

**SEPTEMBER 25-26, MEETING MINUTES**

Sallie Beth Todd, Chairperson of the South Carolina State Board of Nursing, called the September 25, 2025, meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. Public notice was properly posed at the Board offices, as well as on its website. A copy was provided to all requesting persons, organizations and news media agencies in compliance with the SC Freedom of Information Act. A quorum was present at all times.

Member	Representing		BOARD MEMBERS' PRESENT & VOTING
Bridget Enos, DNP, APRN, FNP-C	1 <sup>st</sup> Congressional District	Present	
Frances Pagett, RN	2 <sup>nd</sup> Congressional District	Present	
John Whitcomb, PhD, RN, CCRN, FCCM	Board of Nursing Secretary 3 <sup>rd</sup> Congressional District	Present	
Sallie Beth Todd, RN, MSN-Ed	Board of Nursing Chair 4 <sup>th</sup> Congressional District	Present	
Lisa James, DNP, RN, MHA, NEA-BC	5 <sup>th</sup> Congressional District	Present	
Bridget J. Holder, DNP, RNC-MNN, C-ONQS	Board of Nursing Vice- Chair 6 <sup>th</sup> Congressional District	Present	
Leslie Lyerly, RN	7 <sup>th</sup> Congressional District	Present	
Melissa May-Engel, LPN	At-Large, LPN	Present	
Robert J. Wolff, PhD	Public Member	Absent	
Lindsey Mitcham	Public Member	Present	
Teresa A. Pettigrew, LPN	At-Large, LPN	Present	

Maggie Murdock, Program Director POL Medically Related Boards	LLR STAFF PRESENT
Megan Flannery, Advice Counsel for the Board of Nursing	
Mindy Carithers, Nurse Practice Consultant & Compliance Manager	
Shannon Stricklin, Office of Compliance Administrative Coordinator	
Tierra Sims, Office of Compliance	
Valirie Samuel, Board of Nursing Administrative Coordinator	
Tina Brown, Chief Disciplinary Counsel	
Sherri Butterbaugh, Assistant Disciplinary Counsel	
Erica Williams, Assistant Disciplinary Counsel	
Stephen Hoage, Lead Investigator	
Tina Behles, Court Reporter	

**EXCUSED ABSENCES:**

Motion to excuse Dr. Robert Wolff. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Motion to close session. Motion carried.

**Office of Investigations and Enforcements Report:**

Presented by Stephen Hoage

Motion to approve dismissal of 30 cases. Motion carried.

Motion to approve 31 cases for formal complaint. Motion carried. Motion to accept Letters of Caution with the following changes. 2025-380 to be dismissed and 2025-357 to be a made a formal complaint with Board appearance. Motion carried. \*

**Office of Investigations Statistical Report:**

For information only by Stephen Hoage.

No motion was made.

From January 1, 2025 to September 11, 2025:

- 570 Complaints
- 207 Active investigations
- 467 Cases close

**DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS:**

Respondents appeared before the Board to determine disciplinary actions. Hearings are conducted in closed session to meet the statutory requirement that disciplinary actions remain confidential.

**2023-524:** Respondent appeared before the Board having executed a Memorandum of Agreement for the purpose of determining disciplinary sanction.

Motion to accept the Memorandum of Agreement with the following disciplinary sanctions: Public reprimand, continued RPP compliance, worksite approval, investigative costs of \$200.00 to be paid within six months. Motion carried. \*

**2023-176:** Respondent appeared before the Board having executed a Memorandum of Agreement for the purpose of determining disciplinary sanction

Motion to accept the Memorandum of Agreement with the following disciplinary sanctions: Public reprimand, continued compliance with terms and conditions known to the Respondent and the Board supervision, worksite approval, investigative costs in the amount of \$250.00 due within six months. Motion carried. \*

*Dr. Holder was recused from this matter and rejoined the meeting at the conclusion of the hearing.*

**2023-218:** Respondent appeared before the Board having executed a Memorandum of Agreement for the purpose of determining disciplinary sanction.

