



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

TAHESHA L. WAY
Lt. Governor

KEVIN DEHMER
Acting Commissioner

**STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
100 River View Plaza
Trenton, New Jersey 08625
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA MS TEAMS
November 10, 2025
3:30 p.m.**

- Present:** Ms. Gargi Adhikari
Mr. Robert Ford
Ms. Michelle McGreivey
Ms. Dayna Desiderio Orlak
Ms. Melissa Pearce
Dr. Thelma Ramsey
- Absent:** Mr. Ambrose Duckett
Mr. Derek Jess
Mr. Kevin Pfister
Dr. Carmela Somershoe
- Others:** Rani Singh, Secretary
Ryan Silver, Deputy Attorney General
Laurie Fichera, Coordinator, State Board of Examiners

THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIRTUALLY VIA MS TEAMS.

This special meeting was duly noticed pursuant to the requirements of law. In compliance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-10a, the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting was given by way of notice filed with the Secretary of State, notice to two digital newspapers' news desks, and publication on the Department's website. Notice of the virtual access information was provided online on the Department's website and via a memorandum to the Secretary of State and several other individuals and entities and is available at the physical conference room where the meeting has been conducted prior to the public health crisis.

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Melissa Pearce, Acting Chairperson, who read the appropriate notice that the meeting complied with the Open Public Meetings Act. She also read the notice provisions regarding access to the virtual meeting.

Ms. Laurie Fichera took the roll call and determined there was a quorum for the meeting.

Motion for Interlocutory Review – IMO the Certificates of Boaz M. Derisse, Docket No. 2223-117

Ms. Pearce noted that the Board received a motion for interlocutory review filed by Kevin Milton, the Deputy Attorney General representing the Board in this matter. The Board required legal advice to consider the motion. Accordingly, Ms. Dayna Desiderio Orlak made a motion to go into executive session, seconded by Mr. Robert Ford, and carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0. The Board entered executive session at 3:41 p.m.

On motion from Dr. Ramsey and seconded by Ms. Melissa Pearce, carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0, the Board went back into public session at 3:59 p.m.

On motion by Ms. Pearce, seconded by Mr. Ford and carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0, the Board voted to vacate the October 20, 2025 and October 21, 2025 decision and order of the Administrative Law Judge and permit remote testimony in the matter of Boaz M. Derisse.

On motion by Ms. Pearce, seconded by Ms. Orlak and carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0, the Board voted to adopt the written decision in the Boaz M. Derisse matter.

Adjournment

Mr. Ford made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded by Dr. Ramsey and the motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0. The meeting was adjourned at 4:04 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled public meeting of the State Board of Examiners will be held on December 12, 2025.

Minutes prepared by Laurie Fichera
Minutes certified by Rani Singh, Secretary