

**Minutes**  
**Louisiana Committee of Certification**  
**Hearing for Jennifer Ogea**  
**December 17, 2013**  
**Department of Health and Hospitals**  
**Bienville Building**  
**628 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

Meeting and Hearing for Jennifer Ogea was called to order at 11:17 AM.

**ROLL CALL:**

**A. Determination of Quorum.**

Committee Members in attendance:

Dirk Barrios (Vice Chairman), Dennis McGehee, Mayor Vern Breland, Tom Owens, Tom Walton, Greg Shelden, and Jake Causey (Secretary and Ex-officio DHH).

Committee Members Absent:

Grant Magnon and Camille Mize.

A quorum was achieved.

Recognition of Visitors and Others:

DHH-OPH staff in attendance was, David McCay, Steve Hoss, and James Mooring.

Visitors: Robert Williams, Jennifer Ogea, Randy Aucoin, and Mitch Hoffpauir.

**B. Announcements:** Chairman introduced the visitors.

The Administrator opened the meeting by directing the members' and attorneys' attention to a packet of information including several submittals from Ms. Ogea and correspondence from the Administrator. A letter was sent to Ms. Ogea informing her of Staff's decision not to issue certification based on discrepancies in diplomas and dates of graduation indicated on exam applications submitted by Ms. Ogea.

Mr. Williams presented an opening statement informing the Committee that he represents Parkview Baptist School and Ms. Ogea. He stated that Ms. Ogea lost her 1985 diploma and went to Parkview Baptist School and said “give me a diploma.” She asked for and was given a diploma. They reached for the stack of summer graduates’ diplomas, pulled one off, ran it through and said here. The date on the diploma is April 6, 2009. “Mr. Mooring said 2009 that’s not an approved public high school and kicks it back.” “ Ms. Ogea said ‘I didn’t graduate in 2009, I graduated in 1985’. So she goes back to Parkview and requests a diploma from 1985. They pulled her transcript and put it on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1985”. Mr. Williams made reference to her lack of accuracy in filling out forms. He next presented, as evidence that bureaucrats make mistakes, two letters from BESE stating first that there is no record of Parkview Christian School having been an approved private school and second that Parkview Christian was an approved private school in the 1984/85 school year. He closed by stating that this was a typographical error.

Ms. Ogea was sworn in. She was asked several questions regarding her high school education and swore that she completed her high school requirements in 1985 and that she has not been to school subsequent to that time for high school classes. Mr. Causey stated his opinion that we “absolutely should be here today having this conversation.” He also emphasized the importance of paperwork in the duties of a certified operator. Next followed conversation concerning the discrepancies contained within the transcripts, employment application and exam applications as the members continued to review the documents.

Mayor Breland made the motion to accept the transcripts presented to satisfy the educational requirement. Tom Walton seconded and the motion carried.

The Committee reiterated the importance of accuracy in paperwork

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dr. Mooring mentioned that Steve Hoss gets requests to approve board meetings for continuing education and that it is Dr. Mooring’s opinion that these should not be approved for continuing education. The Committee did not disagree with this opinion.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Breland made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Causey seconded and the motion carried by acclamation. The next meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2014 in Shreveport, LA in conjunction with the LA Conference Short Course.