



Arkansas Department of Health

Arkansas State Board of Nursing

1123 S. University Ave., #800 • Little Rock, AR 72204
(501) 686-2700 • Fax (501) 686-2714

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TIME AND PLACE:

July 9, 2026
Board Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Allie Barker, MSN, RN; Jamie Sims; Cassie Gonzales, MNSc, APRN, FNP-BC; Veronica Harmon, RN; Barbara Hillman, BSN, RN; Robin Lambert, LNHA, LPN; Jason Wallace, MSN, APRN, PMHNP-BC

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Tabitha Lancaster, RN
Phillip Petty, RN,
Lakisha Young, LPN,
Katelynn Rougeau, RN

**STAFF ATTENDING
AT VARIOUS TIMES:**

Ashley Davis, Director, PhD, RN
David Dawson, JD, General Counsel
Jennifer Ivory, JD, Attorney Specialist
Lisa Wooten, Assistant Director, MPH, BSN, RN
Shannon McKinney, Assistant Director, DNP, APRN, WHNP-BC
Kim Hooks, ASBN Assistant Director- ArNAP, MPH, BSN, RN
Udell Ward Jr., Regulatory Board Chief Investigator
Charissa McVay, Program Coordinator, MNSc, APRN, FNP-bc
Paul Bradshaw, IT Infrastructure Coordinator
Susan Moore, Computer Operator
Christine Lewis, Executive Assistant to the Director
Mindy Darner, Legal Support Specialist
Lou Ann Walker, Public Information Coordinator
Elaine Wooten, Administrative Analyst
Kelly Doppelhammer, Legal Support Specialist

Guests:

Torrey G. Williason, Respondent Johnston's Guest

President Allie Barker called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Guests were welcomed and a flexible agenda was approved.

DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS

General Counsel, David Dawson, and Attorney Specialist, Jennifer Ivory, represented the Board. Motions reflect the decisions of the Board reached in deliberation following the hearing of each case.

MELISSA K. SULLIVAN JOHNSTON, NCSBN ID. 21060882, LICENSE NO. L055364

Respondent was present for the proceedings before the Board and was represented by counsel, Darren O'Quinn. Shannon McKinney, DNP, APRN-WHNP-BC, provided testimony on behalf of the Board. On June 27, 2024, the Board issued a Letter of Reprimand (LOR) to Respondent for a violation of the *Arkansas Nurse Practice Act*, A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(2). The LOR was based upon the following: Court records from the Circuit Court of Crawford County, Arkansas, 21st Judicial District, 1st Divisions

ASBN MINUTES

July 9, 2026

shows a negotiated plea of guilty, and finding of guilt, to the charge of endangering welfare of a minor, second degree (Class A Misdemeanor), on or about June 30, 2022. Respondent's attorney timely submitted a written appeal of the issuance of the June 27, 2024, LOR.

MOTION: I MOVE that based on the evidence presented and the allegations contained in the Order and Notice of Hearing, the Arkansas State Board of Nursing finds that **MELISSA K. SULLIVAN JOHNSTON, NCSBN ID. 21060882, LICENSE NO. L055364**, has been charged with a violation of Ark. Code Ann. § 17-87-309(a)(2) and that the LOR issued on 6-27-2024 be upheld.

Brought by Cassie Gonzales and seconded by Jason Wallace.

