

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING**  
**FORMAL HEARINGS**  
**September 15, 2020**  
**Panel - A**

**TIME AND PLACE:** The meeting of the Virginia Board of Nursing was called to order at 9:04 A.M. on September 15, 2020 in Board Room 2, Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Marie Gerardo, MS, RN, ANP-BC, First Vice President  
Margaret J. Friedenberg, Citizen Member  
Ann Tucker Gleason, PhD, Citizen Member  
James Hermansen-Parker, MSN, RN, PCCN-K  
Louise Hershkowitz, CRNA, MSHA  
Brandon A. Jones, MSN, RN, CEN, NEA-BC

**STAFF PRESENT:** Lelia Claire Morris, RN, LNHA, Deputy Executive Director (A.M. cases)  
Jay P. Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE Executive Director (P.M. cases)  
Sylvia Tamayo-Suijk, Discipline Team Coordinator

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Charis Mitchell, Assistant Attorney General, Board Counsel

**ESTABLISHMENT OF A PANEL:** With six members of the Board present, a panel was established.

**FORMAL HEARINGS:** **Kenyatta Powell, LPN Reinstatement Applicant** **0002-057080**  
Ms. Powell appeared, accompanied by Angela Caison, Director of Nursing, Sentara, Teresa Richardson, LPN, and Quintina Smallwood, her sister.

Lori Pound, Adjudication Specialist for the Department of Health Professions, represented the Commonwealth. Ms. Mitchell was legal counsel for the Board. Pamela Lima Vasquez, court reporter, recorded the proceeding.

Amber Gray, Senior Investigator, Department of Health Professions testified by phone. Angela Caison, Teresa Richardson, and Quintina Smallwood were present and testified.

**CLOSED MEETING:** Mr. Hermansen-Parker moved that the Board of Nursing convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(27) of the *Code of Virginia* at 9:29 A.M., for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Kenyatta Powell. Additionally, Mr. Hermansen-Parker moved that Ms. Morris, Ms. Tamayo-Suijk, and Ms. Mitchell, 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 9:41 A.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 and carried unanimously.

ACTION: Ms. Hershkowitz moved that the Board of Nursing approve the application of Kenyatta Powell for reinstatement of her license 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. Powell 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: **Carissa Brooks Allen, RN Reinstatement Applicant 0001-210490**  
Ms. Allen appeared.

Lori Pound, Adjudication Specialist for the Department of Health Professions, represented the Commonwealth. Ms. Mitchell was legal counsel for the Board. Pamela Lima Vasquez, court reporter, recorded the proceeding.

Amber Gray, Senior Investigator, Department of Health Professions, testified by phone.

RECESS: The Board recessed at 9:55 A.M.

RECONVENTION: The Board reconvened in open session at 10:01 A.M.

CLOSED MEETING: Mr. Hermansen-Parker moved that the Board of Nursing convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(27) of the *Code of Virginia* at 10:25 A.M., for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Carissa Brooks Allen. Additionally, Mr. Hermansen-Parker moved that Ms. Morris, Ms. Tamayo-Suijk, and Ms. Mitchell, 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 10:35 A.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 and carried unanimously.

**ACTION:**

Ms. Hershkowitz moved that the Board of Nursing approve the application of Carissa Brooks Allen for reinstatement of her license to practice professional 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. Allen 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:**

**Holly Denise Hicks, LPN**

**0002-073111**

Ms. Hicks appeared.

Lori Pound, Adjudication Specialist for the Department of Health Professions, represented the Commonwealth. Ms. Mitchell was legal counsel for the Board. Pamela Lima Vasquez, court reporter, recorded the proceeding.

Wendy Morris, Retired Investigator, Department of Health Professions, testified by phone. Amy Stewart, LCSW, Program Administrator for the Virginia Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program, was present and testified.

**CLOSED MEETING:**

Mr. Hermansen-Parker moved that the Board of Nursing convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(27) of the *Code of Virginia* at 11:42 A.M., for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Holly Denise Hicks. Additionally, Mr. Hermansen-Parker moved that Ms. Morris, Ms. Tamayo-Suijk, and Ms. Mitchell, 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 12:03 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 and carried unanimously.

**ACTION:** Mr. Jones moved that the Board of Nursing continue the license of Holly Denise Hicks to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on indefinite suspension, and stay the suspension contingent upon Ms. Hicks' re-entry into the Virginia Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program (HPMP) and remaining in compliance with all terms and conditions of the HPMP for the period specified by the HPMP. The basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board Order which will be sent to Ms. Hicks at her address of record. The motion was seconded and passed with five votes in favor of the motion. Ms. Hershkowitz opposed the motion.

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 12:04 P.M.  
Ms. Morris left the meeting.

**RECONVENTION:** The Board reconvened in open session at 12:39 P.M.  
Ms. Douglas joined the meeting.

**FORMAL HEARINGS:** **Anju Prasad, RN** **0001-278837**  
Ms. Prasad appeared.

Janice Redinger and Grace Stewart, Adjudication Specialistss for the Department of Health Professions, represented the Commonwealth. Ms. Mitchell was legal counsel for the Board. Pamela Lima Vasquez, court reporter, recorded the proceeding.

Wendy Morris, Retired Investigator, Department of Health Professions, and Gretchen Miller, Case Manager, Virginia Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program, testified by phone.

**CLOSED MEETING:** Mr. Jones 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 Anju Prasad. Additionally, Mr. Jones moved that Ms. Douglas, Ms. Tamayo-Suijk, and Ms. Mitchell, 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 1:48 P.M.

Mr. Jones 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:**

Mr. Jones moved that the Board of Nursing continue the license of Anju Prasad to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on indefinite suspension, and stay the suspension contingent upon Ms. Prasad's re-entry into the Virginia Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program (HPMP) and remaining in compliance with all terms and conditions of the HPMP for the period specified by the HPMP. The basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board Order which will be sent to Ms. Prasad 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:**

**Brooke Ashley Mevey Sutton, LPN**  
Ms. Sutton appeared.

**0002-085077**

Cynthia Gaines, Adjudication Specialist for the Department of Health Professions, represented the Commonwealth. Ms. Mitchell was legal counsel for the Board. Pamela Lima Vasquez, court reporter, recorded the proceeding.

Bryan Horowitz, Senior Investigator, Department of Health Professions testified by phone. Diane Wakatsuki, RN, DON, Martha Jefferson House and Jamie Wells, CNA, Martha Jefferson House were present and testified.

**CLOSED MEETING:**

Mr. Jones moved that the Board of Nursing convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(27) of the *Code of Virginia* at 3:23 P.M., for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Brooke Ashley Mevey Sutton. Additionally, Mr. Jones moved that Ms. Douglas, Ms. Tamayo-Suijk, and Ms. Mitchell, 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 3:35 P.M.

Dr. Gleason 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:**

Mr. Jones moved that the Board of Nursing continue the license of Brooke Ashley Mevey Sutton to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on indefinite suspension, and stay the suspension contingent upon Ms. Sutton's re-entry into the Virginia Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program (HPMP) and remaining in compliance with all terms and conditions of the HPMP for the period specified by the HPMP. The basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board Order which will be sent to Ms. Sutton 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 3:36 P.M.

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Lelia Claire Morris, RN, LNHA  
Deputy Executive Director