Motion to accept the Memorandum of Agreement with the issuance of a non-disciplinary Letter of Caution. Motion carried. \*

**2024-311:** Respondent appeared before the Board having executed a Memorandum of Agreement for the purpose of determining disciplinary sanction.

Motion to accept the Memorandum of Agreement with the following: dismissal with a private monitoring agreement, including compliance with terms and conditions known to the Respondent and the Board. Motion carried. \*

**Compliance/Applications Appearances:**

**Elizabeth A. Bird, APRN Application:** Respondent was not present for the hearing.

Motion to grant the South Carolina license conditioned upon compliance with terms and conditions known to the Respondent and the Board. Motion carried. \*

*Ms. Pagett was absent from this matter and rejoined the meeting at the conclusion of the hearing.*

**DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS:**

**2023-442:** This case was before the Board for a Final Order Hearing and was previously before the Board of Nursing Hearing Panel. A report has been issued by the Hearing Panel with recommendations regarding violations of the Nurse Practice Act and disciplinary sanction. The Board had an opportunity to review the transcript of the full evidentiary hearing as well as the recommendation of the Panel. The Respondent was not present for the Final Order Hearing. After first determining that proper notice was provided to the Respondent, the Board proceeded with the hearing.

Motion to approve the panel recommendation. Motion carried.

**2022-376:** This case was before the Board for a Final Order Hearing and was previously before the Board of Nursing Hearing Panel. A report has been issued by the Hearing Panel with recommendations regarding violations of the Nurse Practice Act and disciplinary sanction. The Board had an opportunity to review the transcript of the full evidentiary hearing as well as the recommendation of the Panel. The Respondent was not present for the Final Order Hearing. After first determining that proper notice was provided to the Respondent, the Board proceeded with the hearing.

Motion to approve the panel recommendation. Motion carried.

**Compliance/Applications Appearances:**

**Ginna Humphries, RN Modification 1:** Respondent appeared before the Board having submitted a request to modify a prior Board Order. Motion to deny the modification request. Motion carried. \*

**DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS:**

**2021-337:** This case was before the Board for a Final Order Hearing and was previously before the Board of Nursing Hearing Panel. A report has been issued by the Hearing Panel with recommendations regarding violations of the Nurse Practice Act and disciplinary sanction. The Board had an opportunity to review the transcript of the full evidentiary hearing as well as the recommendation of the Panel. The Respondent was not present for the Final Order Hearing. After first determining that proper notice was provided to the Respondent, the Board proceeded with the hearing.

*Dr. Whitcomb was recused from this matter and rejoined the meeting at the conclusion of the hearing.*

Motion to approve the panel recommendation. Motion carried.

**2023-632:** This case was before the Board for a Final Order Hearing and was previously before the Board of Nursing Hearing Panel. A report has been issued by the Hearing Panel with recommendations regarding violations of the Nurse Practice Act and disciplinary sanction. The Board had an opportunity to review the transcript of the full evidentiary hearing as well as the recommendation of the Panel. The Respondent was not present for the Final Order Hearing. After first determining that proper notice was provided to the Respondent, the Board proceeded with the hearing.

Motion to approve the panel recommendation. Motion carried.

**Compliance/Applications Appearances:**

**Patrick Motte, RN Modification 2:** Motion to grant the modification request, removing site supervision and limitations and removing quarterly reports. Motion carried. \*

**Office of Disciplinary Counsel Statistical Report:**

For information only by Tina Brown, Chief Disciplinary Counsel.

No motion was made.

Motion to open session. Motion carried.

**Practice Consultant Report:**

For information only by Dr. Mindy Carithers

Dr. Carithers presented the Nursing Standards and Practices Committee's recommendations regarding Advisory Opinion 79. Motion to approve Advisory Opinion 79. Motion carried.

Dr. Carithers presented four communication courses to be considered for the purposes of disciplinary remediation. Motion to approve all four Communication courses. Motion carried. \*

*(Ms. Mitcham exits the proceeding at 5:01pm)*

**Board Executive Report:**

For information only by Maggie Murdock

No motions were made.

