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2 STATE OF CONNECTICUT

3 STATE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION

4 MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD MEETING

5 -----
6 JULY 26, 2024

7 HELD VIA ZOOM

8 CONVENED AT 9:24 A.M.
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10 Present (Via Zoom):

11 Dr. Ralph Rosenberg

12 Dr. Frank Gerratana

13 Dr. Poleak So

14 Robert Helfand, Retirement Services Division

15 Helena Bartolomeo, Retirement Services Division

16 Nabil Waheed, Retirement Services Division

17 Cindy Cieslak, Rose Kallor LLP
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25 TRANSCRIPTIONIST: Wendy Malitsky

1 (Proceedings commenced at 9:24 a.m.)

2 MS. CIESLAK: Dr. Rosenberg, you can proceed when
3 you're ready.

4 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Thank you. Today is the July
5 26, 2024 meeting of the Medical Examining Board now in session.
6 Present is Dr. Poleak So, Dr. Frank Gerratana and myself, Dr.
7 Ralph Rosenberg. Present from the Office of the State
8 Comptroller's Office and Retirement Service Division are staff
9 members Robert Helfand, William Cassada, Helena Bartolomeo,
10 Nabil Waheed, and General Counsel to the Retirement Commission
11 and Medical Examining Board, Cindy Cieslak. I'd like to make a
12 motion that we go into executive session. Is there a second?

13 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

14 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: All those in favor of going
15 into executive session, say aye. Rosenberg, aye.

16 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

17 DR. SO: So, aye.

18 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: And the motion passes, and we
19 will go into executive session.

20 MS. CIESLAK: This is Cindy Cieslak --

21 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: I'm sorry, I also request that
22 staff members of the Retirement Service Division, Robert
23 Helfand, William Cassada, Helena Bartolomeo, Nabil Waheed and
24 the General Counsel, Cindy Cieslak continue with us into
25 executive session.

1 MS. CIESLAK: Thank you, Dr. Rosenberg. This is Cindy
2 Cieslak. I'll just note for the record that as of right now,
3 William Cassada is not here with us, but all the other
4 individuals who were mentioned by Dr. Rosenberg are. We are
5 going into executive session, which means all of the applicants
6 here I'm going to place you back in the waiting room. The
7 doctors go into executive session because they will be
8 discussing your confidential and private medical information
9 that should not be, you know, given to the public. So we will
10 be going into executive session, turning off the recording, and
11 you will be in the waiting room. Everyone today is on
12 reconsideration, so once the doctors have gone through all of
13 the medical records from your applications they will invite you
14 in to make a statement in support of your application. After
15 they have spoken with everyone, we will re-enter public session
16 at which time you will be able to hear the doctors vote on your
17 application. If you are unable to wait, you will receive the
18 written decision in the ordinary course. Keep in mind that the
19 review of these records could take some time. Oftentimes we are
20 in executive session for two to three hours. So just -- it's
21 going to put you in the waiting room for quite some time. Hang
22 tight with us, okay? All right. I'm gonna start placing
23 everyone in the waiting room.

24 MS. ZEITOUN: How do we get back inside the -- from
25 the waiting room after?

1 MS. CIESLAK: I'm gonna bring you back in.

2 MS. ZEITOUN: Okay.

3 (The Board was in executive session from 9:24 a.m.
4 until 1:18 p.m.)

5 MR. HELFAND: Before -- before the doctors announce
6 their decisions I just want to say to the applicants, ordinarily
7 we get a report from the Social Security Administration so that
8 lets us know if you're receiving any kind of Social Security
9 benefits before the meeting. This -- for this meeting, the
10 Social Security Administration was a little slow and we haven't
11 yet received those reports. So if you are receiving Social
12 Security benefits, and if you have not already let us know about
13 that fact, please do so after the doctors announce their
14 decisions if your application has been granted. Thanks.

15 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: The Board has made its --

16 MS. CIESLAK: I was just gonna say that you can
17 proceed Dr. Rosenberg.

18 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: Thank you. The Board has made
19 its determinations. I would like to remind members that only
20 the final vote will be given today and not the reason for the
21 vote. In some instances there may have been enough medical
22 information -- there may not have been enough medical
23 information to make a favorable determination. You may seek
24 reconsideration of a denial. You will receive the Board's
25 determination within 2 to 4 weeks, which will provide you with

1 that additional information. We will now vote on individual
2 member entitlement to disability benefits.

3 This is Dr. Ralph Rosenberg and I make a motion to
4 deny non-service connected disability for Carmen Berroa. Is
5 there a second?

6 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

7 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: This is Dr. Ralph Rosenberg,
8 all those in favor of denying non-service connected disability
9 for Carmen Berroa, say aye. Rosenberg, aye.

10 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

11 DR. SO: So, aye.

12 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: The motion passes. This is
13 Dr. Ralph Rosenberg, I make a motion to approve non-service
14 connect -- I'm going to do that again. I'm sorry. This is Dr.
15 Ralph Rosenberg for Stephen Bradshaw. I make a motion to deny
16 service connected disability but to approve non-service
17 connected disability for Stephen Bradshaw. Is there a second?

