

MINUTES TO MEETING
STATE OF CONNECTICUT
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD
FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2023

A Meeting to the Medical Examining Board was held on May 12, 2023, at the Office of the State Comptroller, 165 Capitol Ave., Hartford, Connecticut, 06106. Circumstances created by the COVID-19 virus have resulted in all Medical Examining Board meetings are being conducted electronically.

PRESENT:

Sachin Parekh, M.D., CHAIRPERSON
Michael Gerstenfeld, M.D.
Sheldon Nova, M.D.

ABSENT:

Eric T. Shore, M.D.	Poleak So, M.D.
Vasantha Kainkaryam, M.D.	Lynn Rudich, M.D.
Nicolai Lieders.	Richard Blum, M.D.
Amarjeet Dargan, M.D.	Fielding Johnson, M.D.
Frank Gerratana, M.D.	Rita Ohene-Adjei, M.D.
J. Robert Galvin, M.D.	Sohrab Zahedi, M.D.
Ralph Rosenberg, M.D.	Manny Katsetos, M.D.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Robert Helfand, Investigation & Recovery Unit, Retirement Division
William Cassada, Disability Retirement Unit, Retirement Division
Helena Bartolomeo, Disability Retirement Unit, Retirement Services Division
Cindy Cieslak, General Counsel to the Commission Rose Kallor, LLP.

Please note that a portion of the meeting was conducted in executive session as the focus of the meeting was the medical condition(s) of each Disability Retirement applicant.

CALL TO ORDER

The Chairperson called meeting to order at 9:09 am.

Dr. Parekh motioned to go into the Executive Session to discuss medical condition(s) related to the applications for Disability Retirement, seconded by Dr. Nova at 9:10 am. Members of the Retirement Services Division and the General Counsel to the Commission were invited to stay during Executive Session. There was a brief break at 11:20 am. until 11:30 am.

1. Kevin Ahlquist and Attorney Russell Zimmerlin appeared on Zoom before the Board at 11:32 am. They made statements and then they were excused by the Board at 11:36 am.
2. Justin Blandino and Attorney Russell Zimmerlin appeared on Zoom before the Board at 11:39 am. They made statements and then they were excused by the Board at 11:42 am.

3. Gilbert Gioia and Attorney Russell Zimmerlin appeared on Zoom before the Board at 11:43 am. They made a statement and then were excused by the Board at 11:46 am.
4. Tait Lawler appeared on Zoom before the Board at 11:47 am. He made a statement and then he was excused by the Board at 11:54 am.
5. Kelly Swiatowiec appeared on Zoom before the Board at 12:04 pm. She made a statement and then she was excused by the Board at 12:05 pm.

Dr. Parekh motioned to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Dr. Nova at 12:09 pm.

KEVIN AHLQUIST D- 13468 SERVICE-CONNECTED (RECONSIDERATION)
Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to stand by the Board's previous decision to deny Kevin Ahlquist's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

MARIABERROA D- 13536 SERVICE-CONNECTED
Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to deny Maria Berroa's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

JUSTIN BLANDINO D- 13428 NON-SERVICE-CONNECTED (RECONSIDERATION)
Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Justin Blandino's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

GLENN BONILLA MD- 1678 NON-SERVICE-CONNECTED
Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to deny Glenn Bonilla's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

CHRISTINE CAVAR D- 13540 NON-SERVICE-CONNECTED
Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to deny Christine Cavar's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

MATTHEW COLE D- 13539 SERVICE-CONNECTED
Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Matthew Cole's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

SUSAN DAMIANO D- 13552 SERVICE-CONNECTED
Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Susan Damiano's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

KATHLEEN FLETCHER D- 13522 NON-SERVICE-CONNECTED
Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to table Kathleen Fletcher's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

LISAGERACI-ANASTASIO D- 13554 SERVICE-CONNECTED
Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Lisa Geraci-Anastasio's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

GILBERT GIOIA D- 13310 SERVICE-CONNECTED (RECONSIDERATION)
Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Gilbert Gioia's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

ROBERTO GOMEZ MD- 1680 SERVICE-CONNECTED
Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to table Roberto Gomez's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

WILLIE HUNTER D- 13520 SERVICE-CONNECTED
Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Willie Hunter's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

LORI INMAN D- 12819 SERVICE-CONNECTED (RECONSIDERATION)
Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Lori Inman's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

TAIT LAWLER D- 13271 SERVICE-CONNECTED (RECONSIDERATION)
Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Tait Lawler's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

PASQUALINA LORENZO D- 13555 NON-SERVICE-CONNECTED
Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Pasqualina Lorenzo's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

SHANNON McCLURE D- 13544 NON-SERVICE-CONNECTED
Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Shannon McClure's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

TABITHA PERKINS D- 13550 SERVICE-CONNECTED
Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Tabitha Perkins' entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

YAMILET SANTIAGO D- 13535 NON-SERVICE-CONNECTED
Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Yamilet Santiago's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

KRISTALYNN SHELL D- 13542 SERVICE-CONNECTED
Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Kristalynn Shell's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

KELLY SWIATOWIEC D- 13101 SERVICE-CONNECTED (RECONSIDERATION)
Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Kelly Swiatowiec's entitlement to Service-Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

CHERYL TAYLOR D- 13040 CHANGE TO NON-SERVICE-CONNECTED
Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova, to approve Cheryl Taylor's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Nova to adjourn the meeting at 12:17 pm. Motion approved unanimously.