- Licensing Update
- Board Executive Position Update
- Upcoming Meeting: NCSBN Midyear Business Meeting, March 17-19, 2026

**Proposed Regulation Changes:**

Presented by Megan Flannery, Advice Counsel

Megan Flannery, Advice Counsel for the Board presented a draft of potential changes in the Board's regulation drafted at the Board's request. These changes were drafted as follows: 91-32 Code of Ethics the year 2015 would be removed. This would bring the regulation to just saying that it is adopting the ANA's Code of Ethics which would be the most modern version as the Code of Ethics at any time. The Code of Ethics has recently been updated and does include some changes in it. Additionally, the draft adds an Article Seven, which outlines the process for obtaining a Limited Emergency License. Motion to accept the changes and send the proposed regulation to the legislature. Motion carried. \*

**Adjourn: 5:10 pm**

Friday, September 26, 2025

**Call to Order:**

Ms. Todd called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

**Excused Absences:**

Motion to excuse Dr. Robert Wolff. Motion carried. \*

**EDUCATION APPEARANCES:**

**Newberry College BSN: NCLEX Pass Rate Reappearance**

Motion: The Board has continued to work with Newberry college BSN to improve its nursing program and to increase the NCLEX passage rate and is committed to continuing to do so. The Board is very concerned that in two of the past three years, Newberry has been significantly deficient and is on track to again fall below the standards. The process of working with Newberry to improve cannot be an indefinite process. The failure to see significant progress in the near future to ultimately maintain a passage rate at or above the South Carolina deficiency level may result in Newberry needing to make difficult decisions on whether to continue the nursing program. If the program continues without significant improvement in its pass rate, the Board will also be faced with difficult decisions regarding whether to continue to approve the program which could result in an involuntary closure pursuant to the Nursing Board's regulations. Throughout your materials, you reference the CCNE benchmark of 80%. Please be aware that South Carolina standards are the national average minus 5%. Newberry will remain on a conditional status and must return in March of 2026. At that appearance, we expect to see documentation about successful implementation of changes you described today. Motion carried. \*

**Citadel: NCLEX Pass Rate Reappearance**

Motion: The Board continues to be concerned that in five of the past six years The Citadel has been significantly deficient and may again fall below the standards this year. The Board recognizes the substantial curriculum overhaul and improvements that have been implemented. The Board would like to allow for the cohorts that have been educated through this new curriculum to take the NCLEX. However, please be aware that failure to see the passage rate at or above the South Carolina deficient level for the 2027 cohort will most likely result in The Citadel needing to make difficult decisions on whether to continue the nursing program. Likewise, the Board will also be faced with difficult decisions regarding whether to continue to approve the program, which could result in involuntary closure pursuant to the Nursing Board's regulations. The Citadel will remain on conditional status and must return in September 2026. Motion carried. \*

**Denmark Technical College, PN: NCLEX Pass Rate Reappearance**

Presentation from Denmark Technical College of significant improvement including 100% NCLEX passage rate in 2024. Motion that Denmark Technical College LPN be moved from conditional approval to full approval. Motion carried. \*

**ECPI Charleston: Deficient NCLEX Pass Rate**

Motion: The Board continues to be concerned that in three of the past four years ECPI Charleston has been deficient. The Board recognizes the substantial curriculum improvements that have been implemented. The Board also notes the continued upward momentum and the impressive year-to-date scores. ECPI will remain on conditional status and must return in September 2026. Motion carried. \*

*Ms. Mitcham was recused from this matter and rejoined the meeting at the conclusion of the hearing.*

**Nightingale College: Out of State Nursing Program Request to Conduct Clinical Experiences in South Carolina.**

Nightingale College requested to conduct clinical experiences in South Carolina. NCLEX scores showed scores significantly lower than the national and South Carolina average for first time test takers.

