

MINUTES TO MEETING
STATE OF CONNECTICUT
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD
FRIDAY, May 3, 2024

A Meeting of the Medical Examining Board was held on Friday, May 3, 2024, at the Office of the State Comptroller, 165 Capitol Ave., Hartford, Connecticut, 06106. All Medical Examining Board meetings being conducted electronically.

PRESENT:

Sachin Parekh, M.D., CHAIRPERSON
Nikolai Lieders, M.D.
Michael Gerstenfeld, M.D.

ABSENT:

Frank Gerratana, M.D.
Fielding Johnson, M.D.
Manny Katsetos, M.D.
Sheldon Nova, M.D.
Rita Ohene-Adjei, M.D.
Ralph Rosenberg, M.D.
Lynn Rudich, M.D.
Eric T. Shore, M.D.
Sokpoleak So, M.D.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Helena Bartolomeo, Retirement Services Division
William Cassada, Retirement Services Division
Robert Helfand, Retirement Services Division
Nabil Waheed, 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 the meeting to order at 9:06 am.

Dr. Parekh motioned to add Richard Rusiecki to the agenda, seconded by Dr. Lieders, at 9:07am.

Dr. Parekh motioned to go into the Executive Session to discuss medical condition(s) related to the applications for Disability Retirement, seconded by Dr. Lieders, at 9:07 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 taken.

1. Persio Martinez and Attorney Russell Zimmerlin appeared on Zoom before the Board at 11:38 am. They made a statement and then they were excused by the Board at 11:42 am.
2. Kwasi McCall and Attorney Justin Raymond appeared on Zoom before the Board at 11:44 am. They made a statement and then they were excused by the Board at 11:50 am.

Dr. Parekh motioned to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Dr. Lieders at 11:50 am.

ANDERSON, KATHLEEN # 050176 SERVICE CONNECTED*
Dr. Parikh moved, seconded by Dr. Lieders, to approve Kathleen Anderson's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

ANTIGNANI, JAMES # 230378 SERVICE CONNECTED*
Dr. Parikh moved, seconded by Dr. Lieders, to deny James Antignani's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement, but approve entitlement to non-service connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

BLAIR, MATTHEW # 557597 SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Parikh moved, seconded by Dr. Lieders, to table Matthew Blair's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

DE LOS SANTOS, CASILDA # 594041 SERVICE CONNECTED* (RECON)
Dr. Parikh moved, seconded by Dr. Lieders, to deny Casilda De Los Santos' entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement, but approve entitlement to non-service connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

FLETCHER, KATHLEEN # 869904 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED (CONT'D)
Dr. Parikh moved, seconded by Dr. Lieders, to deny Kathleen Fletcher's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

GOODEN, DAPHNE # 975176 SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Parikh moved, seconded by Dr. Lieders, to approve Daphne Gooden's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

GORDON, DENESE # 633190 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Parikh moved, seconded by Dr. Lieders, to approve Denese Gordon's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

HARRIS, SHONTEL # 037204 SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Parikh moved, seconded by Dr. Lieders, to deny Shontel Harris' entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

MARTINEZ, PERSIO # 161061 SERVICE CONNECTED* (RECON)
Dr. Parikh moved, seconded by Dr. Lieders, to approve Persio Martinez's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

MCCALL, KWASI # 657038 SERVICE CONNECTED* (RECON)
Dr. Parikh moved, seconded by Dr. Lieders, to deny Kwasi McCall's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement, but the Board would look favorably upon non-service connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

RAMIREZ, JR., ORLANDO # 078269 SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Parikh moved, seconded by Dr. Lieders, to deny Orlando Ramirez's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

RENFRO, LINDA # 977742 SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Parikh moved, seconded by Dr. Lieders, to approve Linda Renfro's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

ROBINSON, NATHAN # 973970 SERVICE CONNECTED* (CONT'D)
Dr. Parikh moved, seconded by Dr. Lieders, to approve Nathan Robinson's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

ROMERO, NYDIA # 065277 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Parikh moved, seconded by Dr. Lieders, to deny Nydia Romero's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

RUIZ, JULIO # 164736 SERVICE CONNECTED (RECON)
Dr. Parikh moved, seconded by Dr. Lieders, to approve Julio Ruiz's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

SMITH, FREDERICK # 454511 SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Parikh moved, seconded by Dr. Lieders, to approve Frederick Smith's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

SMITH-CROCKETT, NATALIE # 653095 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Parikh moved, seconded by Dr. Lieders, to approve Natalie Smith-Crockett's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

SULLIVAN, STEPHEN # 311034 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Parikh moved, seconded by Dr. Lieders, to approve Stephen Sullivan's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

RUSIECKI, RICHARD # 490540 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Parikh moved, seconded by Dr. Lieders, to approve Richard Rusiecki's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Dr. Parekh moved, seconded by Dr. Lieders to adjourn the meeting at 11:59 am. Motion approved unanimously.