PASSED

MELISSA K. SULLIVAN JOHNSTON, NCSBN ID. 21060882, LICENSE NO. L055364

Respondent was present for the proceedings before the Board and was represented by counsel, Darren O'Quinn. Lisa Wooten, MPH, BSN, RN, and Hannah Swisher, RN, provided testimony on behalf of the Board. Dr. Carl Shipp, MD, and Kelley Kelly, APRN, provided testimony on behalf of the Respondent. An investigation was conducted after the Board received a complaint asserting that Respondent vapes THC at work while impaired. Employment records indicate that Respondent was hired at Chapel Ridge Health and Rehab in Fort Smith, Arkansas, on April 17, 2023. On July 9, 2023, November 2, 2023, and August 21, 2024, facility documentation indicates Respondent received write ups for failure to follow policy and procedure on medication administration and documentation. On December 26, 2024, facility documentation indicates Respondent received counseling that appropriate documentation must also be done in a timely manner. On February 25, 2025, the facility documented that Respondent received a write-up for failure to follow policy and procedure. On April 9, 2025, at approximately 2130, the Board investigator met with Respondent in Fort Smith to obtain a professional drug screen and discuss the allegations and findings of the investigation. Respondent indicated, that "Yes, she did have a medical marijuana card, but it is expired." Respondent indicated that she would be positive for marijuana, but that she did not use it while working. When Respondent was asked if she had ever been impaired while working, she indicated no. Respondent also indicated that she took one (1) of her sister's Norco pills three (3) days ago. At approximately 2205, Respondent refused the urine drug screen and stated, "I'm going to be positive so what's the point? I don't want to do this. I had to go through a big custody battle and do hair follicle testing, that is why I got the card." When asked about retrieving medications from the CSL and not documenting them in the MAR, Respondent stated, "I am a bad charter. I've been better lately after I got in trouble." The Administrator at Chapel Ridge confirmed that Respondent was sent home the same day that she refused the drug screen requested by the Board investigator (April 9, 2025). Respondent told her employer that she was going to resign immediately. Five (5) of Respondent's medical records at Chapel Ridge were reviewed by the Board investigator, between the dates of January 3, 2025, and March 27, 2025. There were five (5) instances of a medication documented as administered prior to being dispensed from the CSL, nine (9) instances of delayed documentation of a medication being administered from the time it was dispensed in the CSL, one (1) instance of a medication documented as administered but not located as dispensed on the CSL, and there was a total of 330 mg of hydrocodone unaccounted for. Records from another employer, The Blossoms Rehab and Nursing Center in Fort Smith, Arkansas, regarding Respondent, indicate that Respondent received counseling or warnings for significant med errors, not documenting medication when given, not documenting refusal of medications, signing out narcotics and not charting them in the EMAR, and failing to sign off meds on the EMAR in a timely manner. Board staff requested that Respondent obtain a psychological/addiction evaluation. Respondent was evaluated by Dr. Benjamin Silber and Sidney Theiss on September 26, 2025. The evaluators did not report any psychological or substance use concerns regarding Respondent's ability to practice nursing safely. However, there were some concerns expressed regarding Respondent's level of openness

ASBN MINUTES

July 9, 2026

and ability to engage in a transparent assessment process. Additionally, the evaluators recommended that Respondent consider employment in a slower-paced setting and to engage in counseling to develop effective coping strategies for managing personal stressors, reducing the likelihood that such stress will interfere with her work performance. Board staff offered Respondent a one (1) year probation consent agreement. Respondent declined the offered consent agreement and requested a hearing before the Board.

MOTION: I MOVE that based on the evidence presented and the allegations contained in the Order and Notice of Hearing, the Arkansas State Board of Nursing finds that **MELISSA K. SULLIVAN JOHNSTON, NCSBN ID. 21060882, LICENSE NO. L055364**, has been charged with a violation of Ark. Code Ann. § 17-87-309(a)(6) and that Respondent's license and privilege to practice as a nurse be placed on probation for one (1) year with the following terms and conditions:

- Pursuant to A.C.A. §17-87-104(b)(1), Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of \$1,715.00, plus any outstanding balance associated with previous disciplinary action. Such fine shall be payable within fifteen (15) days of receipt of this Order. If unable to pay the civil penalty within fifteen (15) days, a payment schedule shall be submitted within fifteen (15) days to the Board via email at ASBN.monitoring@arkansas.gov.
- Respondent shall request to the Board verification of termination of the probationary period and license reinstatement by submitting the *Reinstatement Request* form, via the ASBN Nurse Portal once compliance with the Board's Probation Order is met. Respondent is required to continue all monitoring requirements including but not limited to checking in daily for random drug screening, testing if selected, attending meetings, and submitting reports until released from the probation period by Board staff.
- Respondent shall abstain at all times from the use of all controlled or abuse potential substances including alcohol, products that contain alcohol, all fermented products (i.e. kefir, kombucha tea, etc.), hemp, poppy seeds, cannabidiol (CBD), or any product or by-product containing the same. Short-term treatment (less than three [3] weeks) with a controlled medication may be allowed for an acute illness or acute condition with a short-term waiver and appropriate documentation (medical record documentation, etc.). Respondent shall provide a completed short-term waiver within ten (10) days of being prescribed a controlled or abuse potential substance via the Board approved monitoring program.
- Respondent shall log all medications, including over-the-counter medications via the Board approved monitoring program. Acceptable documentation must include the following information: prescriber, medication name, dose, date prescribed, and amount dispensed. Acceptable format of documentation includes photo(s) of the prescription label, documentation from the provider, or documentation from the pharmacy.
- Respondent agrees to have personal prescriptions monitored through the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program by board staff while under Board order.
- Respondent shall submit to random drug screens by direct observation or DNA-authentication. The drug screens shall meet the criteria established by the Board and be conducted through a Board approved monitoring program, laboratory, and collection site. Respondent shall contact the monitoring program to activate their account and begin checking in daily beginning the first of the month following the Board Order. If selected for testing, Respondent shall submit the specimen for observed drug screening by 11:59 pm on the day of selection, or within the time and manner designated by the DNA-authentication laboratory. Respondent shall not submit specimens at Respondent's place of employment or practice site. Failed drug screens include the results of a biological

