

**IN THE MATTER OF
PERSIS APPIAGYEI
OTR/L**

License Number: 06355

Case Number: 2011-009

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**BEFORE THE MARYLAND
BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL
THERAPY PRACTICE**

ORDER MODIFYING PROBATION

Procedural History

On or about February 27, 2013 the Maryland Board of Occupational Therapy Practice (the "Board") entered into a Consent Order (the "Consent Order") with licensee Persis Appiagyei (the "Respondent") in disciplinary case 2011-009. The Consent Order suspended the Respondent's license to practice occupational therapy in the State of Maryland for three years with all but one year stayed, and probation for a minimum of three years following the suspension.

On June 20, 2014, after the Respondent petitioned the Board to terminate the suspension, the Board reinstated the Respondent's license and placed the Respondent's license on probation pursuant to the terms and conditions in the Consent Order.

On May 2, 2017, after the Respondent petitioned the Board to modify the probation, the Board issued an Order Modifying Probation (the "2017 Modification Order").

On October 9, 2025 the Board's Disciplinary Review Committee (the "DRC") reviewed a petition from the Respondent to terminate the probation. For the reasons set forth below the Board is denying the request to terminate probation, but will further modify the terms and conditions of the probation.

The Respondent's Petition to Terminate Probation

Pursuant to the original Consent Order, the Respondent was responsible for complying with certain special probationary conditions:

1. The Respondent shall not provide in-home occupational therapy, but shall only provide occupational therapy in a supervised setting, which shall be subject to prior Board approval.
2. Within ONE (1) YEAR of the date the Board executes this Consent Order, the Respondent shall enroll in and successfully complete a Board-approved course in occupational therapy ethics. The Respondent shall be solely responsible for submitting timely, written verification of her successful completion of the course.

3. If the Respondent actively practices OT in any jurisdiction, she shall immediately notify her employer of this Consent Order.
4. If the Respondent actively practices OT in any jurisdiction, she shall arrange for her employer to provide annual written reports to the Board with respect to her work performance and professional standing. The Respondent shall be solely responsible for ensuring that these written reports are submitted to the Board in a timely manner
5. If the Respondent actively practices OT in any jurisdiction, she shall obtain a Board-approved supervisor/mentor (the "Mentor"), who shall meet with her twice per month on an unannounced basis to review her performance of OT. The Respondent shall submit proposed candidates for mentoring to the Board for purposes of satisfying this condition. After the first year of probation, the Respondent may petition the Board to decrease the frequency of her supervision by the Mentor. The Mentor shall submit written reports beginning six (6) months after the Respondent undergoes supervision, and shall thereafter submit written reports at six (6) month intervals, for a total of six (6) written reports during the THREE (3) YEAR period of PROBATION. In these reports, the Mentor shall assess the Respondent's performance of OT and compliance with all applicable codes of ethics pertaining to OT....

On August 26, 2016, the Respondent petitioned the Board to modify the mentorship requirements contained in the Consent Order. At the time of the petition, the Respondent advised they resided in Texas. The Board granted the modification and stayed the enforcement of any conditions of probation until the Respondent returned to Maryland.

The 2017 Modification Order made it clear to the Respondent that the conditions of probation were stayed **and** that enforcement would resume immediately upon the Respondent's return to practice in Maryland.

The result was that the Respondent was permitted to not comply with the terms of her probation so long as she resided out of State and/or did not practice Occupational Therapy in the State of Maryland.

The Respondent has returned to the Board eight years later with a petition to terminate probation.

Discussion

The Respondent was originally disciplined in case 2011-009 for violations of the Practice Act located at Code of Maryland Annotated Health Occupations §§ 10-101 *et seq.* The Board's Findings of Fact included that the Respondent aided unlicensed individuals in the practice of occupational therapy, submitted fraudulent documents to obtain a fee and submitted at least one therapy note for reimbursement with an unauthorized signature.

The Board's original sanction, a three year suspension staying all but one year followed by a minimum of three years probation, was an appropriate sanction for the Respondent's conduct. The Board's decision to stay enforcement of the conditions of probation while the Respondent resided in Texas, was reasonable and only done after Respondent petitioned for a modification of probation in 2017.

