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**In The Matter Of:**  
*SERC Medical Examining Board*

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*Medical Examining Board*

*March 5, 2021*

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION  
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

MARCH 5, 2021 MEETING  
HELD VIA ZOOM  
CONVENED AT 9:07 A.M.

Board Members Present:

Dr. Lynn Rudich  
Dr. Manny Katsetos  
Dr. Michael Gerstenfield

Also Present:

Colin Newman, Assistant Director, Retirement Services  
Unit  
Annette Sadlowski, Retirement Services Division  
William Cassada, Retirement Services Division  
Cindy Cieslak, Rose Kallor, General Counsel to the State  
Employees Retirement Commission

Court Reporter: Theresa Bergstrand, CSR #406

1 (The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m.)

2  
3 DR. RUDICH: The March 20, 2021, meeting of the  
4 Medical Examining Board is now in session. I am Dr.  
5 Lynn Rudich, Chairperson. We have Dr. Manny Katsetos,  
6 and Dr. Michael Gerstenfield with us.

7 Present from the Office of the State Controller  
8 Retirement Services Division are Annette Sadlowski,  
9 Colin Newman, Robert Helfand and William Cassada. And  
10 General Counsel for the Retirement Commission is with  
11 us, Cindy Cieslak.

12 I make a motion to go into Executive Session, but I  
13 request that members of the Retirement Services Division  
14 and counsel be allowed to remain.

15 DR. KATSETOS: I second the motion.

16 DR. RUDICH: All in favor say aye. All opposed say  
17 no. Motion passes.

18 MS. CIESLAK: All right. Real quick, just for the  
19 record. I received an e-mail from Robert Helfand that  
20 he will not be able to join us today. So I just wanted  
21 to put that on the record.

22 DR. RUDICH: Okay. Thank you. All right.

23  
24 (Whereupon a brief recess took place for  
25 Executive Session.)

1  
2 MS. CIESLAK: All right. This is Cindy Cieslak.  
3 The Medical Examining Board for March 5th, 2021 is back  
4 in public session. Oh, wait. Let me let everyone in  
5 from the waiting room.

6 Good morning again, everyone. This is Cindy  
7 Cieslak, and the Medical Examining Board for today's  
8 meeting is back in public session.

9 DR. RUDICH: The Board will be making  
10 determinations and voting on those determinations, but  
11 would like to remind members that only the final vote  
12 will be given today, and not the reasons for the vote.  
13 In some instances, there may not have been enough  
14 medical information to make a determination or perhaps a  
15 Nonservice-Connected Disability is more likely than a  
16 Service-Connected Disability, and you may state  
17 reconsideration of an initial denial. You will receive  
18 the Board's written determination within two to four  
19 weeks, and that will provide you additional information.

20 Okay. I would like to make a motion to approve the  
21 Service-Connected Disability Retirement of Jose Ayala.  
22 Is there a second?

23 DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, I second the motion.

24 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There being  
25 none, all in favor say aye. Any opposed, say nay. The

1 motion passes.

2 DR. RUDICH: This is Rudich, I motion a motion to  
3 deny the application for Service-Connected Disability  
4 Retirement of James Borrico.

5 DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, second.

6 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There being  
7 none, all in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The  
8 motion passes.

9 DR. RUDICH: This is Rudich. I make a motion to  
10 approve the application for Nonservice-Connected  
11 Disability Retirement of James Carr.

12 DR. KATSETOS: I second.

13 MS. CIESLAK: That was Dr. Katsetos. Any further  
14 discussion? There being none, all in favor say aye.  
15 Any opposed say nay. The motion passes.

16 DR. RUDICH: This is Rudich, I make a motion to  
17 approve the application of Service-Connected Disability  
18 Retirement of Laura Dandridge.

19 DR. KATSETOS: I second.

20 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There being  
21 none, all in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The  
22 motion passes.

23 DR. RUDICH: This is Rudich, I make a motion to  
24 deny the application for a Nonservice-Connected  
25 Disability Retirement of Lisa Doty. Is there a second?

1 MR. GERSTENFIELD: Second, Gerstenfield.

2 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There being  
3 none, all in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The  
4 motion passes.