specimen, which is determined to be diluted, substituted, abnormal, adulterated, or tests positive for alcohol, controlled substances, abuse potential substances, or their metabolites or failure to present and provide specimen when notified.

- Respondent shall notify the Board of any travel two (2) weeks prior to traveling by submitting a monitoring interruption via the Board approved monitoring program. Respondent shall continue to check in during travel period and test when selected. Travel outside the continental U.S. requires thirty (30) days' notice. If approved, a waiver shall be issued during the travel period outside the continental U.S.
- Respondent shall not collect any drug screen specimen from a participant who has been ordered to drug screen by the Board of Nursing.
- Respondent shall submit the *Enforcement Personal Report* to the Board via the Board approved monitoring program quarterly.
- Respondent shall ensure that all reports of Respondent and the employer are submitted quarterly via the Board approved monitoring program.
- Respondent shall notify and present to each employer a copy this Order if working as a nurse on probation. Respondent shall have employer sign the *Employer Acknowledgement* form. Respondent shall submit the document to the Board via the Board approved monitoring program. Respondent shall have their employer complete the *Performance Evaluation Report* and Respondent shall submit the report to the Board via the Board approved monitoring program quarterly.
- Respondent shall work under supervision in any setting. Supervision requires another nurse at the same or higher licensure level, to be working in the same setting as Respondent and be readily available to provide assistance and intervention. Respondent shall not serve as a preceptor during probation. Respondent shall not secure employment or be employed through a staffing agency. Respondent shall not be employed in the following settings: Emergency Room, Pre- and Post-Op, Labor and Delivery, Home Hospice, Home Health, or any Intensive Care Unit.
- The Nurse Licensure Compact status of Respondent's Arkansas license shall be single state, allowing practice only in the State of Arkansas. Respondent may submit the *Multistate Conversion Application* after successful completion of probation to determine if license meets the Uniform Licensure Requirements (ULR) for multi-state compact status.
- Respondent shall execute any release necessary to give the Board access to records including, but not limited to, medical, psychological, employment, and or criminal records. Failure to execute a release shall be grounds for additional disciplinary action against Respondent's license / privilege to practice.
- Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws and all rules governing the practice of nursing in this state.
- Respondent shall be responsible for all costs involved in complying with the Board's Order.
- Respondent is required to submit any change of information, even a temporary one, in name, address, or employer via the ASBN Nurse Portal and the Board approved monitoring program within ten (10) days of the change.
- Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §17-87-309, failure to comply with this Order may result in additional disciplinary action on the Respondent's licensure and/or privilege including, but not limited to, additional probation, suspension, or revocation of licensure and/or privilege to practice nursing in this state.

Brought by Cassie Gonzales and seconded by Allie Barker.

