

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

NOVEMBER 6, 2020 MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM
CONVENED AT 9:13 a.m.

Board Members Present:

Sachin Parekh, M.D.
J. Robert Galvin, M.D.
Nikolai Lieders, M.D.

Also Present:

Colin Newman, Retirement Services Division
Annette Sadlowski, Retirement Services Division
Cindy Cieslak, general Counsel, Rose Kallor

Court Reporter: Karen Vibert

1 (Proceedings commenced at 9:13 a.m.)

2 DR. PAREKH: The November 6, 2020 meeting
3 of the Medical Examining Board is now in session.

4 I, Dr. Sachin Parekh as chairperson. Present are
5 Dr. Nicolai Lieders, Dr. J. Robert Galvin,
6 Dr. Sachin Parekh.

7 Present from the office of the State
8 Comptroller Retirement Services Division are State
9 members from the Retirement Services Division,
10 Colin Newman and Annette Sadlowski. General counsel
11 for the Retirement Commission, Cindy Cieslak.

12 Motion to amend the agenda.

13 DR. GALVIN: Second.

14 MS. SADLOWSKI: There's no amendment.

15 MS. CIESLAK: If there are no amendments,
16 Dr. Parekh and Dr. Galvin, you would just withdraw
17 your motion and withdraw your second.

18 DR. GALVIN: I will withdraw.

19 DR. PAREKH: I withdraw the motion to
20 amend the agenda.

21 Is there a motion to add anything to
22 the agenda?

23 MS. CIESLAK: I don't think so.

24 MS. SADLOWSKI: No.

25 DR. LIEDERS: That's part of the

1 amendment, right? So we don't really have to.

2 DR. PAREKH: Gotcha. Okay. No problem.

3 I make a motion to go into executive
4 session.

5 DR. LIEDERS: I second it.

6 MS. CIESLAK: Any discussion?

7 Some of the doctors like me to help
8 with the kind of formality of calling the motion.
9 You're certainly able to call it yourself, so I
10 don't mind either way; but, I generally just ask if
11 there is any discussion. It doesn't sound like
12 there's any discussion.

13 All in favor say aye. Any opposed
14 say nay. All right. The motion passes.

15 And, Dr. Parekh, can you identify who
16 you are inviting into executive session?

17 DR. PAREKH: Members of the Retirement
18 Services Division and counsel will be allowed to
19 remain.

20 MS. CIESLAK: Thank you.

21 (The board was in executive session from
22 9:13 a.m. until 10:54 a.m.)

23 MS. CIESLAK: I just want to let everyone
24 know this is the Medical Examining Board meeting for
25 November 6th. We are in public session.

1 Go ahead, Dr. Parekh.

2 DR. PAREKH: The Board will now be making
3 determinations and voting on those determinations;
4 but, would like to remind members that only the
5 final vote will be given today and not the reasons
6 for the vote.

7 In some instances there may have not
8 been enough medical information to make a
9 determination or perhaps a non-service-connected
10 disability is more likely a service-connected
11 disability. You may seek reconsideration of an
12 initial denial. You will receive the Board's
13 written decision within two to four weeks, which
14 will provide you with that additional information.

15 I am Dr. Parekh. I will providing
16 the motions.

17 I motion to deny non-service
18 disability retirement to most Rosemary Andrade.

19 DR. GALVIN: Second.

20 MS. CIESLAK: I'll be assisting with the
21 motions.

22 Any further discussion? There being
23 none, all in favor say aye. All opposed say nay.
24 The motion passes.

25 DR. LIEDERS: Can I make the suggestion?

1 Except for Dr. Parekh's cases, the ones that are
2 assigned to myself and Dr. Galvin, I could second
3 the ones that are assigned to me and Dr. Galvin
4 could second the ones that are assigned to him, just
5 to avoid some confusion. And Dr. Parekh will kind
6 of divide his.

7 DR. PAREKH: Okay.

8 MS. CIESLAK: How the motion works is
9 completely up to the Board; so, if that's how you'd
10 like to proceed, you may proceed.

11 DR. PAREKH: I motion to approve
12 non-service-connected retirement for Ruth Andrusko.

13 DR. LIEDERS: I second.

14 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion?
15 There being none, all in favor say aye. All opposed
16 say nay. The motion passes.

17 DR. PAREKH: I approve non-service
18 disability connected retirement for
19 Richard Beaulieu.

20 DR. LIEDERS: Second.

21 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? All
22 in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The motion
23 passes.

24 DR. PAREKH: I motion to deny
25 non-service-connected disability retirement to

1 Francis Bettencourt.

2 DR. LIEDERS: I second.

3 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? All
4 in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The motion
5 passes.

6 DR. PAREKH: I motion to approve
7 non-service-connected disability retirement to
8 Mary Bonaventura.

9 DR. GALVIN: Second.

10 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? All
11 in favor say aye. All opposed say nay. The motion
12 passes.

13 DR. PAREKH: I motion to deny
14 service-connected disability retirement to
15 Pierre D'Haiti.

16 DR. LIEDERS: Second.

17 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? All
18 in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The motion
19 passes.

20 DR. PAREKH: I motion to deny
21 service-connected disability retirement to
22 Robert Erickson.

23 DR. LIEDERS: Second.

24 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? All
25 in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The motion

1 passes.

