

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING
FORMAL HEARINGS
July 21, 2020
Panel - B**

TIME AND PLACE: The meeting of the Virginia Board of Nursing was called to order at 10:39 A.M. on July 21, 2020 in Board Room 4, Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mark D. Monson, Citizen Member, Second Vice President
Ann Tucker Gleason, PhD, Citizen Member
Louise Hershkowitz, CRNA, MSHA
Dixie McElfresh, LPN
Ethlyn McQueen-Gibson, DNP, MSN, RN, BC
Cynthia M. Swineford, MSN, RN, CNE

STAFF PRESENT: Jay P. Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE, Executive Director
Darlene Graham, Senior Discipline Specialist

OTHERS PRESENT: Erin Barrett, Assistant Attorney General, Board Counsel

ESTABLISHMENT OF A PANEL:

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

FORMAL HEARINGS: **Capri M. Williams, LPN Reinstatement** **0002-087154**
Ms. Williams appeared and was accompanied by Nathan Mortier, her attorney, and Adrienne Long, MSW, Counselor at Behavioral Awareness Center.

Tammie Jones, Adjudication Specialist for the Department of Health Professions, represented the Commonwealth. Ms. Barrett was legal counsel for the Board. Cheryl Renee Lane, court reporter with Able Forces Professional Services, recorded the proceeding.

Amber Gray, Senior Investigator, Department of Health Professions, and Sherri Foster, Enforcement Regional Manager, Department of Health Professions, testified via telephone.

Adrienne Long, MSW, Counselor at Behavioral Awareness Center, was present and testified.

CLOSED MEETING: Ms. Hershkowitz moved that the Board of Nursing convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(27) of the *Code of Virginia* at 12:16 P.M., for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Capri M. Williams. Additionally, Ms. Hershkowitz moved that Ms. Douglas, Ms. Graham, 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 12:47 P.M.

Ms. McElfresh 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: Ms. Hershkowitz moved that the Board of Nursing approve the application for reinstatement of Capri M. Williams to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board Order which will be sent to Ms. Williams at her address of record. 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 1:00 P.M.

RECONVENTION: The Board reconvened at 1:37 P.M.

FORMAL HEARINGS: **Myra Jo Easter, RN** **0001-159451**
Ms. Easter appeared.

Tammie Jones, Adjudication Specialist for the Department of Health Professions, represented the Commonwealth. Ms. Barrett was legal counsel for the Board. Cheryl Renee Lane, court reporter with Able Forces Professional Services, recorded the proceeding.

Anna Badgley, Senior Investigator, Department of Health Professions, and Amy Stewart, Case Manager Coordinator at Virginia Health Practitioners Monitoring Program (HPMP), testified via telephone.

CLOSED MEETING: Ms. Hershkowitz moved that the Board of Nursing convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(27) of the *Code of Virginia* at 3:09 P.M., for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Myra Jo Easter. Additionally, Ms. Hershkowitz moved that Ms. Douglas, Ms. Graham, 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 3:30 P.M.

Ms. McElfresh 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:

Ms. Swineford moved that the Board of Nursing deny the application for reinstatement of Myra Jo Easter to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia and continue Ms. Easter on indefinite suspension for a period of not less than one year. The basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board Order which will be sent to Ms. Easter at her address of record. 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:

Angela Mitchell, LPN Reinstatement

0002-098506

Ms. Mitchell appeared.

David Kazzie, Adjudication Specialist for the Department of Health Professions, represented the Commonwealth. Ms. Barrett was legal counsel for the Board. Cheryl Renee Lane, court reporter with Able Forces Professional Services, recorded the proceeding.

Amber Gray, Senior Investigator, Department of Health Professions, testified via telephone.

CLOSED MEETING:

Ms. Hershkowitz moved that the Board of Nursing convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(27) of the *Code of Virginia* at 4:30 P.M., for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Angela Mitchell. Additionally, Ms. Hershkowitz moved that Ms. Douglas, Ms. Graham, 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 4:31 P.M.

Ms. Hershkowitz 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:

Ms. McElfresh moved that the Board of Nursing approve the application for reinstatement of Angela Mitchell to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board Order which will be sent to Ms. Mitchell at her address of record. 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 4:33 P.M.

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