PASSED

CINTHIA LYNN COLE JONES BLUE, NCSBN ID. 2790558, MISSISSIPPI RN LICENSE NO. 869150

Respondent was present for the proceedings before the Board and was not represented by counsel. Heidi Hogue, MSN, RN, provided testimony on behalf of the Board. The Board opened an investigation after receiving an anonymous complaint that Respondent was abusing substances at work. The matter was investigated by Arkansas Department of Health, Pharmacy Services. After reviewing the investigation report, Board staff determined that the complaint was not substantiated. During the investigation, it was determined that Respondent was under medication assisted treatment for opioid use disorder. Pursuant to Board Policy Number III-52, Board staff requested certain information be provided by Respondent and that Respondent obtain an addiction evaluation. A letter received from Tracy A. Scott, FNP-C of Heartland Family Medical, Byhalia, Mississippi, states Respondent is prescribed the following controlled substances: buprenorphine for arthralgia/low back pain/opioid dependence and Adderall for ADHD. Respondent completed addiction recovery at Fairland in 2006 for opioid addiction. Respondent has remained sober since completing her rehabilitation at Fairland in 2006. Respondent is prescribed buprenorphine 8mg / naloxone 2mg tablets sublingual twice daily PRN for arthralgia/low back pain/opioid dependence. Mr. Scott states in his letter he felt this would be a better choice for Respondent rather than a chronic pain management clinic for her chronic pain. Mr. Scott states that Respondent has been compliant with her treatment for six (6) years since being on the Suboxone. Respondent's current medications include: Buprenorphine-naloxone 8-2 mg tablet, sublingual, Delecoxib 200 mg capsule, Dextroamphetamine-amphetamine 20 mg tablet, Estradiol 0.0375 mg/24 hr patch semiweekly, Pantoprazole 40 mg tablet delayed release, Prednisone 10 mg tablet, Tizanidine 4 mg tablet and Trazadone 100 mg tablet. APRN Jennifer Shuller from Pulaski Heights Wellness Clinic evaluated Respondent. Ms. Shuller's recommendations for Respondent consist of: No psychological or substance use concerns for Respondent's ability to practice nursing safely. No restrictions to parameters of practice are necessary. No recommendations are necessary for Respondent. Respondent does not meet the criteria for any substance use disorder. She is not known to currently be misusing substances. Respondent reported she had received health treatment in 2005 and is currently taking psychiatric medications prescribed by her PCP for ADHD and chronic pain. Respondent's current employer, Perimeter Behavioral Health, West Memphis, Arkansas, reports that Respondent has been employed there for eleven (11) years and has demonstrated a high level of professionalism, accountability, and commitment to patient care and there are no concerns regarding Respondent's ability to practice nursing safely and competently. Respondent's group sponsor reports that Respondent has been sober for over nineteen (19) years. This hearing is scheduled pursuant to Board Policy Number III-52 for the Board to consider whether to allow Respondent to continue the practice of nursing in Arkansas on her Mississippi Multistate privilege, while under a provider's care for Medication Assisted Treatment for opioid use disorder.

MOTION: I MOVE that based on the evidence presented and the allegations contained in the Order and Notice of Hearing, the Arkansas State Board of Nursing finds that **CINTHIA LYNN COLE JONES BLUE, NCSBN ID. 2790558, MISSISSIPPI RN LICENSE NO. 869150**, is granted a waiver for MAT.

Brought by Cassie Gonzales and seconded by Barbara Hillman.

PASSED

The following items were discussed:

- Update to the dialysis tech registry
- Distribution of the Faith A. Fields Nursing Loan Program 2026 Fall semester and the Jill Halsey Memorial Scholarship program for the 2026 Fall Semester.
- Summary Suspension Margaret Hampton

ASBN MINUTES

July 9, 2026

MOTION: I MOVE that the Arkansas State Board of Nursing distribute the funds from the Faith A. Fields Nursing Loan Program for the 2026 Fall Semester, as follows:

Practice Initial Applicants:

- 1) \$2,000.00 payable to Arkansas State University- Three Rivers on behalf of Tierney Bullock;
- 2) \$1,000.00 payable to North Arkansas College on behalf of Miranda Edwards;
- 3) \$2,000.00 payable to University of Arkansas – Pulaski Tech on behalf of Bulah Harris;
- 4) \$2,000.00 payable to University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences on behalf of Alejandro Hernandez;
- 5) \$2,000.00 payable to Arkansas State University- Three Rivers on behalf of Ebone Hopson;
- 6) \$2,000.00 payable to Black River Technical College on behalf of Ruby Huffins;
- 7) \$2,000.00 payable to Arkansas State University- Three Rivers on behalf of Alexandria Morrison;
- 8) \$1,000.00 payable to University of Arkansas at Little Rock on behalf of Stephanie Neilson;
- 9) \$2,000.00 payable to the University of Arkansas at Little Rock on behalf of Brittany Pittman;
- 10) \$2,000.00 payable to Arkansas State University on behalf of Caroline Snyder;
- 11) \$2,000.00 payable to University of Arkansas- Fort Smith on behalf of Kyle Taylor;
- 12) \$1,000.00 payable to University of Arkansas at Little Rock on behalf of Katherine Ward;
- 13) \$2,000.00 payable to Henderson State University on behalf of Hillary Williams;

