



# MARYLAND Department of Health

*Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Robert R. Neall, Secretary*

## MARYLAND BOARD OF PHARMACY

4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215-2299

Kevin M. Morgan, Board President • Deena Speights-Napata, Executive Director

### **Maryland Board of Pharmacy**

Deena Speights-Napata, Executive Director

4201 Patterson Ave.

Baltimore, MD 21215

March 21, 2019

**BY REGULAR & CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED  
ARTICLE NUMBER: 7017 3040 0000 3785 0805**

Mohammed Abouelrous, R.Ph.  
P.O. Box 6791  
Columbia, MD 21045

Re: License No. 20627  
Case No. 19-045  
Notice of Recommended Civil Penalty

Dear Mr. Abouelrous:

The Board of Pharmacy (the “Board”) conducted an annual inspection of your pharmacy employer (“Pharmacy A”) in Cockeysville, Maryland, on May 17, 2018. During that inspection, it was noted that you were certified by the Board to administer vaccinations. However, your CPR certification was obtained from online training rather than in-person classroom instruction as required by the Board’s regulations. The Board received further information that you administered vaccinations at numerous locations of the Pharmacy without the proper CPR certification. You subsequently advised the Board that you completed an in-person CPR certification class on May 31, 2018.

## **I. FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION**

The Board finds that from August 26, 2016, to May 20, 2018, you administered approximately 260 vaccinations without having live CPR training through in-person classroom instruction as required in order to administer vaccinations under the authority of your pharmacist’s license.

A pharmacist must obtain CPR certification through in-person classroom instruction in order to register to administer vaccinations in accordance with the Maryland Pharmacy Act, Health Occ. Art. § 12-508(b)(2) and COMAR 10.34.32.03.

## **II. RECOMMENDED CIVIL MONETARY PENALTY**

Under Maryland Health Occupations Article § 12-314 and COMAR 10.34.11, the Board of Pharmacy has the authority to impose a civil monetary penalty based upon violations of the Maryland Pharmacy Act.

Based upon the findings and conclusions above, the Board hereby recommends the imposition of a **civil monetary penalty of \$500.00**.

In determining the recommended civil monetary penalty, the Board took into consideration the aggregating and mitigating factors outlined in COMAR 10.34.11.04.

## **III. OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING**

If you dispute the findings, conclusions or civil monetary penalty, you may request an evidentiary hearing on the Board's decision in this matter. In the event that you request an evidentiary hearing, the Board shall initiate formal proceedings which will include the opportunity for a full evidentiary hearing. The hearing will be held in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, Md. Code Ann. State Gov't § 10-201 *et seq.*, and COMAR 10.34.01. Any request for a hearing must be submitted in writing to Donna Goldberg, R.Ph., J.D., Investigator Supervisor, Maryland Board of Pharmacy, 4201 Patterson Ave., 5th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21215, **no later than thirty (30) days from the date of this Notice**.

Please be advised that at the hearing you would have the following rights: to be represented by counsel, to subpoena witnesses, to call witnesses on your own behalf, to present evidence, to cross-examine witnesses, to testify, and to present summation and argument. Should the Board find you guilty of the violations cited herein, the Board may impose formal public disciplinary action against your license such as a reprimand, placing your license on probation, suspension, or revocation. The Board may also impose a civil penalty against your license not to exceed \$10,000. If you request a hearing but fail to appear, the Board may nevertheless hear and determine the matter in your absence.

## **IV. OPTION TO PAY RECOMMENDED MONETARY PENALTY**

Alternatively, you may pay the recommended civil monetary penalty **within thirty (30) days** of the date of this Notice, in the form of a certified check or money order made payable to the Maryland Board of Pharmacy.

Please mail the check or money order to:

Wells Fargo Bank  
Attn: State of Maryland - Board of Pharmacy  
Lockbox 2051  
7175 Columbia Gateway Drive  
Columbia, MD 21046

***NOTE: Please include the case number, 19-045, on your check or money order to insure proper assignment to your case.***

Upon your payment of the civil monetary penalty, this Notice will constitute the Board's final action with respect to this matter, and shall constitute a public order under the Maryland Public Information Act, Md. Code Ann., dGeneral Provisions Art. § 4-333, and be posted on the Board's website in accordance with Health Occ. § 1-607.

If you have any questions concerning the instructions contained in this letter, please contact Donna Goldberg, R.Ph., J.D., Investigator Supervisor, at 410-764-3768.

Sincerely,



Deena Speights-Napata  
Executive Director