18 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

19 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: This is Dr. Ralph Rosenberg.
20 I make a motion to -- this Dr. Ralph Rosenberg, all those in
21 favor of approving non-service connected disability for Stephen
22 Bradshaw, say aye. Rosenberg, aye.

23 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

24 DR. SO: So, aye.

25 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: The motion passes. This is

1 Dr. Ralph Rosenberg, I make a motion to deny service connected
2 disability for Kercy Charles, but to approve non-service
3 connected disability for Kercy Charles. Is there a second?

4 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

5 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: This is Dr. Ralph Rosenberg,
6 all those in favor of approving non-service connected disability
7 for Kercy Charles, say aye. Dr. Rosenberg, aye.

8 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

9 DR. SO: So, aye.

10 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: The motion passes. This is
11 Dr. Ralph Rosenberg, I make a motion to approve non-service
12 connected disability for Dianna Gilbert. Is there a second?

13 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

14 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: This is Dr. Ralph Rosenberg,
15 all those in favor of approving non-service connected disability
16 for Dianna Gilbert, say aye. Rosenberg, aye.

17 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

18 DR. SO: So, aye.

19 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: The motion passes. This is
20 Dr. Ralph Rosenberg, I make a motion to deny non-service
21 connected disability for Colleen Johnson. Is there a second?

22 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

23 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: This is Dr. Ralph Rosenberg,
24 all those in favor of denying non-service connected disability
25 for Colleen Johnson, say aye. Rosenberg, aye.

1 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

2 DR. SO: So, aye.

3 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: The motion passes. This is
4 Dr. Ralph Rosenberg, I make a motion to deny non-service
5 connected disability for Ronald Maia. Is there a second?

6 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

7 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: This is Dr. Ralph Rosenberg,
8 all those in favor of denying non-service connected disability
9 for Ronald Maia, say aye. Rosenberg, aye.

10 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

11 DR. SO: So, aye.

12 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: The motion passes. This is
13 Dr. Ralph Rosenberg, I make a motion to approve non-service
14 connected disability for Darlene Moskey. Is there a second?

15 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

16 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: This is Dr. Ralph Rosenberg,
17 all those in favor of approving non-service connected disability
18 for Darlene Moskey say aye. Rosenberg, aye.

19 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

20 DR. SO: So, aye.

21 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: The motion passes. This is
22 Dr. Ralph Rosenberg, I make a motion to deny service connected
23 disability for Sherri Neptune. Is there a second?

24 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

25 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: This is Dr. Ralph Rosenberg,

1 all those in favor of denying service connected disability for
2 Sherri Neptune say aye. Rosenberg, aye.

3 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

4 DR. SO: So, aye.

5 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: The motion passes. This is
6 Dr. Ralph Rosenberg, I make a motion to approve service
7 connected disability for David Petrillo. Is there a second?

8 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

9 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: This is Dr. Ralph Rosenberg,
10 all those in favor of approving service connected disability for
11 David Petrillo, say aye. Rosenberg, aye.

12 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

13 DR. SO: So, aye.

14 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: The motion passes. This is
15 Dr. Ralph Rosenberg, I make a motion to deny non-service
16 connected disability for Michelle Plourde Davis. Is there a
17 second?

18 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

19 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: This is Dr. Ralph Rosenberg,
20 all those in favor of denying non-service connected disability
21 for Michelle Plourde Davis, say aye. Rosenberg, aye.

22 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

23 DR. SO: So, aye.

24 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: The motion passes. This is
25 Dr. Ralph Rosenberg, I make a motion to approve non-service

1 connected disability for Aaron Spring. Is there a second?

2 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

3 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: All those in favor of
4 approving non-service connected disability for Aaron Spring, say
5 aye. Rosenberg, aye.

6 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

7 DR. SO: So, aye.

8 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: The motion passes. This is
9 Dr. Ralph Rosenberg, I make a motion to deny service connected
10 disability for Marcelle Zeitoun. Is there a second?

11 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

12 DR. SO: So, aye.

13 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: This is Dr. Ralph Rosenberg,
14 all those in favor of denying service connected disability from
15 Marcelle Zeitoun, say aye. Rosenberg, aye.

16 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

17 DR. SO: So, aye.

18 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: The motion passes. This is
19 Dr. Ralph Rosenberg, I make a motion to adjourn the meeting. Is
20 there a second?

21 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, second.

22 CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: All those in favor of
23 adjourning today's meeting of the Medical Examination Board for
24 July 26, 2024, say aye. Rosenberg, aye.

25 DR. GERRATANA: Gerratana, aye.

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DR. SO: So, aye.

CHAIRPERSON ROSENBERG: The motion passes.

MS. ZEITOUN: I have a question.

MS. CIESLAK: Hold on. Stay tuned. Hold on one second. All right, we are adjourned. As Mr. Helfand indicated, if you were approved and you have your Social Security determination that you haven't submitted yet, please stay on and let us know. Thank you.

(Adjourned at 1:26 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I, Wendy Malitsky, do hereby certify that the preceding pages are an accurate transcription to the best of my ability of the Connecticut State Employees Retirement Commission, Medical Examining Board meeting held electronically via Zoom, conducted at 9:24 a.m. on July 26, 2024.



Wendy Malitsky