



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

Board of Acupuncture

Christian J. Fadgen L.Ac.
513 Lothian Way
Abingdon, MD 21009

August 21, 2024

Brandie Armijo, DACM, Dipl. Ac.(NCCAOM), L.Ac., LPN, BSN, Clinical Acupuncturist,
Board Chair
Maryland State Board of Acupuncture
4201 Patterson Avenue, 3rd Floor
Baltimore, MD 21215

Re: Permanent Surrender of License to Practice Acupuncture

Christian J. Fadgen, L.Ac.
License Number: U01706
Case Number: 24-03

Dear Dr. Armijo and Maryland State Board of Acupuncture:

Please be advised that, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. (“Health Occ.”) §1A-308, I have decided to **permanently SURRENDER** my license to practice medicine and East Asian medicine in the State of Maryland, License Number U01706, effective immediately. I understand that upon surrender of my license, I may not give treatment to any individual, with or without compensation, and cannot engage in the practice of acupuncture in the State of Maryland as it is defined in the Maryland Acupuncture Practice Act (the “Act”), Health Occ. §§ 1A-101 *et seq.* and other applicable laws. In other words, as of the effective date of this Permanent Letter of Surrender, I understand that the permanent surrender of my license means that I am in the same position as an unlicensed individual in the State of Maryland.

I understand that this Permanent Letter of Surrender is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT**, and upon the Board’s acceptance, becomes a **FINAL ORDER** of the Maryland State Board of Acupuncture (the “Board”).

I acknowledge that the Board received a complaint alleging that I failed to maintain professional boundaries with a patient. The Board initiated an investigation and issued charges

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alleging that I am guilty of immoral or unprofessional conduct in the practice of acupuncture and East Asian medicine; knowingly violated any provision of this title or any rule or regulation of the Board adopted; willfully made or filed a false report or record in the practice of acupuncture and East Asian medicine; failed to cooperate with a lawful investigation conducted by the Board; committed any act of gross negligence, incompetence, or misconduct in the practice of acupuncture; engaged in a course of conduct that is inconsistent with generally accepted professional standards in the practice of acupuncture and East Asian medicine; and violated the Board's standards of practice and professional boundaries regulations, in violation of Health Occ. § 1A-309 (3), (6), (10), (15), (16), (17) and COMAR 10.26.03.03, 10.26.03.05A(1) and B(2) and (3). I have decided to permanently surrender my license to practice medicine in the State of Maryland to resolve the charges and avoid further prosecution of these allegations. I recognize that for all purposes relevant to licensure that these allegations shall be treated as proven and that these allegations support a conclusion that I violated Health Occ. § 1A-309 (3), (6), (10), (15), (16), (17) and COMAR 10.26.03.03, 10.26.03.05A(1) and B(2) and (3).

I wish to make it clear that I have voluntarily, knowingly, and freely chosen to submit this Permanent Letter of Surrender to avoid the prosecution of the aforementioned allegations in the charges. I do not wish to contest these allegations. I understand that by executing this Permanent Letter of Surrender I am waiving my right to contest the charges issued by the Board in a formal evidentiary hearing at which I would have had the right to counsel, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to call witnesses on my own behalf and all other substantive and procedural protections provided by law, including the right to appeal to circuit court.

I understand that the Board will advise the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine and the National Practitioner Data Bank of this Permanent Letter of Surrender. I also understand that in the event I would apply for licensure in any form in any other state or jurisdiction that this Permanent Letter of Surrender may be released or published by the Board to the same extent as a final order that would result from disciplinary action, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 *et seq.*, and that this Permanent Letter of Surrender constitutes a disciplinary action by the Board.

I affirm that I will provide access to and copies of medical records to my patients in compliance with Title 4, subtitle 3 of the Health General Article. I also agree to surrender my Controlled Dangerous Substances Registration to the Office of Controlled Substances Administration.

I further recognize and agree that by submitting this Permanent Letter of Surrender, my license will remain permanently surrendered. In other words, I agree that I have no right to reapply and will not reapply for a license to practice acupuncture and East Asian medicine in the State of Maryland.

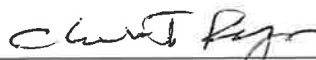
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I acknowledge that I may not rescind this Permanent Letter of Surrender in part or in its entirety for any reason whatsoever. Finally, I wish to make clear that I have been advised of my right to be represented by an attorney of my choice throughout proceedings before the Board, including the right to consult with an attorney prior to signing this Permanent Letter of Surrender. I have consulted with and am represented by an attorney prior to signing this letter permanently surrendering my license to practice medicine in Maryland. I understand both the nature of the Board's actions and this Permanent Letter of Surrender fully. I acknowledge that I understand and comprehend the language, meaning and terms and effect of this Permanent Letter of Surrender. I make this decision knowingly and voluntarily.

Sincerely,



Christian J. Fadgen, L.Ac.

NOTARY

STATE OF Maryland

CITY/COUNTY OF Harford

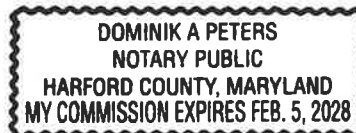
I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 29 day of August, 2024 before me, a Notary Public of the City/County aforesaid, personally appeared Christian J. Fadgen, L.Ac., and declared and affirmed under the penalties of perjury that the signing of this Permanent Letter of Surrender was voluntary.

AS WITNESS my hand and Notarial seal.



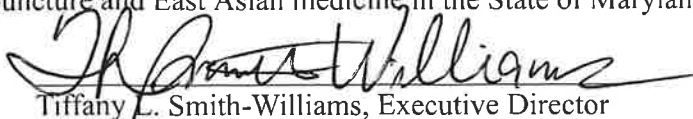
Notary Public

My commission expires:



ACCEPTANCE

On behalf of the Maryland State Board of Acupuncture, on this 10th day of September 2024, I, Tiffany L. Smith-Williams, accept the **PERMANENT PUBLIC SURRENDER** of Christian J. Fadgen, L.Ac.'s license to practice acupuncture and East Asian medicine, in the State of Maryland.



Tiffany L. Smith-Williams, Executive Director
Maryland Board of Acupuncture