

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING  
FORMAL HEARINGS  
PANEL B  
January 25, 2023**

TIME AND PLACE: The meeting of the Virginia Board of Nursing was called to order at 9:09 A.M., on January 25, 2023 in Board Room 4, Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia.

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT:

Brandon A. Jones, MSN, RN, CEN, NEA-BC; President  
Laurie Buchwald, MSN, WHNP, FNP  
Margaret Friedenberg, Citizen Member  
Helen Parke, DNP, FNP-BC  
Meenakshi Shah, BA, RN

STAFF PRESENT:

Robin L. Hills, DNP, RN, WHNP; Deputy Executive Director for Advanced Practice  
Christina Bargdill, BSN, MHS, RN; Deputy Executive Director  
Lakisha Goode, Discipline Team Coordinator  
Ann Hardy, MSN, RN, Compliance and Case Adjudication Manager –  
**joined the meeting at 1:34 P.M.**

OTHERS PRESENT:

James Rutkowski, Assistant Attorney General, Board Counsel

ESTABLISHMENT OF  
A PANEL:

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

FORMAL HEARING:

**Ugo Azuewah, RN** **Maryland License #R221426**  
**with multistate privilege**

Ms. Azuewah appeared, represented by Jonathan Joseph, her legal Counsel, and accompanied by Angelina Manigyamti and Emanuel Owusu

Tammie Jones, Adjudication Consultant, and Melissa Armstrong, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division, represented the Commonwealth. Mr. Rutkowski was legal counsel for the Board. Joshua Delauter, court reporter, County Court Reporters Inc., recorded the proceedings.

Kenny Amanze and Kelly Eckberg testified via telephone.

RECESS:

The Board recessed at 11:03 A.M.

RECONVENTION:

The Board reconvened at 11:15 A.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 11:36 A.M., for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of **Ugo Azuewah**. Additionally, Ms. Shah moved that Dr. Hills, Ms. Bargdill, Ms. Goode 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 Ms. Buchwald and carried unanimously.
- RECONVENTION:** The Board reconvened in open session at 12:43 A.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. Buchwald and carried unanimously.
- ACTION:** Buchwald moved that the Board of Nursing reprimand **Ugo Azuewah** and require nine total hours of continued education courses in the subjects of ethnic/professionalism, documentation, and professional accountability/legal liability within 90 days from the date of entry of the Order. The motion was seconded by Dr. Parke 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 12:45 P.M.
- RECONVENTION:** The Board reconvened at 1:34 P.M.
- Ms. Hardy joined the meeting at 1:34 P.M.
- FORMAL HEARING:** **Anna Therese McCary, RN Reinstatement Applicant 0001-197683**
- Ms. McCary appeared and was represented by Alan Schacter, her legal counsel.
- Christine Andreoli, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division, represented the Commonwealth. Mr. Rutkowski was legal counsel for the Board. Joshua Delauter, court reporter with County Court Reporters Inc., recorded the proceedings.

Gayle Miller, Senior Investigator, Enforcement Division, Dr. Randolph Merrick, Chris Mitchell and Bonita Batton were present and testified.

RECESS: The Board recessed at 3:06 P.M.

RECONVENTION: The Board reconvened at 3:17 P.M.

CLOSED MEETING: Ms. Shah moved that the Board of Nursing convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(16) of the Code of Virginia at 3:55 P.M., for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of **Anna Therese McCary**. Additionally, Ms. Shah moved that Dr. Hills, Ms. Bargdill, Ms. Goode, Ms. Hardy 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. Hermansen-Parker and carried unanimously.

RECONVENTION: The Board reconvened in open session at 4:29 P.M.

Mr. Hermansen-Parker 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. Buchwald and carried unanimously.

ACTION: Ms. Shah moved that the Board of Nursing approve the application of **Anna Therese McCary** for reinstatement of her license to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth, indefinitely suspend her license with suspension stayed contingent upon her entry into the Virginia Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program (HPMP) and remain in compliance with all terms and conditions of the HPMP for the period specified by the HPMP, and to submit proof of completion of a Board-approved refresher course. The motion was seconded by Ms. Buchwald 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.

Virginia Board of Nursing  
Panel B – Formal Hearings  
January 25, 2023

ADJOURNMENT:           The Board adjourned at 4:31 P.M.

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Robin L. Hills, DNP, RN, WHNP  
Deputy Executive Director for Advanced Practice