

<b>IN THE MATTER OF</b>	*	<b>BEFORE THE MARYLAND</b>
<b>MARIA DASDORES FOMBAT</b>	*	<b>BOARD OF NURSING</b>
<b>License No.: LP54846</b>	*	<b>OAG Case No.: 22-BP-15</b>
<b>Multi-State Licensing Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing</b>	*	
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**ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE LICENSE**  
**AND**  
**MULTI-STATE LICENSING PRIVILEGE TO PRACTICE LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSING**  
**PURSUANT TO SECTION 10-226(C)(2) OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT**

The Maryland Board of Nursing (the “Board”) hereby orders the **SUMMARY SUSPENSION** of the license of **MARIA DASDORES FOMBAT**, (the “Respondent”), License Number **LP54846** to practice licensed practical nursing in the State of Maryland and Multi-State Licensing Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing (Oklahoma-License No. 200259). The Board takes this action pursuant to the authority of Maryland Code Ann., State Government Article (“SG”) § 10-226(c)(2) (2021 Repl. Vol.), which provides:

- (2) A unit may order summarily the suspension of a license if the unit:
  - (i) finds that the public, health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action; and
  - (ii) promptly gives the licensee:
    - 1. Written notice of the suspension, the finding and the reasons that support the finding; and
    - 2. An opportunity to be heard.

The Board has reason, as set forth below, to find that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action (“SG”) § 10-226(c) (2).

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**INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS AND REASONS IN SUPPORT OF SUMMARY  
SUSPENSION**

Based on investigatory information obtained by, received by and made known to and available to the Board, the Board has reason to believe that the following facts are true:<sup>1</sup>

1. On October 10, 2019, the Respondent was issued a license to practice as a licensed practical nurse (“LPN”) in the State of Maryland, license number LP54846. The Respondent’s license is currently “invalid per compact” and is scheduled to expire on February 28, 2021. The Compact<sup>2</sup> status of the Respondent’s Maryland LPN license is “None.”
2. On November 6, 2020, the Oklahoma Board of Nursing (“Oklahoma Board”) issued the Respondent a license to practice as a licensed practical nurse in the State of Oklahoma, license number 200259. The Respondent’s Oklahoma LPN license is active and scheduled to expire February 28, 2023. The Compact<sup>3</sup> status of the Respondent’s Oklahoma LPN is “Multistate.”

**INITIAL APPLICATION FOR LPN BY EXAM**

3. On or about July 8, 2016, the Respondent submitted an online Maryland Application for Exam of LPN License (“LPN Application”).
4. On the LPN Application, the Respondent indicated that she graduated from an LPN program located in Woodbridge, Virginia (the “LPN School”) on June 28, 2013.

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<sup>1</sup>The allegations set forth in this document are intended to provide the Respondent with reasonable notice of the Board’s action. 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 action.

<sup>2</sup> The Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) is an agreement between Boards of Nursing of party states that allows nurses to have one Multistate nursing license with the ability to practice nursing in both their home state and other party states. In accordance with the Nurse Licensure Compact, Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 8-7A-01.3(h) and § 8-7A-01.3(m) respectively, “Home state” means the party state that is the nurse’s primary state of residence and, “Party state” means any state that has adopted this Compact.

<sup>3</sup> Under the Multi-state Licensure Compact (“Compact”), Maryland Nurse Practice Act § 8-7A-01, Oklahoma is a compact state and the Respondent is allowed to practice under the multi-state licensing privilege in any State that is a party to the Compact. The State of Maryland is a party to the Compact.

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5. On the LPN Application, the Respondent affirmed and agreed to the following statement: “I affirm that the contents of this document are accurate to the best of my knowledge.” The Respondent was advised that “providing false or misleading information may result in disciplinary action by the Board, and may result in denial of licensure.”

**LPN SCHOOL**

6. On July 21, 2010, the Virginia Board of Nursing approved a Consent Order, ordering that the LPN School be placed on Conditional Provisional Approval for not less than one (1) year, subject to terms and conditions. The Consent Order was signed by LPN School’s Program Director (“Director”).

7. On May 15, 2012, the Virginia Board of Nursing approved a Consent Order, signed by the Director. The May 15, 2012 - Consent Order orders that:

- a. [LPN School’s] approval to operate a practical nursing education program in Virginia is WITHDRAWN. [LPN School] shall cease operations no later than June 30, 2013, when all students shall either have graduated or transferred to an approved program.
- b. [LPN School] shall not admit any new or transfer students.