Education Initial Applicants:

- 1) \$3,000.00 payable to Arkansas State University on behalf of Lauren Banks;
- 2) \$3,000.00 payable to Arkansas State University on behalf of Lauren Withrow;

Practice Renewal Applicants:

- 1) \$1,250.00 payable to Harding University on behalf of Kaia Austin;
- 2) \$2,500.00 payable to University of Arkansas on behalf of Holly Clayton;
- 3) \$2,500.00 payable to Henderson State University on behalf of Caitlyn Jones Cotton;
- 4) \$2,500.00 payable to University of Arkansas- Fort Smith on behalf of Cailee Johnson;
- 5) \$2,500.00 payable to University of Arkansas on behalf of Trang Ngo Key;
- 6) \$2,500.00 payable to Henderson State University on behalf of Hillary Williams;

I MOVE that the Arkansas State Board of Nursing distribute the funds from the Jill Hasley Memorial Scholarship Program for the 2026 Fall Semester, as follows:

- 1) \$3,000.00 payable to Arkansas State University on behalf of Ariella Holloway;
- 2) \$2,000.00 payable to William Carey University on behalf of Amanda Smith.

Brought by Allie Barker and seconded by Cassie Gonzales.

PASSED

MOTION: I MOVE that the license of Margaret Virginia Russ Hampton, Licensed Psychiatric Technical Nurse (LPTN), License # T001714, be summarily suspended, pending a hearing for revocation, suspension, probation, or other actions, and that the Board finds that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, based on the evidence presented at the Letter of Reprimand hearing on July 8, 2026, and the demeanor of the Respondent, including her inability to comprehend and appreciate the seriousness of her actions and inactions described at the hearing. A hearing will be promptly scheduled for he

ASBN MINUTES

July 9, 2026

Board's next regular hearing date, to consider and determine revocation, suspension, probation or other action.

Brought by Allie Barker and seconded by Veronica Harmon.

PASSED

The meeting recessed for lunch at 11:32 p.m. Following lunch, the Board resumed hearings.

President Allie Barker called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. A flexible agenda was approved.

BARI ANN BLESSING NAHAS HALBROOK, NCSBN ID. 42163701, LICENSE NO. A001758, PAC 01665, R032834 and P001523 (EXPIRED)

Respondent was present for the proceedings before the Board and was represented by counsel, Attorney's Name. Shannon McKinney, DNP, APRN, WHNP-BC, and Gena Fryar, RN, provided testimony on behalf of the Board. Dr. Carl Shipp, MD- Chief, ENT Services, CAVHS, and Kelley Kelly, APRN provided testimony on behalf of the Respondent. On September 18, 2025, the Board issued a Letter of Reprimand (LOR) to Respondent for a violation of the *Arkansas Nurse Practice Act*, A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(6) and the *Arkansas State Board of Nursing Rules*, 17 CAR § 126-102(8)(A). The LOR was based upon the following: On December 4, 2024, the Board received a complaint from the VA Hospital alleging Respondent failed to follow-up with a patient after a CT scan showed "suspicious for new malignancy." On July 31, 2019, Respondent saw Patient L.C. in the ENT Surgery Clinic at the VA Hospital in Little Rock, AR. Patient L.C. presented for pre-operative evaluation and history and physical examination. During the visit, Respondent ordered a CT scan of Patient L.C.'s chest. Patient L.C. completed the CT scan on August 7, 2019. The results noted an "interval enlargement of a 0.8 cm nodule within the right upper lobe. Primary diagnostic code: Suspicious for New Malignancy Need Follow Up." The medical record indicated Respondent reviewed the radiology report. Multiple conversations with the patient and the patient's wife were documented. There was not a note that the results of the CT scan were discussed nor was the appropriate consultation ordered. In addition to the information outlined in the September 18, 2024, LOR, an internal review conducted by the Office of Medical-Legal Risk Management with the Department of Veterans Affairs dated October 21, 2024 concludes, "Based on review of the medical record as well as any additional information submitted by practitioners involved in this case the Panel, which included a board-certified Internal Medicine Physician, a board-certified Otolaryngologist, a board-certified Dermatologist, and a board-certified Nurse Practitioner, determined that the standard of care was not met. The Panel noted the failure of the ordering Provider to act on the August 7, 2019 CT chest report detailing 'interval enlargement of a 0.8 cm nodule within the right upper lobe...Primary Diagnostic Code: Suspicious for New Malignancy Need FU' was inappropriate and a breach of the standard of care and contributed to a significant delay in the diagnosis and treatment of the Veteran's metastatic lung cancer." Respondent timely submitted a written appeal of the issuance of the September 18, 2025, LOR.

