

**IN THE MATTER OF**  
**KERI A. JONES, L.Ac.,**

**Respondent**

**License No.: U02269**

**\* BEFORE THE**  
**\* MARYLAND**  
**\* BOARD OF ACUPUNCTURE**  
**\* OAG Case No. 23-10**

**\* \* \* \* \***

**ORDER TERMINATING SUSPENSION AND IMPOSING PROBATION**

On February 27, 2023, the Maryland State Board of Acupuncture (the “Board”) summarily suspended the acupuncture license of Keri A. Jones, L.Ac. (the “Respondent”) because the health, safety, or welfare imperatively required emergency action. On March 24, 2023, the Board and the Respondent entered into a Consent Order, wherein the Board concluded as a matter of law, that the Respondent had acted unprofessionally in the practice of acupuncture committed an act of gross negligence, incompetence, or misconduct in the practice of acupuncture, and engaged in a course of conduct that is inconsistent with generally accepted professional standards in the practice of acupuncture. Under the Consent Order, the Summary Suspension was lifted and the Respondent was suspended until she (1) successfully completed the Council of Colleges of Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine (CCAHM) course in clean needle technique and received a passing grade for the written examination and practical examination; and (2) provided the Board with a written plan regarding hygienic disposal of needles that is acceptable to the Board.

The Respondent has successfully completed the required courses, received a passing grade for the examinations and has provided the Board with an acceptable written plan regarding hygienic disposal of needles. It is thus hereby:

**ORDERED** that the **SUSPENSION** imposed by the March 24, 2023 Consent Order is **TERMINATED**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent's license is placed on **PROBATION** for a minimum of **TWO (2) YEARS**<sup>1</sup> with the following terms and conditions:

1) Within **SIX MONTHS**, the Respondent is required to take and successfully complete four courses, the following three OSHA courses: OSHA #7000 - OSHA Training Guidelines for Safe Patient Handling, OSHA #7200 - Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control, and OSHA #7500 [-] Introduction to Safety and Health Management, and a NCAAOM Ethics course. The following terms apply:

(a) it is the Respondent's responsibility to enroll in the courses;

(b) the Respondent is responsible for the cost of the course;

(c) the Respondent must provide documentation to the Board that the Respondent has successfully completed the courses;

(d) the courses may not be used to fulfill the continuing education credits required for license renewal; and

(2) The Respondent shall be subject to unannounced, periodic site visits and inspections of her office by Board staff and shall cooperate with the Board, and its employees or agents at all times in conducting the inspections. The Respondent understands and agrees that if the inspection reveals that her office is not maintained in a clean, orderly, professional, and safe condition, her failure to do so shall constitute a violation of probation; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall use and dispose of needles in compliance with CCAHM protocol; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall follow CCAHM protocol with respect to the cleaning of medical devices;

**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall not needle through clothing and shall remove any photographs of inappropriate practice from her social media or websites; and it is further

**ORDERED** that after the Respondent has complied with all terms and conditions of probation and the minimum period of probation imposed by this Order has passed, the Respondent may submit a written petition for termination of probation. The Respondent may be

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<sup>1</sup> If the Respondent's license expires during the period of probation, the probation and any conditions will be tolled.

required to appear before the Board to discuss her petition for termination. The Board may grant the petition to terminate the probation through an order of the Board; and it is further

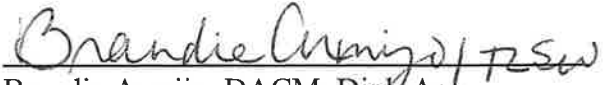
**ORDERED** that if the Board determines, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing before the Board, that Respondent has failed to comply with any term or condition of probation or this Order, the Board may reprimand the Respondent, place the Respondent on probation with appropriate terms and conditions, or suspend or revoke the Respondent's license to practice acupuncture in Maryland. The Board may, in addition to one or more of the sanctions set forth above, impose a civil monetary fine upon the Respondent; and it is further

**ORDERED** that unless stated otherwise in the order, any time period prescribed in this order begins when the Order goes into effect. The Order goes into effect when signed by Executive Director, Chair, or other designated Board representative; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent is responsible for all costs incurred in fulfilling the condition of this Order; and it is further

**ORDERED** that this Order is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT**. See Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 1-607 and Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-333(b)(6).

6/22/2023  
Date

  
Brandie Armijo, DACM, Dipl. Ac  
(NCCAOM), L.Ac, LPN, BSN, Clinical  
Acupuncturist, Chair  
Maryland State Acupuncture Board