**LPN SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT**

8. On or about August 25, 2021, the Board issued a Subpoena Duces Tecum (“Subpoena”) to the Respondent commanding her to produce and provide to the Board copies of transcripts from all schools attended for any LPN program, transcripts from all schools attended for any RN program, clinical rotations documentation from all schools attended for any LPN program, clinical rotations documentation from all schools attended for any RN program, and proof of school attendance.

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9. The only transcript provided by the Respondent was received on or about July 1, 2016, and was an Official Transcript which listed the school as the LPN School. It is signed by the Program Director (“Director”)<sup>4</sup> and dated June 28, 2013, and provides the following information:

<u>FIRST QUARTER</u> From: 04/16/2012 To: 06/15/2012		<u>THIRD QUARTER</u> From: 10/15/2012 To 02/08/2013	
<u>Course Description</u>	<u>Contact Hours</u>	<u>Course Description</u>	<u>Contact Hours</u>
Basic Computer	30	Med/Surg I	120
Medical Terminology	60	Med/Surg II	120
Anatomy and Physiology	180	Med/Surg Clinical	200
Total Contact Hours Required	270	Med/Surg Lab	40
		Geriatrics Theory	30
		Geriatrics Clinical	40
		Total Contact Hours Required	550
<u>SECOND QUARTER</u> From: 06/18/2012 To: 10/12/2012		<u>FOURTH QUARTER</u> From: 02/11/2013 To: 06/18/2013	
<u>Course Description</u>	<u>Contact Hours</u>	<u>Course Description</u>	<u>Contact Hours</u>
Diet and Nutrition	60	Pediatric Nursing	90
Pharmacology	120	Pediatric Nursing Clinical	40
Nursing Fundamentals	210	Maternity Nursing	90
Nursing Fundamentals Lab	60	Maternity Clinical	40
Nursing Fundamentals Clinical	40	Mental Health Nursing	30
Total Contact Hours	490	Mental Health Clinical	40
		Professional Development & NCLEX Review	60
		Total Contact Hours Required	390

**Summary of Clinical Agencies/Facilities and dates for each experience**

<b>Clinical Courses</b>	<b>Clinical Agency</b>	<b>Clinical Start Date</b>	<b>Clinical End Date</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>
Nursing Fundamentals	Facility 1	10/08/12	10/12/12	40

<sup>4</sup> On or about July 8, 2021, in the U.S. District Court of Maryland, Director was indicted on charges of Conspiracy to Commit Health Care Fraud; Conspiracy to Commit False Statements Relating to Health Care Matters and False Statements Relating to Health Care Matters. According to the Criminal Complaint, Director conspired with two other individuals and submitted false statements relating to health care matters by working together to sell fraudulent transcripts and diplomas that indicate that various individuals completed necessary courses and clinical hours to obtain nursing degrees and coached these unqualified individuals to pass the nursing board exam.

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Medical-Surgical Nursing	Facility 1 Facility 2	11/12/12	12/14/12	200
Geriatric Nursing	Facility 3	12/17/12	12/21/12	40
Maternity Nursing	Facility 4	04/08/13	04/12/13	40
Pediatric Nursing	Facility 4	05/06/13	05/10/13	40
Mental Health Nursing	Facility 5	05/27/13	05/30/13	40

**THE BOARD’S INVESTIGATION**

10. In a letter dated September 8, 2021, the Board’s staff was notified by Facility 1, “we regret to inform you that after searching our records, we were unable to locate any school agreement for clinical rotations with [LPN School].”

11. On August 5, 2021, a Board Investigator contacted the General Counsel for Facility 2 and Facility 3, requesting information on any agreements with LPN School. On August 5, 2021, the General Counsel responded by email, stating “I searched our contracts database and do not find any contracts with [LPN School]. Additionally, as a skilled nursing facility, I do not believe we would have hosted clinicals for surgical nursing.”

12. On August 6, 2021, a Board Investigator contacted Facility 4’s Executive Director by phone. Executive Director stated that Facility 4 does not offer OB/GYN or pediatric care and that the program offers services to troubled teens, there are no nurses on staff, and the program does not offer any medical services.

