

MEETING MINUTES
TENNESSEE BOARD OF DENTISTRY
SUMMARY SUSPENSION HEARING

Date: August 8, 2025

Location: Microsoft Teams, Streaming from Iris Room
665 Mainstream Drive
Nashville, TN 37243

Members Present: Dr. Robert Caldwell (acting board chair)
Dr. Greg Kemp
Dr. Joesph Britton

Staff Present: Ailene Macias, Director
Ashley Fine, Senior Associate General Counsel
Gerard Dolan, Senior Associate General Counsel
Lynleigh Noel, Associate General Counsel

The electronic meeting began at 11:37am. A motion was made by Dr. Kemp for Dr. Caldwell to serve as board chair for this hearing. The motion was seconded by Dr. Britton. The motion carried, following a roll call vote.

It was confirmed with roll call votes, that: Dr. Kemp, Dr. Caldwell, and Dr. Britton were connected to the meeting; each board member was able to hear each person's responses; and each board member was alone at their location from which they were participating in the hearing. The purpose of the emergency meeting was to conduct a summary suspension against Megan Arnold, RDH #7793, to protect the health, safety and welfare of Tennesseans, within a timely manner. A motion was made by Dr. Britton to proceed with the hearing for the stated purpose, and that the meeting was necessary. Dr. Kemp seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The attending board members confirmed they received the meeting materials prior to the meeting.

The board members were presented with the facts found during the investigations process, which lead to the summary suspension hearing. In June 2023, Ms. Arnold plead guilty to a DUI in violation of TCA 55-10-401. In April 2025, Ms. Arnold drove herself to work and was later picked up by her husband after work. Multiple staff members reported that at work that day, she exhibited signs of impairment, including slurred speech, periods of confusion, inability to maintain eye contact as well as an unsteady gait. The following day, she did not return to work and instead submitted her resignation. About 2 weeks after that incident, staff members at the dental office discovered empty bottles of hand sanitizer that seemed to have been diluted with water and were hidden behind other objects in cabinets. In an interview with a board investigator in June 2025, Ms. Arnold admitted to having consumed hand sanitizer at work that day in April 2025.

Ms. Arnold did attend the virtual hearing and addressed the board members. She stated she has been taking steps to get well, and she has made mistakes in the past. After hearing from Ms. Arnold and discussing the facts of the investigation, the board members voted to accept the proposed order to suspend her license. As part of the order, Ms. Arnold's license would be immediately suspended, and would remain suspended until she obtained an evaluation with the TN Dental Wellness Foundation (TDWF). The order also required, if it was recommended following her evaluation by TDWF, she enters into a monitoring agreement with the TDWF. Upon completion of the requirements listed in the order, Ms. Arnold would be able to petition the board to remove the suspension from her license. The order stated Ms. Arnold would immediately have her license suspended if she should lose the advocacy of the TDWF. Dr. Kemp made a motion to approve the drafted order to suspend the license of Ms. Arnold. Dr. Britton seconded the motion, and the motion carried following a roll call vote.

A motion was made by Dr. Kemp to allow board staff to sign the board order in place of the board chair, following the adjournment of the meeting, to expedite the remaining step of the summary suspension for Ms. Arnold's license. Dr. Caldwell seconded the motion, and the motion carried following a roll call vote.

A motion was made by Dr. Britton to adjourn the summary suspension hearing. The motion was seconded by Dr. Caldwell, and the motion carried following a roll call vote.