

MINUTES TO MEETING
STATE OF CONNECTICUT
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD
FRIDAY, November 1, 2024

A Meeting of the Medical Examining Board was held on Friday, November 1, 2024, at the Office of the State Comptroller, 165 Capitol Ave., Hartford, Connecticut, 06106. All Medical Examining Board meetings being conducted electronically.

PRESENT:

Nikolai Lieders, M.D. CHAIRPERSON
Sokpoleak So, M.D.
Michael Gerstenfeld, M.D.

ABSENT:

Fielding Johnson, M.D.
Manny Katsetos, M.D.
Eric T. Shore, M.D.
Lynn Rudich, M.D.
Sheldon Nova, M.D.
Ralph Rosenberg, M.D.
Frank Gerratana, M.D.,
Sachin Parekh, M.D.,
Rita Ohene-Adjei, 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.
Robin Kallor, 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. Lieders motioned to go into the Executive Session to discuss medical condition(s) related to the applications for Disability Retirement, seconded by Dr. So, at 9:07 am. Members of the Retirement Services Division and the General Counsel to the Commission were invited to stay during Executive Session. Cindy Cieslak left the meeting at 11:43 am. Robin Kallor joined the meeting at 11:43 am. There was a brief break taken.

1. Attorney Russell Zimmerlin and Barbara Fritz appeared on Zoom before the Board at 11:04 am. They made a statement and then they were excused by the Board at 11:08 am.
2. Attorney Justin Raymond and Vicki Blumberg appeared on Zoom before the Board at 11:48 am. They made a statement and then they were excused by the Board at 12:08 pm.
3. Thomas O'Connor appeared on Zoom before the Board at 12:12 pm. They made a statement and then they were excused by the Board at 12:19 pm.
4. Attorney Justin Raymond and Alexander Perez appeared on Zoom before the Board at 12:20 pm. They made a statement and then they were excused by the Board at 12:28 pm.
5. Laura Moehringer, LCSW and Gary Simpson appeared on Zoom before the Board at 12:37 pm. They made a statement and then they were excused by the Board at 12:40 pm.

Dr. Lieders motioned to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Dr. So at 12:45 pm.

ANDERSON, TERRANCE # 928097 SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So, to deny Terrance Anderson's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

BLUMBERG, VICKI # 169113 SERVICE CONNECTED (RECON)
Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So, to approve Vicki Blumberg's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved by majority decision. Dr. Gerstenfeld abstains.

CURRIN, DANIEL # 050857 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So, to table Daniel Currin's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

DEMARCO, JACQUELINE # 869907 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So, to approve Jacqueline DeMarco's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

FRANCESKINO, MICHAEL # 081690 SERVICE CONNECTED*
Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So, to deny Michael Franceskino's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

FRITZ, BARBARA # 811954 SERVICE CONNECTED (RECON)
Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So, to deny Barbara Fritz's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement, but the Board would look favorably upon non-service connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

GLEASON, MEGHAN # 606274 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So, to approve Meghan Gleason's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

LOTT, SHANAE # 150787 SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So, to deny Shanae Lott's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

MAS, LISA # 592108 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So, to table Lisa Mas' entitlement to Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

MIDFORD, STEVEN # 159467 SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So, to approve Steven Midford's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

MODENA, ANN # 802871 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So, to approve Ann Modena's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

NOWAK, YECENIA # 026967 SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So, to approve Yecenia Nowak's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

O'CONNOR, THOMAS # 636069 SERVICE CONNECTED* (RECON)
Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So, to deny Thomas O'Connor's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement, but approve entitlement to non-service connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

PEREZ, ALEXANDER # 423451 SERVICE CONNECTED (RECON)
Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So, to deny Alexander Perez's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement.
Motion approved unanimously.

REED, RONALD # 229919 SERVICE CONNECTED*
Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So, to approve Ronald Reed's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement.
Motion approved unanimously.

SBONA, EMANUEL # 028590 SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So, to deny Emanuel Sbona's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement.
Motion approved unanimously.

SCHORK, MICHAEL # 551846 SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So, to table Michael Schork's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement.
Motion approved unanimously.

SHAW, BETH # 615615 SERVICE CONNECTED*
Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So, to table Beth Shaw's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

SIMPSON, GARY # 471298 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED (RECON)
Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So, to approve Gary Simpson's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

THORNTON, MAYA # 617557 NON-SERVICE CONNECTED
Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So, to approve Maya Thornton's entitlement to Non-Service Connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

MYETTE, PHILIP # 650918 SERVICE CONNECTED*
Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So, to deny Philip Myette's entitlement to Service Connected Disability Retirement, but approve entitlement to non-service connected Disability Retirement. Motion approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Dr. Lieders moved, seconded by Dr. So to adjourn the meeting at 12:55 pm. Motion approved unanimously.