2 DR. PAREKH: I motion to deny
3 service-connected disability retirement to
4 Vincent Ingrassia.

5 DR. LIEDERS: Second.

6 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? All
7 in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The motion
8 passes.

9 DR. PAREKH: I motion to deny
10 service-connected disability retirement to
11 Michael Lane.

12 DR. GALVIN: Second.

13 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? All
14 in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The motion
15 passes.

16 DR. PAREKH: I motion to deny
17 non-service-connected disability retirement to
18 Samuel Markland.

19 DR. LIEDERS: Second.

20 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? All
21 in favor say aye. All opposed say nay. The motion
22 passes.

23 DR. PAREKH: I motion to deny
24 non-service-connected disability retirement to
25 Rafael Melendez.

1 DR. GALVIN: Second.

2 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? All
3 in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The motion
4 passes.

5 DR. PAREKH: I motion to deny
6 service-connected disability retirement to
7 Douglas Moore.

8 DR. LIEDERS: Second.

9 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? All
10 in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The motion
11 passes.

12 DR. PAREKH: I approve -- I motion to
13 approve a change to non-service-connected disability
14 retirement to Michael Overton.

15 DR. LIEDERS: Second.

16 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? All
17 in favor say aye. All opposed say nay. The motion
18 passes.

19 DR. PAREKH: I motion to deny
20 non-service-connected disability retirement to
21 Brian Peterson.

22 DR. LIEDERS: Second.

23 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? All
24 in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The motion
25 passes.

1 DR. PAREKH: I motion to approve a change
2 to non-service-connected disability retirement to
3 Susan Sanchez.

4 DR. LIEDERS: Second.

5 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? All
6 in favor say aye. All opposed say nay. The motion
7 passes.

8 DR. PAREKH: I motion to deny
9 non-service-connected disability retirement to
10 Gustavo Sanchez Toledo.

11 DR. LIEDERS: Second.

12 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? All
13 in favor say aye. All opposed say nay. The motion
14 passes.

15 DR. PAREKH: I motion to table the
16 decision for non-service-connected disability
17 retirement to Frederick Stephenson.

18 DR. LIEDERS: Second.

19 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? All
20 in favor say aye. The motion passes.

21 DR. PAREKH: I motion to deny
22 service-connected disability retirement to
23 Cheryl Taylor.

24 DR. GALVIN: Second.

25 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? All

1 in favor say aye. All opposed say nay. The motion
2 passes.

3 DR. PAREKH: I motion to approve
4 non-service-connected disability retirement for
5 Michele Varanay.

6 DR. LIEDERS: Second.

7 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? All
8 in favor say aye. All opposed say nay. The motion
9 passes.

10 DR. PAREKH: I motion to table the
11 decision for non-service-related disability
12 retirement for Helen Wilson.

13 DR. LIEDERS: Second.

14 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? All
15 in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The motion
16 passes.

17 DR. PAREKH: I motion to table a decision
18 for non-service-connected disability retirement for
19 Sylvia Lopez.

20 DR. LIEDERS: Second.

21 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? All
22 in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The motion
23 passes.

24 DR. LIEDERS: By the way, just to clarify,
25 once someone seconds a motion, that automatically

1 means they agree with the motion. They don't have
2 to vote yes or no.

3 MS. CIESLAK: Dr. Lieders, through the
4 discussion that is permitted after a motion is made
5 and seconded, someone could raise discussion, which
6 could change a voter's mind, and so, if that
7 happens, that will happen through discussion, and
8 that is why we still have to call the vote.

9 DR. LIEDERS: I see. Okay. Thank you.

10 MS. CIESLAK: I don't think we have any
11 further business, so if you would like, we could
12 have a motion to adjourn.

13 DR. LIEDERS: I just want to make a
14 comment. I want to congratulate Dr. Parekh for his
15 excellent job chairing the meeting.

16 DR. PAREKH: Thank you, Dr. Lieders.

17 DR. GALVIN: Outstanding.

18 DR. PAREKH: Thank you, Dr. Galvin. It
19 was a pleasure to work with you guys today.

20 DR. LIEDERS: Likewise.

21 DR. GALVIN: I would like to make a
22 comment. I think we're going to see more cases of
23 post-COVID disability, so let's be prepared.

24 Perhaps this one case will give us
25 some idea of what to look for. Very, very

1 subjective stuff. Very hard to make decisions. I
2 can guarantee you that practitioners will spring up
3 who are COVID-residual experts, et cetera,
4 et cetera. So, as the Boy Scouts say, be prepared.

5 DR. PAREKH: I make a motion to adjourn
6 the meeting.

7 DR. LIEDERS: Second.

8 MS. CIESLAK: Wonderful. All in favor say
9 aye. Any opposed say nay. All right. We are
10 adjourned.

11 (Concluded at 11:09 a.m.)

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1 STATE OF CONNECTICUT:
: ss: Bristol
2 COUNTY OF HARTFORD :

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4 I, Karen Vibert, LSR No. 00064, a
5 Notary Public for the State of Connecticut, do hereby
6 certify that the preceding pages are an accurate
7 transcription of the Connecticut Medical Examining
8 Board regular meeting held electronically via Zoom,
9 convening at 9:13 a.m., on November 6, 2020.

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18 Dated at Bristol, Connecticut,
19 this 12th day of November, 2020.

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24

Karen Vibert



Karen Vibert, Notary Public
My commission expires: 08/31/2024.

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