

PUBLIC HEALTH HEARING OFFICE
Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing

Ralph F. Hirschfeld, RN, APRN
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Via Email: tracy@dmclawllc.com;
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Julienne Cutaia, Staff Attorney
Department of Public Health
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P.O. Box 340308
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Via Email: julienne.cutaia@ct.gov

RE: Ralph F. Hirschfeld, RN, APRN, Petition No. 2024-1191, 2024-1359, 2024-1496, 2025-1450

NOTICE OF HEARING

By authority of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Section 4-177, you are hereby notified to appear before a panel of the **Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing**, to include: Salvatore Diaz, Lisa Freeman, and Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriguez for a hearing on the attached Charges against you at **10:00 AM on February 6, 2026**. The hearing will be held via Microsoft TEAMS.

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/25722303560163?p=6OF9CvQSZJ0xlp1Bxc>

Meeting ID: 257 223 035 601 63

Passcode: PM9wE6Kc

Dial in by phone

[+1 860-840-2075,473497990#](tel:+18608402075473497990) United States, Hartford

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 473 497 990#

These Charges are being brought against you under the provisions of the Sections 19a-9, 19a-10 and 20-99(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes. The hearing will be conducted in accordance with Chapter 54 of the General Statutes of Connecticut and Section 19a-9-1, et seq., of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (Public Health Code).

At the hearing you will have the opportunity to present your evidence, including witnesses and documents. It will be your responsibility to provide the hearing connection link to any witnesses you may call.

Filing an Answer; Failure to File Answer:

You are required to file an answer to the attached Charges with the Department of Public Health within 7 days from the date of this Notice of Hearing. Please note: failure to file an Answer could result in the allegations being found to be true as stated, and the possibility that you will not be permitted to submit any evidence concerning the allegations.

Representation by an Attorney:

At the aforementioned hearing you may be represented by an attorney and present evidence on your behalf. Although you may represent yourself (pro se), you are urged to obtain the services of an attorney.

Documents:

If you intend to introduce documents into evidence, **YOU MUST COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:**

Exhibits should be pre-marked for identification (i.e. Department exhibit 1, Respondent exhibit A), page numbered, and properly redacted.

The following information shall be redacted.

- (1) Date of birth
- (2) Mother's maiden name
- (3) Motor vehicle operator's license number
- (4) Social Security Number
- (5) Other government-issued identification number
- (6) Health insurance identification number
- (7) Financial account number
- (8) Security code or personal identification number (PIN)

Order Re: Filings

In preparation for this hearing you must, no later than **February 4, 2026**, provide the information specified in the attached Notice for Submissions.

All communications to the Board shall be submitted in this fashion. The Department or Respondent shall provide a copy of each document filed to Respondent or Department as the case may be and certify such to the Board.

Failure to Appear:

If you fail to appear at the hearing, upon proof that due notice was served upon you to appear, the Board panel may proceed in the same manner as though you were present in person.

Please call 860-509-7566 as soon as possible if you have any questions about the hearing schedule.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this **28th** day of **January, 2026**.

For the Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing

/s/ Brett Ann Karpuska

Brett Ann Karpuska, Administrative Assistant/Board Liaison

c: Christian Andresen, Section Chief, Practitioner Licensing and Investigations
Stacy Schulman, Hearing Officer, Public Health Hearing Office
Julienne Cutaia, Staff Attorney, Office of Legal Compliance

Notice for Submissions

The hearing in the matter of **Ralph F. Hirschfeld, RN, APRN** has been scheduled for **February 6, 2026** and will be conducted remotely through Microsoft Teams/teleconference.

On or before **February 4, 2026**, you must provide the following by electronic mail response to the Department of Public Health, Public Health Hearing Office at phho.dph@ct.gov.

1. Electronically Pre-filed exhibits – Exhibits should be pre-marked for identification (i.e. Department exhibit 1, Respondent exhibit A), page numbered, **and properly redacted for any personally identifiable information.** *Parties and/or counsel should stipulate to any exhibits and facts not in dispute and provide any objections to proposed exhibits.* All exhibits also must be sent to the opposing party or counsel.
2. Witness List – identify any persons expected to be called to testify. Be sure to notify your witnesses that they will be required to remain available and in attendance for the full duration of the hearing. (This will eliminate the difficulty of trying to reach witnesses again for rebuttal or additional examination later in the hearing). Witness lists also must be sent to the opposing party or counsel.
3. Photo Identification: Self-represented parties should provide a copy of a government-issued photo identification for yourself and any witnesses you expect to call. Photo identification is *not* required for parties represented by counsel, or witnesses called to testify for parties represented by counsel.
4. Electronic Mail (“e-mail”) addresses for parties, counsel and witnesses. All e-mail addresses must be current and able to receive all notices relating to this matter.
5. Cellphone numbers for all parties, counsel, and witnesses at which they can be reached and respond to text message during the hearing (in the event a connection is lost).
6. A statement whether executive session may be required to receive testimony containing personal protected information, and if so, what that information may be (treatment records, patient records, therapy reports). Parties or counsel should identify any witnesses listed in response to #2 above who may provide testimony relating to personal protected information requiring executive session.
7. A statement whether an interpreter will be needed for the proceeding.

This is a formal public hearing. It will be video recorded and posted on the DPH website for public viewing*. All hearing participants should appear in proper attire, in proper surroundings, and remove any potential distractions.

In preparation, please make sure all of your devices are fully functioning and properly charged. All participants are required to have video and audio functions on when testifying or speaking.

