

MINUTES TO MEETING
STATE OF CONNECTICUT
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD
FRIDAY, July 12, 2024

A Meeting of the Medical Examining Board was held on Friday, July 12, 2024, at the Office of the State Comptroller, 165 Capitol Ave., Hartford, Connecticut, 06106. All Medical Examining Board meetings being conducted electronically.

PRESENT:

Michael Gerstenfeld, M.D., CHAIRPERSON
Frank Gerratana, M.D.
Sheldon Nova, M.D.

ABSENT:

Fielding Johnson, M.D.
Manny Katsetos, M.D.
Rita Ohene-Adjei, M.D.
Ralph Rosenberg, M.D.
Lynn Rudich, M.D.
Eric T. Shore, M.D.
Sokpoleak So, M.D.
Sachin Parekh, M.D.
Nikolai Lieders, M.D.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Helena Bartolomeo, 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 9:04 am.

Dr. Gerstenfeld motioned to go into the Executive Session to discuss medical condition(s) related to the applications for Disability Retirement, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, at 9:06 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. Attorney Russell Zimmerlin appeared on Zoom before the Board at 11:44 am, representing Laurie Bernier. They made a statement and then they were excused by the Board at 11:47 am.
2. Wendy Blake and Dr. Gary Zachariah appeared on Zoom before the Board at 11:49 am. They made a statement and then they were excused by the Board at 11:57 am.
3. Wendy Blake and Attorney Eyvonne Parker-Blair appeared on Zoom before the Board at 12:02 pm. They made a statement and then they were excused by the Board at 12:05 pm.
4. John Moore appeared on Zoom before the Board at 12:06 pm. They made a statement and then they were excused by the Board at 12:16 pm.
5. Stephen Phipps and Attorney Laura Ondrush appeared on Zoom before the Board at 12:19 pm. They made a statement and then they were excused by the Board at 12:27 pm.

Dr. Gerstenfeld motioned to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Dr. Gerratana at 12:28 pm.

AMET, ALTANA # 657167 SERVICE CONNECTED*
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to deny Altana Amet's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement, but approve entitlement to non-service connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

BERNIER, LAURIE # 802071 SERVICE CONNECTED* (RECON)
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to table Laurie Bernier's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

BLAKE, WENDY # 350767 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED (RECON)
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to approve Wendy Blake's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

BROMLEY, STEVEN # 525979 SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to approve Steven Bromley's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

BURRUS, RASHALA # 582172 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to approve Rashala Burrus' entitlement to Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

CASSADA, CYNTHIA # 507798 SERVICE CONNECTED (RECON)
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to approve Cynthia Cassada's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

EAVES, TALIA # 049421 SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to approve Talia Eaves' entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

EYE, PATRICK # 064852 SERVICE CONNECTED*
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to approve Patrick Eye's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

GIULIANO, MARIA # 635864 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED (CONT'D)
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to approve Maria Giuliano's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

GOMEZ, ROBERTO # 552035 SERVICE CONNECTED (CONT'D)
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to approve Roberto Gomez's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

JEMMOTT, CAPRIESE # 178105 SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to deny Capriese Jemmott's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

MALOID, MARIUSZ # 066018 SERVICE CONNECTED*
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to approve Mariusz Maloid's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

MCBRIDE, DWAYNE # 458944 SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to deny Dwayne McBride's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

MOORE, JOHN # 033831 SERVICE CONNECTED* (RECON)
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to deny John Moore's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement, but approve entitlement to non-service connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

OUELLETTE, MARCI # 543444 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to approve Marci Ouellette's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

PHIPPS, STEPHEN # 244969 SERVICE CONNECTED* (RECON)
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to approve Stephen Phipp's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

SIMPSON, GARY # 471298 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to deny Gary Simpson's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

SMITH, JULIE # 093005 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to approve Julie Smith's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

SOPKO, STEPHEN # 135203 SERVICE CONNECTED*
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to deny Stephen Sopko's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement, but approve entitlement to non-service connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

TOMATORE, RUSSELL # 243021 SERVICE CONNECTED*
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to deny Russell Tomatore's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

MCCALL, KWASI # 657038 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to approve Kwasi McCall's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

Continued Entitlement Pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding of August 6, 2015

BROWN, SHARON #639538 CONT'D ENTITLEMENT RECON (SSD)
Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana, to continue Sharon Brown's entitlement to Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Dr. Gerstenfeld moved, seconded by Dr. Gerratana to adjourn the meeting at 12:36 pm. Motion approved unanimously.