MOTION: I MOVE that based on the evidence presented and the allegations contained in the Order and Notice of Hearing, the Arkansas State Board of Nursing finds that **BARI ANN BLESSING NAHAS HALBROOK, NCSBN ID. 42163701, LICENSE NO. A001758, PAC 01665, R032834 and P001523 (EXPIRED)**, that the Letter of Reprimand issued September 18, 2025, be rescinded

Brought by Allie Barker and seconded by Jamie Sims.

PASSED

July 9, 2026

DONNA EDNA CARTER, NCSBN ID. 21371797, LICENSE NO. R105909, and L048772 (EXPIRED)

Respondent was present for the proceedings before the Board and was not represented by counsel. Lisa Wooten, MPH, BSN, RN, provided testimony on behalf of the Board. Respondent was discharged from the Arkansas Nurse Alternative to Discipline (ArNAP) program on May 21, 2025, for noncompliance. On June 4, 2025, the Board ratified a Noncompliance Consent Agreement placing Respondent's LPN and RN licensure on probation for one (1) year for violations of A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(6). Respondent has failed to fully comply with the requirements of the June 4, 2025, Noncompliance Consent Agreement. Respondent failed to check in daily with the Board approved monitoring company six (6) times. Respondent failed to submit specimens for drug screen testing eight (8) times, when selected to test. Respondent submitted one (1) dilute specimen for testing. Respondent tested positive four (4) times for a controlled substance, tramadol, without a short-term waiver on file. Respondent failed to provide all required quarterly reports. Respondent failed to complete the *Substance Abuse Bundle* and *The Nurse and Professional Behaviors* courses within six (6) months. Respondent failed to submit any Civil Penalty quarterly payments. There is a balance remaining of \$750. Respondent has violated Ark. Code Ann. § 17-87-309(a)(6) and the Board's *Rules*, 17 CAR § 126-102(8)(T) by failing to comply with the terms and conditions of the June 4, 2025, Noncompliance Consent Agreement ordered by the Board.

MOTION: I MOVE that based on the evidence presented and the allegations contained in the Order and Notice of Hearing, the Arkansas State Board of Nursing finds that **DONNA EDNA CARTER, NCSBN ID. 21371797, LICENSE NO. R105909, and L048772 (EXPIRED)**, has been charged with a violation of Ark. Code Ann. § 17-87-309(a)(6) and that Respondent's license and privilege to practice as a nurse be placed on probation for one (1) year with the following terms and conditions:

- Pursuant to A.C.A. §17-87-104(b)(1), Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of \$750.00, plus any outstanding balance associated with previous disciplinary action. Such fine shall be payable within fifteen (15) days of receipt of this Order. If unable to pay the civil penalty within fifteen (15) days, a payment schedule shall be submitted within fifteen (15) days to the Board via email at ASBN.monitoring@arkansas.gov.
- Respondent shall provide evidence within six (6) months of successful completion of the Board approved course(s): *Substance Abuse Bundle*, and *The Nurse and Professional Behaviors*. Respondent shall submit the certificate(s) of completion via the Board approved monitoring program.
- Respondent shall request to the Board verification of termination of the probationary period and license reinstatement by submitting the *Reinstatement Request* form, via the ASBN Nurse Portal once compliance with the Board's Probation Order is met. Respondent is required to continue all monitoring requirements including but not limited to checking in daily for random drug screening, testing if selected, attending meetings, and submitting reports until released from the probation period by Board staff.
- Respondent shall abstain at all times from the use of all controlled or abuse potential substances including alcohol, products that contain alcohol, all fermented products (i.e. kefir, kombucha tea, etc.), hemp, poppy seeds, cannabidiol (CBD), or any product or by-product containing the same. Short-term treatment (less than three [3] weeks) with a controlled medication may be allowed for an acute illness or acute condition with a short-term waiver and appropriate documentation (medical record documentation, etc.). Respondent shall provide a completed short-term waiver within ten (10) days of being prescribed a controlled or abuse potential substance via the Board approved monitoring program.