Motion: Due to our standards in South Carolina for the practice of nursing and our duty to protect the public in South Carolina, we will be denying your request to conduct clinicals in South Carolina. Everyone in South Carolina conducting clinicals is expected to meet the same standards to ensure our confidence in the level of professionalism and safe nursing care being provided to our patients in clinical sites. Motion carried. \*

**Brunswick Community College Associate Degree in Nursing, NC - Out of State Nursing Program Request to Conduct Clinical Experiences in South Carolina.**

Motion that Brunswick Community College, is granted approval to conduct clinicals in South Carolina. Motion carried. \*

**DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS:**

Respondents appeared before the Board to determine disciplinary actions. Hearings are conducted in Closed Session to meet the statutory requirement that disciplinary actions remain confidential.

**2023-547:** Respondent appeared before the Board having executed a Memorandum of Agreement for the purpose of determining disciplinary sanction.

Motion to accept the Memorandum of Agreement with the following sanctions: Public reprimand, investigative costs of \$40.00 due within six months, and completion of the following Board-approved courses to be completed within six months: Maintaining Professional Boundaries, Professional Ethics-Principals of Practice, and How to develop Emotional Resilience to Stress Management. Motion carried. \*

*Ms. Mitcham was recused from this matter and rejoined the meeting at the conclusion of the hearing.*

**2023-350:** Respondent appeared before the Board having executed a Memorandum of Agreement for the purpose of determining disciplinary sanction.

Motion to accept the Memorandum of Agreement with the following disciplinary sanctions: Private reprimand, continued compliance with terms and conditions known to the Respondent and the Board, on-site supervision for one year. Motion carried. \*

*Ms. Lyerly was absent from this matter and remained absent for the remainder of the meeting.*

**2024-153:** Respondent appeared before the Board having executed a Memorandum of Agreement for the purpose of determining disciplinary sanction.

Motion to accept the Memorandum of Agreement and issuance of non-disciplinary Letter of Caution. Motion carried. \*

Motion to open session. Motion carried. \*

### **Board Chair Report:**

Presented by Sallie Beth Todd, Board Chair

- Strategic Plan

Motion made to accept the Strategic Plan as it is written. Motion carried.\*

*Request for these be put up on the website's main landing page and as an Alert.*

### **CE Broker Presentation:**

For information only by Jason Grubbs

No motion was made.

### **Board Chair Report Continued:**

Presented by Sallie Beth Todd

- Discussion regarding NCSBN Annual Meeting. No motion made.
- Board members selection to serve on the following committees:
  - Nominations Committee for the 2026 Board of Nursing position to elect the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary: *Pettigrew and Pagett*
  - Advisory Committee on Nursing Education (ACONE): *Whitcomb, James (alternate)*

- Advanced Practice Committee: *Enos, Lyerly (alternate)*
- Nursing Practice and Standards Committee: *Holder, May-Engel and Pettigrew (alternates)*
- Legislative Liaison: *Whitcomb, Holder (alternate)*
- South Carolina Recovering Professional Program (RPP) Liaison: *Wolff, James*
- Nominations Workgroup: *Wolff and May-Engel, remaining position vacant*
- Joint Vaccine Protocol Committee: *Pettigrew, Enos (tentative)*
- Designee to approve disciplinary worksite approvals: BON Vice Chair

Motion to accept the nominations to these committee positions as discussed and to amend the bylaws to include the worksite approval as a Vice Chair's duty. Motion carried.

**\*Nominations from the Nominations Workgroup**

- New Simulation position, the name that we would be put forward is Kelly Russin. Motion to accept the nomination. Motion carried.

*Dr. Holder was recused from this matter and rejoined the meeting at the conclusion of this nomination.*

- Certified Nurse Midwife, there were two vacancies and one application was submitted. Motion to nominate Kelly Bouthillet. Motion carried.

**Adjourn 4:53 pm**

*\*Indicates that the Board entered into Executive Session for the purpose of receiving legal counsel; no official actions were taken while in Executive Session.*