IN THE MATTER OF * BEFORE THE MARYLAND

ANDREW RAMIREZ, LMT * STATE BOARD OF

Respondent * MASSAGE THERAPY EXAMINERS

License Number: M06679 * Case Number: 25-50M

* * * * * * * * * * *

ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF LICENSE TO PRACTICE MASSAGE THERAPY

The Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners (the "Board") hereby SUMMARILY SUSPENDS the license of ANDREW RAMIREZ, LMT (Licensed Massage Therapist) (the "Respondent"), License Number M06679, to practice massage therapy in the State of Maryland. The Board takes such action pursuant to its authority under Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-226(c) (2021 Repl. Vol. and 2024 Supp.), concluding that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action.

INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS

The Board has reason to believe that the following facts are true:1

I. BACKGROUND

1. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was licensed to practice massage therapy in the State of Maryland. The Respondent was initially licensed to practice massage therapy on July 15, 2024, under License Number M06679. The Respondent's license to practice massage therapy is active through October 31, 2026.

¹ The statements regarding the Respondent's conduct are intended to provide the Respondent with notice of the basis of the summary suspension. They are not intended as, and do not necessarily represent a complete description of the evidence, either documentary or testimonial, to be offered against the Respondent in connection with this matter.

- 2. At all times relevant, the Respondent worked as a massage therapy practitioner at a hotel spa in Washington, D.C.
- 3. On or about April 25, 2025, a Metropolitan Police Department Detective contacted the Board via email about an ongoing investigation involving the Respondent and the Board investigator verified the Respondent's license status.
- 4. On or about July 9, 2025, the Board received e-mail correspondence from an Assistant Attorney General at the Washington, D.C. Department of Health which included a copy of a May 22, 2025, Department of Justice press release announcing that the Respondent had been arraigned on May 21, 2025, in Washington, D.C. on one count of first-degree sex abuse of a client and one count of second-degree sexual abuse of a client. The indictment stemmed from the aforementioned investigation.
 - 5. The DOJ press release states the following:
 - According to the government's evidence, at approximately 12:15 pm. on July 2, 2023, the victim arrived at the [Hotel] in Washington, D.C. to receive spa services. The victim met the defendant, who was a masseuse at the hotel, in the spa room. During the massage and with a towel covering his back, the defendant asked him to turn around. As the victim turned over, the towel fell off, leaving the victim naked on his back, with a towel covering his head. [The Respondent] continued the body oil massage. The victim reported feeling what he believed to be the defendant performing oral sex on him. He reported what had happened to members of the hotel team and called 911. The defendant was linked to the alleged sexual assault of the victim through DNA testing and other investigative tools...
- 6. Based on the information provided in the email, the Board initiated an investigation.

II. BOARD INVESTIGATION

- 7. As part of its investigation, the Board obtained the following documents: the Public Incident Report and the indictment from the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.
- 8. The Board also conducted an electronic verification of the Respondent's massage license status in the District of Columbia and learned that his license was summarily suspended on June 22, 2025.
- 9. According to the Notice of Summary Action to Suspend License issued by the D.C. Department of Health Regulation and Licensing Administration, the Respondent was arraigned on May 21, 2025, in the Superior Court for the District of Columbia on first degree sexual abuse of a client for engaging in sexual contact with a client while providing massage therapy services. The pending criminal matter stems from the July 2, 2023, incident.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based upon the foregoing Investigative Findings, the Board concludes as a matter of law that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action pursuant to State Gov't § 10-226(c)(2).

ORDER

It is this <u>10th</u> day of <u>November</u>, 2025, by a majority of the Board considering this case:

ORDERED that pursuant to the authority vested in the Board by Md. Code Ann., State Gov't. § 10-226(c)(2), the Respondent's license to practice massage therapy in the State of Maryland is hereby **SUMMARILY SUSPENDED**; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent **SHALL SURRENDER** to the Board his original massage therapist license number M06679, any wallet card and wall certificate; and it is further

ORDERED that the a post-deprivation show cause hearing is scheduled for December 10, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. at the Board's offices at 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215. If the Respondent fails to appear at the show cause hearing, the Board may proceed with the hearing in his absence; and it is further

ORDERED that this is an Order of the Board, and as such, is a PUBLIC DOCUMENT pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 et seq. (2019 Repl. Vol. & 2024 Supp.).

11/10/2025

Sharon J. Oliver, Executive Director Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners

Tharon Dive