ASBN MINUTES

July 9, 2026

- Respondent shall log all medications, including over-the-counter medications via the Board approved monitoring program. Acceptable documentation must include the following information: prescriber, medication name, dose, date prescribed, and amount dispensed. Acceptable format of documentation includes photo(s) of the prescription label, documentation from the provider, or documentation from the pharmacy.
- Respondent agrees to have personal prescriptions monitored through the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program by board staff while under Board order.
- Respondent shall submit to random drug screens by direct observation or DNA-authentication. The drug screens shall meet the criteria established by the Board and be conducted through a Board approved monitoring program, laboratory, and collection site. Respondent shall contact the monitoring program to activate their account and begin checking in daily beginning the first of the month following the Board Order. If selected for testing, Respondent shall submit the specimen for observed drug screening by 11:59 pm on the day of selection, or within the time and manner designated by the DNA-authentication laboratory. Respondent shall not submit specimens at Respondent's place of employment or practice site. Failed drug screens include the results of a biological specimen, which is determined to be diluted, substituted, abnormal, adulterated, or tests positive for alcohol, controlled substances, abuse potential substances, or their metabolites or failure to present and provide specimen when notified.
- Respondent shall notify the Board of any travel two (2) weeks prior to traveling by submitting a monitoring interruption via the Board approved monitoring program. Respondent shall continue to check in during travel period and test when selected. Travel outside the continental U.S. requires thirty (30) days' notice. If approved, a waiver shall be issued during the travel period outside the continental U.S.
- Respondent shall not collect any drug screen specimen from a participant who has been ordered to drug screen by the Board of Nursing.
- Respondent shall submit the *Enforcement Personal Report* to the Board via the Board approved monitoring program quarterly.
- Respondent shall ensure that all reports of Respondent and the employer are submitted quarterly via the Board approved monitoring program.
- Respondent shall notify and present to each employer a copy this Order if working as a nurse on probation. Respondent shall have employer sign the *Employer Acknowledgement* form. Respondent shall submit the document to the Board via the Board approved monitoring program. Respondent shall have their employer complete the *Performance Evaluation Report* and Respondent shall submit the report to the Board via the Board approved monitoring program quarterly.
- Respondent shall work under supervision in any setting. Supervision requires another nurse at the same or higher licensure level, to be working in the same setting as Respondent and be readily available to provide assistance and intervention. Respondent shall not serve as a preceptor during probation. Respondent shall not secure employment or be employed through a staffing agency. Respondent shall not be employed in the following settings: Emergency Room, Pre- and Post-Op, Labor and Delivery, Home Hospice, Home Health, or any Intensive Care Unit.
- The Nurse Licensure Compact status of Respondent's Arkansas license shall be single state, allowing practice only in the State of Arkansas. Respondent may submit the *Multistate Conversion Application* after successful completion of probation to determine if license meets the Uniform Licensure Requirements (ULR) for multi-state compact status.
- Respondent shall execute any release necessary to give the Board access to records including, but not limited to, medical, psychological, employment, and or criminal records.

ASBN MINUTES

July 9, 2026

Failure to execute a release shall be grounds for additional disciplinary action against Respondent's license / privilege to practice.

- Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws and all rules governing the practice of nursing in this state.
- Respondent shall be responsible for all costs involved in complying with the Board's Order.
- Respondent is required to submit any change of information, even a temporary one, in name, address, or employer via the ASBN Nurse Portal and the Board approved monitoring program within ten (10) days of the change.
- Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §17-87-309, failure to comply with this Order may result in additional disciplinary action on the Respondent's licensure and/or privilege including, but not limited to, additional probation, suspension, or revocation of licensure and/or privilege to practice nursing in this state.

Brought by Cassie Gonzales and seconded by Barbara Hillman.

