, 2025, in Board Room 2, Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia.

**BOARD MEMBERS
PRESENT:**

Carol Cartte, RN, BSN; **First Vice-President**
Victoria Cox, DNP, RN
Margaret Friedenberg, Citizen Member
Shantell Kinchen, LPN
Helen Parke, DNP, FNP-BC
Robert Scott, RN
Shelly Smith, PhD, DNP, ANP-BC

STAFF PRESENT:

Christina Bargdill, BSN, MHS, RN; Deputy Executive Director
Ann Hardy, MSN, RN; Deputy Executive Director
Ka Yu-Cheng, RD, RN, SMQT; Compliance and Case Adjudication
Manager
Sylvia Tamayo-Suijk, Senior Nursing Discipline Specialist

OTHERS PRESENT:

James Rutkowski, Senior Assistant Attorney General

**ESTABLISHMENT
OF A PANEL:**

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

FORMAL HEARINGS:

Samantha Rene Timberlake, RN Reinstatement Applicant
0001-272132

Ms. Timberlake appeared.

Grace Stewart, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division, represented the Commonwealth. Mr. Rutkowski was legal counsel for the Board. Colleen Gregory-Gettel, court reporter with Veteran Reporters, recorded the proceedings.

Shawn Ledger, Senior Investigator, Enforcement Division, was present and testified.

CLOSED MEETING:

Dr. Cox moved that the Board of Nursing convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(27) of the Code of Virginia at 2:13 P.M., for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of

Samantha Rene Timberlake. Additionally, Dr. Cox moved that Ms. Bargdill, Ms. Hardy, Ms. Yu-Cheng, Ms. Tamayo-Suijk and Mr. Rutkowski, 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 Mr. Scott and carried unanimously.

RECONVENTION: The Board reconvened in open session at 2:36 P.M.

Dr. Cox 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. Kinchen and carried unanimously.

ACTION: Dr. Cox moved that the Board reinstate the license of **Samantha Rene Timberlake** to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia and stay the suspension contingent upon entry into and compliance with Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program (HPMP). The motion was seconded by Mr. Scott and passed 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 2:37 P.M.

RECONVENTION: The Board reconvened at 2:50 P.M.

FORMAL HEARINGS: **Rebecca Jean Searles, LPN** **0002-094522**

Ms. Searles did not appear.

Grace Stewart, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division, and Aaron Timberlake, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division, represented the Commonwealth. Mr. Rutkowski was legal counsel for the Board. Colleen Gregory-Gettel, court reporter with Veteran Reporters, recorded the proceedings.

Angelique Pyle, LPN, Norfolk Healthcare, Shinelle Whitaker, RN, DON, Norfolk Healthcare, and Kelly Ashley, Senior Investigator, Enforcement Division, was present and testified.

CLOSED MEETING: Dr. Cox moved that the Board of Nursing convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(27) of the Code of Virginia at 3:25 P.M., for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of **Rebecca Jean Searles**. Additionally, Dr. Cox moved that, Ms. Bargdill, Ms. Hardy, Ms. Yu-Cheng, Ms. Tamayo-Suijk and Mr. Rutkowski, 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 Dr. Parke and carried unanimously.

RECONVENTION: The Board reconvened in open session at 3:57 P.M.

Dr. Cox 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 Dr. Smith and carried unanimously.

ACTION: Ms. Kinchen moved that the Board of Nursing suspend the license of **Rebecca Jean Searles** to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia and stay the suspension contingent upon entry into and compliance with Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program (HPMP) The motion was seconded by Dr. Cox and carried with 6 votes in favor. Dr. Smith opposed the motion

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.

ADJOURNMENT: The Board adjourned at 3:58 P.M.

Christina Bargdill, BSN, MHS, RN
Deputy Executive Director