The Board has considered the original Findings of Fact in the Consent Order, the original sanction, the modified sanction in the 2017 Modification Order, the amount of time that has passed since the date of the violation, as well as the sanctioning guidelines contained in Code of Maryland Regulations ("COMAR") 10.46.07.05, and the aggravating and mitigating factors discussed in COMAR 10.46.07.04.

The Board recognizes that more than eight years has elapsed since the 2017 Modification Order and that the Respondent has not incurred any additional disciplinary sanctions while living in Texas.

However, the Board does not find it appropriate to completely terminate the probation at this time. The Respondent petitioned for a modification of probation in 2017 due to the difficulty complying with the mentorship requirement while living in Texas. The Board, recognizing that hardship, granted that modification but deliberately stayed the enforcement of the probation. If the Board had not, it would be admitting that licensees who find probationary conditions too burdensome would only have to move out of State and petition for a modification to avoid having to comply with the conditions of probation. Both the Board and Respondent agreed to the original terms and conditions of probation. Under the 2017 Modification Order, the Respondent is still responsible for complying with the terms and conditions of probation when she returns to Maryland.

ORDER

It is hereby:

ORDERED that the Findings of Fact and the Conclusions of Law set forth in the Board's February 27, 2013 Consent Order remain in full effect; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent's probation period imposed by the Board's February 27, 2013 Consent Order and modified by the 2017 Modification Order is **REDUCED** from a minimum of **THREE (3)** years to a minimum of **TWO (2)** years; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent's probation period remains **TOLLED** until the Respondent practices as an occupational therapist in the State of Maryland; and it is further

ORDERED that the enforcement of special conditions numbered (1) through (4) set forth in the Board's February 27, 2013 Consent Order remain **STAYED AND UNMODIFIED** until such time that the Respondent practice as an occupational therapist in the State of Maryland and will resume **immediately** upon the Respondent resuming practice as an occupational therapist in the State of Maryland; and it is further

ORDERED that special condition (5) set forth in the Board's February 27, 2013 Consent Order is hereby **MODIFIED** as follows:

(5) *Prior to the Respondent actively practicing occupational therapy in any jurisdiction, she shall obtain a Board-approved supervisor/mentor (the "Mentor"), who shall meet with her twice per month on an unannounced basis to review her performance of occupational therapy. The Respondent shall submit her candidate for a mentor to the Board in writing and receive approval from the Board in writing. The Mentor shall submit quarterly reports for the probationary period providing the Board with their assessment of the Respondent's performance as an occupational therapist and compliance with the Code of Ethics; and it is further*

ORDERED that the Respondent must provide the Board with written notice at least **THIRTY (30)** days prior to resuming the practice of occupational therapy in the State of Maryland to ensure the Respondent has a mentor as required in special condition (5); and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent must provide any employer with a copy of the February 27, 2013 Consent Order, the 2017 Modification Order and 2025 Modification Order, and have her employer provide written confirmation of receipt of those three (3) documents to the Board; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent may petition for termination of her probation after serving the modified minimum period of probation of **TWO (2) YEARS**; and it is further

ORDERED that the Board shall not consider a petition to terminate probation unless the Respondent has satisfactorily complied with all terms and conditions of probation and has no pending complaints before the Board; and it is further

ORDERED that if the Respondent violates any of the terms or conditions of this Order or the Board's February 27, 2013 Consent Order, the Board, after proper notice and opportunity for a hearing and determination of a violation, may impose any other disciplinary sanctions it deems appropriate, including, but not limited to, revocation or suspension, said violation being proven by a preponderance of the evidence; and it is further

ORDERED that this is a Final Decision and Order of the Maryland Board of Occupational Therapy Practice and as such is a PUBLIC DOCUMENT pursuant to Maryland Code Ann., General Provisions§ 4-333.

Sarah Quirk

— Sarah Quirk ""-
Chair, Maryland Board
of Occupational Therapy Practice

6/2/2026
Date