Documents are not required to be shared on-screen during hearings, as all parties, attorneys, board members and/or hearing officers have been provided such documents. Parties and/or attorneys who elect to share documents for viewing on-screen during the hearing must do so from their own equipment. Confidential documents should only be shared in executive session. Hearing Office staff / Teams administrators are not responsible for the sharing of submitted documents in the presentation of a party’s case.

Our office will contact you again 3 to 5 calendar days prior to the hearing to provide you with any further instructions.

Should you have any questions please contact the hearing office at phho.dph@ct.gov.

**The executive session portion of any hearing will not be recorded on video or posted for public viewing.*

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

In re: Ralph Hirschfeld, RN
APRN

Petition No. 2025-1450
Petition No. 2024-1191, 2024-1359,
and 2024-1496

STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §§19a-10 and 19a-14, the Department of Public Health ("the Department") brings the following charges against Ralph Hirschfeld:

COUNT ONE

1. Ralph Hirschfeld of Gales Ferry, Connecticut ("Respondent") is, and has been at all times referenced in this Statement of Charges, the holder of Connecticut registered nurse license number 105754 and Connecticut advanced practiced registered nurse license number 005793.
2. On or about December 10, 2021, while working as a nurse at Connecticut Behavioral Health Associates, Respondent began providing care to Patient KS.
3. On or about November 22, 2023 through November 24, 2023, Respondent provided care to Patient KS, during which time he failed to conform to the accepted standard of the nursing profession in one or more of the following ways:
 - a. Respondent failed to advise Patient KS to call 911 or present to an emergency department for a medical emergency; and,
 - b. Respondent failed to bring Patient KS to an emergency department for a medical emergency.
4. The above facts constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §20-99, including but not limited to §20-99(b)(2).

COUNT TWO

- 1-2. Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Count 1 are incorporated herein by reference as if set forth in full.
3. On various occasions between approximately November 22, 2023 and April 27, 2024, Respondent failed to establish, maintain, and/or enforce appropriate boundaries of a professional relationship with Patient KS in one or more of the following ways:

- a. Respondent provided Patient KS with temporary housing outside of a care setting;
 - b. Respondent provided care to Patient KS outside of a care setting; and,
 - c. Respondent co-signed a lease for a home with Patient KS.
4. In or about September of 2024, Respondent entered into a romantic relationship with Patient KS.
5. The above facts constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §20-99, including but not limited to §20-99(b)(2).

COUNT THREE

1. Paragraph 1 of Count One is incorporated herein by reference as if set forth in full.
2. Between approximately January 1, 2023 and approximately March 18, 2024, Respondent was contracted as and/or acting as the Medical Director for Emily Jolie Medical Spa in Thompson, Connecticut (“EJMS”).
3. Respondent has no special training or experience in performing cosmetic medical procedures.
4. The contract employing Respondent as the Medical Director for EJMS made Respondent responsible for providing medical oversight and supervision for all treatment and procedures, including the in-person physical assessments of patients.
5. At no point between January 1, 2023 and March 18, 2024 did Respondent perform in-person physical assessments of patients prior to cosmetic medical procedures.
6. On various occasions between December 8, 2023 and March 18, 2024, Respondent signed patient records for evaluations and/or procedures performed at EJMS for which he was not present.
7. The above facts constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §§19a-903c and 20-99, including but not limited to:
 - a. §19a-903c(b)(B);
 - b. §19a-903c(c); and,
 - c. §20-99(b)(2).

THEREFORE, the Department prays that:

The Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing, as authorized by Connecticut General Statutes §§20-99(b) and 19a-17, revoke or order other disciplinary action against the license of Ralph Hirschfeld as it deems appropriate and consistent with law.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this 6th day of January 2026.

Christian Andresen

Christian D. Andresen, MPH, Section Chief
Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section
Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

In re: Ralph Hirschfeld, RN
APRN

Petition No. 2025-1450
Petition No. 2024-1191, 2024-1359,
and 2024-1496

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

The Department of Public Health ("the Department") hereby moves in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes §§4-182(c) and 19a-17(c) that the Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing summarily suspend the licenses of Ralph Hirschfeld to practice nursing in Connecticut. This motion is based on the attached Statement of Charges, exhibits and on the Department's information and belief that the continued practice of nursing represents a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this 8th day of January 2026.

Julienne Cutaia

Julienne Cutaia, Staff Attorney
Professional Licensure Compliance Office
Department of Public Health

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

In re: Ralph Hirschfeld, RN
APRN

Petition No. 2025-1450
Petition No. 2024-1191, 2024-1359,
and 2024-1496

SUMMARY SUSPENSION ORDER

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Health having moved for an order of summary suspension in this matter and having submitted duly verified affidavits, reports, and documents in support of its motion; and

WHEREAS, said affidavits, reports, and documents allege facts which show violations of Connecticut General Statutes §§19a-903c and 20-99, and which imperatively require emergency action in that the public health, safety or welfare of the citizens of the State of Connecticut is in clear and immediate danger.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §§4-182(c) and 19a-17(c), it is hereby **ORDERED**, by vote of the Board of Examiners for Nursing (“Board”):

That license number 105754 and license number 005793 of Ralph Hirschfeld to practice nursing in the State of Connecticut is hereby summarily suspended pending a final determination by the Board regarding the allegations contained in the Statement of Charges in Petition Numbers 2024-1191, 2024-1359, 2024-1496, and 2025-1450.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this 21st day of January, 2026.

Jina Reiners, PhD, APRN, PMHNP-BC, PMHCNS- BC
Board of Examiners for Nursing

CERTIFICATION

This certifies that on January 8, 2026 this motion and all attachments were sent by electronic mail to the Department of Public Health Hearing Office, phho.dph@ct.gov, and to Respondent via his counsel, tracy@dmclawllc.com.

Julienne Cutaia

Julienne Cutaia