13. On August 25, 2021, the Board’s staff was notified by email that Facility 5 “does not have any affiliation or contracts with any nursing institute for any clinical hours.”

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**FAILURE TO COOPERATE WITH THE BOARD'S INVESTIGATION**

14. By letter dated August 25, 2021, the Board notified the Respondent that the clinical sites listed on the Respondent's official transcript from the LPN School "had no affiliation with the nursing program." The Board included a Subpoena Duces Tecum ("Subpoena") to the Respondent commanding her to appear at the Board on September 10, 2021 for an interview. The Respondent was also commanded to produce and provide to the Board copies of transcripts from all schools attended for any LPN program, transcripts from all schools attended for any RN program, clinical rotations documentation from all schools attended for any LPN program, clinical rotations documentation from all schools attended for any RN program, and proof of school attendance. The Respondent was informed that "[f]ailure to cooperate with a lawful investigation by the Board is itself a violation of the Nurse Practice Act (NPA) and could result in additional disciplinary action." The Board did not receive a response.

**DISCUSSION**

15. The Respondent submitted a Maryland LPN application with fraudulent information about her LPN School, including fraudulent dates of attendance, and submitted a fraudulent transcript, resulting in the Board issuing an LPN license to the Respondent in October 2019. The Respondent did not meet the Board's statutory and regulatory requirements, didactic and clinical training, for LPN licensure by exam and practiced on the fraudulent LPN license. The Respondent's continued practice poses a serious risk and danger to the public health, safety, and welfare.

**CONCLUSION OF LAW**

Based on the foregoing investigative findings and reasons, the Board finds that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action in this case pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Govt. § 10-226(c)(2) (2021 Repl. Vol.).

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**ORDER**

It is hereby:

**ORDERED** that pursuant to the authority vested in the Board of Nursing by Maryland Code Ann., State Govt. § 10-226(c)(2) (2021 Repl. Vol.) the license to practice as a licensed practical nurse in the State of Maryland (**LP54846**) and the Multi-State Licensing Privilege (**Oklahoma-License No. 200259**) of **Maria Fombat** are hereby **SUMMARILY SUSPENDED**; and be it further

**ORDERED** that there will be a Show Cause Hearing on **Wednesday, May 25, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.** before the Board at the Maryland Board of Nursing offices, 4140 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215; and be it further

**ORDERED** that if, the suspension of the Respondent's license and multi-state licensing privilege is continued following a Show Cause Hearing, the Respondent has the right to a full evidentiary hearing before the Board and a hearing will be scheduled before the Board if the Respondent submits a written request for an evidentiary hearing to the Board **no later than thirty (30) days from the date of the Board's written decision issued after the Show Cause Hearing**; and be it further

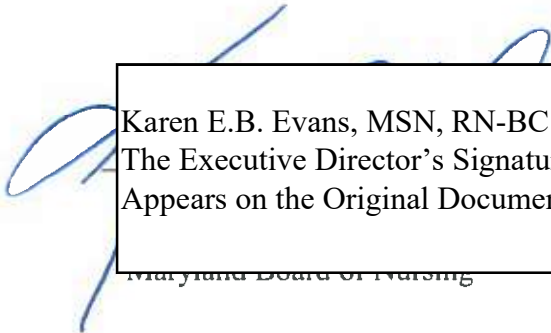
**ORDERED** that if the Respondent does not submit a timely written request to the Board for an evidentiary hearing within 30 days from the date of the Board's written decision issued after the Show Cause Hearing, the Respondent shall have waived all rights now and in the future to any hearing on the merits of the summary suspension and the factual allegations contained in this Order for Summary Suspension; and it is further

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**ORDERED** that this Order for Summary Suspension shall remain in effect and the summary suspension of the Respondent’s license and multi-state licensing privilege to practice shall continue until further Order of the Board; and it is further

**ORDERED** that this, “Order for Summary Suspension of Licensed Practical Nurse License and Multi-State Licensing Privilege to Practice Licensed Practical Nursing” is a **PUBLIC RECORD** pursuant to Md. Code Ann., General Provisions § 4-101 *et seq.* & § 4-333 (2019).

May 5, 2022  
Date



Karen E.B. Evans, MSN, RN-BC  
The Executive Director’s Signature  
Appears on the Original Document

Maryland Board of Nursing