5 DR. RUDICH: This is Rudich, I make a motion to  
6 deny the application for Service-Connected Disability  
7 Retirement of Robert Erickson, but the Board would look  
8 favorably on an application for Nonservice-Connected  
9 Disability Retirement. Is there a second?

10 DR. KATSETOS: I second.

11 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There being  
12 none, all in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The  
13 motion passes.

14 DR. RUDICH: I make a motion to table the  
15 application for Service-Connected Disability Retirement  
16 of Collette Foote.

17 DR. KATSETOS: I second it, Katsetos.

18 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There being  
19 none, all in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The  
20 motion passes.

21 DR. RUDICH: I make a motion to deny the  
22 application for Nonservice-Connected Disability  
23 Retirement of Trudy Haig.

24 DR. KATSETOS: Second.

25 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There being

1 none, all in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The  
2 motion passes.

3 DR. RUDICH: This is Rudich. I make a motion to  
4 deny the application for Service-Connected Disability  
5 Retirement of Jason Massai, but the Board would look  
6 favorably on Nonservice-Connected Disability Retirement  
7 application.

8 DR. KATSETOS: I second.

9 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There being  
10 none, all in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The  
11 motion passes.

12 DR. RUDICH: This is Rudich, I make a motion to  
13 approve the application for Nonservice-Connected  
14 Disability Retirement of Renee Meucci.

15 DR. KATSETOS: Second the motion.

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

19 DR. RUDICH: I make a motion to deny the  
20 application for service-connected -- for  
21 Nonservice-Connected Disability Retirement of George  
22 Miller.

23 DR. KATSETOS: Second.

24 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There being  
25 none, all in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The



1 motion passes.

2 DR. RUDICH: This is Rudich, I make a motion to  
3 deny the application for Service-Connected Disability  
4 Retirement of Katrina Ringgold.

5 DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, second.

6 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There being  
7 none, all in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The  
8 motion passes.

9 DR. RUDICH: I make a motion to approve the  
10 application for Service-Connected Disability Retirement  
11 of Nancy Slayton.

12 DR. KATSETOS: Second.

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

16 DR. RUDICH: I make a motion to deny the  
17 application for Nonservice-Connected Disability  
18 Retirement of Tina Steele.

19 DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, second.

20 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There being  
21 none, all in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The  
22 motion passes.

23 DR. RUDICH: This is Rudich, I make a motion to  
24 deny the application for Service-Connected Disability  
25 Retirement of Doreen Vasquez.

1 DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, second.

2 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There being  
3 none, all in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The  
4 motion passes.

5 DR. RUDICH: I make a motion, this is Rudich, I  
6 make a motion to approve the application for  
7 Service-Connected Disability Retirement of Valez-Clay.

8 DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, second.

9 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There being  
10 none, all in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The  
11 motion passes.

12 DR. RUDICH: This is Rudich, I make a motion to  
13 approve the application for Service-Connected Disability  
14 Retirement of Michael White.

15 DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, second.

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

19 DR. RUDICH: This is Rudich, I make a motion to  
20 approve the application for Service-Connected Disability  
21 Retirement of Kevin Woodard.

22 DR. KATSETOS: Katsetos, second.

23 MS. CIESLAK: Any further discussion? There being  
24 none, all in favor say aye. Any opposed say nay. The  
25 motion passes.

1 DR. RUDICH: I make a motion to adjourn the  
2 meeting, this is Rudich.

3 DR. GERSTENFIELD: Second, Gerstenfield.

4 DR. RUDICH: Any discussion?

5 MS. CIESLAK: All in favor say aye. All right, we  
6 are adjourned. Thank you everyone.

7  
8 (Whereupon the meeting was adjourned at 11:37  
9 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Theresa Bergstrand, CSR, a Notary Public for the State of Connecticut, do hereby certify that the preceding pages are an accurate transcription of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement Commission, Medical Examining Board meeting held electronically via Zoom, convening at 9:07 a.m., on March 5, 2021.

WITNESS my hand this 9th day of July, 2021.

*Theresa Bergstrand*

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Theresa Bergstrand, CSR  
My Commission Expires 3/31/2026