PASSED

RYAN WADE LEWIS, NCSBN ID. 23610015, LICENSE NO. R108312

Respondent was not present for the proceedings before the Board and was not represented by counsel. Janet Simpson, MSN, RNP, RNC-MNN, and Gena Fryar, RN, provided testimony on behalf of the Board. An investigation was conducted after the Board received a complaint reporting that Respondent is working under the influence of Ativan and alcohol at the Little Rock Veteran's Administration (VA). Respondent has been employed at Little Rock VA since April of 2013. Records indicate that Respondent was admitted as a patient to VA on February 13, 2024, with a diagnosis of alcohol use disorder, alcohol withdrawal, seizures due to alcohol withdrawal, alcohol related liver disease, along with tobacco use disorder and insomnia. Respondent left against medical advice on February 15, 2024. Later on that same date, coworkers took Respondent back to the emergency department and Respondent was readmitted as a patient with a diagnosis of confusion and seizures due to alcohol withdrawal. Respondent was discharged on February 19, 2024, and declined any programs to assist with alcohol cessation at that time. Board staff requested that Respondent obtain a psychological/addiction evaluation. Respondent received a copy of this communication via certified mail and through the nurse portal message center on November 18, 2025. On June 8, 2026, Respondent contacted Board staff after receiving a letter providing a hearing date of July 9, 2025. Respondent indicated that he would schedule the requested addiction evaluation. However, no evaluation has been scheduled. Respondent has failed to provide the requested evaluation and has quit communicating with Board staff.

MOTION: I MOVE that based on the evidence presented and the allegations contained in the Order and Notice of Hearing, the Arkansas State Board of Nursing finds that **RYAN WADE LEWIS, NCSBN ID. 23610015, LICENSE NO. R108312**, has been charged with a violation of Ark. Code Ann. § 17-87-309(a)(4) and (a)(6) and that Respondent's license and privilege to practice as a nurse be suspended until Respondent provides Board staff with an Addictive/Psychological evaluation that states Respondent is safe to practice, and Board staff has reviewed the evaluation and assessed any recommendations made by the evaluation. If Board staff recommend probation after review of the evaluation and the Board's investigation, Respondent's license will remain suspended until the Board ratifies a Consent Agreement between the Board and Respondent, or until Respondent appears before the Board after the evaluation is received.

Brought by Cassie Gonzales and seconded by Jason Wallace.

PASSED

July 9, 2026

TONYA MARIE KRUTZ HOLDMEIER, NCSBN ID. 10618761, LICENSE NO. R087928 (EXPIRED) and L040090 (EXPIRED)

Respondent was not present for the proceedings before the Board and was not represented by counsel. Janet Simpson, MSN, RNP, RNC-MNN, and Gena Fryar, RN, provided testimony on behalf of the Board. An investigation was conducted after the Board received a complaint from Great River Medical Center in Blytheville, Arkansas, reporting that a drug screen was obtained from Respondent after she was observed as impaired during a meeting at work. Respondent tested positive for amphetamine and methamphetamine. Employment records indicate that Respondent was terminated from employment at Great River Medical Center after Respondent tested positive for amphetamine at 6,747 ng/mL and methamphetamine at 7,334 ng/mL, on October 3, 2024. Respondent was observed with jerking motions, twitching, being fidgety, glassy-eyed, and with poor motor coordination while at a meeting at work, before the for-cause drug screen was requested. Respondent reported to the investigator that she had been experiencing burn-out at work and had taken an Adderall the night before the drug screen. Respondent did not have a prescription for the Adderall. An investigator with Pharmacy Services obtained a urine sample from Respondent for testing on April 17, 2025. The result came back noting a dilute specimen. Board staff requested that Respondent obtain a psychological/addiction evaluation. Respondent received a copy of this communication via certified mail. Respondent has failed to provide the requested evaluation and has failed to communicate with Board staff.

MOTION: I MOVE that based on the evidence presented and the allegations contained in the Order and Notice of Hearing, the Arkansas State Board of Nursing finds that **TONYA MARIE KRUTZ HOLDMEIER, NCSBN ID. 10618761, LICENSE NO. R087928 (EXPIRED) and L040090 (EXPIRED)**, has been charged with a violation of violation of Ark. Code Ann. § 17-87-309(a)(4) and (a)(6) and that Respondent's license and privilege to practice as a nurse be suspended until Respondent provides Board staff with an Addictive/Psychological evaluation that states Respondent is safe to practice, and Board staff has reviewed the evaluation and assessed any recommendations made by the evaluation. If Board staff recommend probation after review of the evaluation and the Board's investigation, Respondent's license will remain suspended until the Board ratifies a Consent Agreement between the Board and Respondent, or until Respondent appears before the Board after the evaluation is received.

Brought by Cassie Gonzales and seconded by Barbara Hillman.

PASSED

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:36 pm.



Allie Barker, President



Mindy Darner, Recording Secretary

9/10/2026

Date Approved