IN THE MATTER OF

\* BEFORE THE MARYLAND

**AMINAT ADEKOYA** 

\* STATE BOARD OF

Respondent

\* PHARMACY

License Number: 21722

Case Number: 25-268

## **CONSENT ORDER**

Based on information received and a subsequent investigation by the Maryland Board of Pharmacy (the "Board"), and subject to the Maryland Pharmacy Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 12-101 et seq. (2021 Repl. Vol. & 2024 Supp.), and the Maryland Administrative Procedure Act, Md. Code Ann., State Gov't §§ 10-201 et seq. (2021 Repl. Vol. & 2024 Supp.), the Board issued an Order for Summary Suspension of Pharmacist License dated April 8, 2025 (the "Order for Summary Suspension"), in which it summarily suspended the license of AMINAT ADEKOYA (the "Respondent"), License Number 21722, to practice pharmacy in the State of Maryland. Specifically, the Board found that reliable evidence demonstrated that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively required emergency action pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-226(c)(2).

The Board held a show cause hearing on July 9, 2025, following which the Board affirmed the Order for Summary Suspension.

On August 20, 2025, the Board charged the Respondent with violating the following provisions of Md. Code Ann., Health Occupations ("Health Occ."):

Health Occ. § 12-313. Denials, reprimands, suspensions, and revocations—Grounds.

. . . .

(b) Subject to the hearing provisions of § 12-315 of this subtitle, the Board, on the affirmative vote of a majority of its members then serving, may . . . reprimand any licensee, place any licensee on probation, or suspend or revoke a license of a pharmacist if the licensee:

. . . .

(2) Fraudulently or deceptively uses a license;

. . . .

(7) Willfully makes or files a false report or record as part of practicing pharmacy;

. . . .

(15) Dispenses any drug, device, or diagnostic for which a prescription is required without a written, oral, or electronically transmitted prescription from an authorized prescriber; [or]

. . . .

(25) Violates any rule or regulation adopted by the Board[.]

The Board charged the Respondent with violating the following provisions of Md. Code Ann, Criminal Law ("Crim. Law"):

Crim. Law § 8-610. Counterfeiting prescription.

• • •

(b) A person may not:

(3) obtain or attempt to obtain a prescription drug by fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation.

The Board charged the Respondent with violating the following provisions of the Code of Maryland Regulations ("COMAR"):

## COMAR 10.19.03.07. Prescriptions.1

. . . .

C. Purpose of Issue of Prescription (21 CFR §1306.04).

A prescription for a controlled dangerous substance to be effective (1) must be issued for a legitimate medical purpose by an individual practitioner acting in the usual course of the individual practitioner's professional practice. The responsibility for the proper prescribing and dispensing of controlled dangerous substances is upon the prescribing practitioner, but a corresponding responsibility rests with the pharmacist who fills the prescription. An order purporting to be a prescription issued not in the usual course of professional treatment or in legitimate and authorized research is not a prescription within the meaning and intent of the Maryland Controlled Dangerous Substances Act Criminal Law Article, §§5-501-5-505, Annotated Code of Maryland, and the person knowingly filling such a purported prescription, as well as the person issuing it, shall be subject to the penalties provided for violations of the provisions of law relating to controlled dangerous substances.

# COMAR 10.19.03.12. Prescriptions.<sup>2</sup>

• • • •

B. Purpose of Issue of Prescription.

(1) A controlled substance prescription shall only be issued for a legitimate medical purpose by a provider.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The quoted text of this regulation was effective through October 13, 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The quoted text of this regulation became effective October 14, 2024.

- (2) A controlled substance prescription shall be issued by a provider in the usual course of the individual provider's professional practice.
- (3) The responsibility for the proper prescribing and dispensing of controlled substances is upon the prescribing provider.
- (4) A pharmacist has a corresponding responsibility to ensure, prior to dispensing, that a controlled substance prescription is issued for a legitimate medical purpose.
- (5) An order purporting to be a prescription issued not in the usual course of professional treatment or in legitimate and authorized research is not a prescription within the meaning and intent of the Maryland Controlled Dangerous Substances Act, Criminal Law Article, §§ 5-501--5-505, Annotated Code of Maryland.

## COMAR 10.34.10.01. Patient Safety and Welfare.

## A. A pharmacist shall:

- (1) Abide by all federal and State laws relating to the practice of pharmacy and the dispensing, distribution, storage, and labeling of drugs and devices, including but not limited to:
  - (a) United States Code, Title 21,
  - (b) Health-General Article, Titles 21 and 22, Annotated Code of Maryland,
  - (c) Health Occupations Article, Title 12, Annotated Code of Maryland,
  - (d) Criminal Law Article, Title 5, Annotated Code of Maryland, and
  - (e) COMAR 10.19.03;

## B. A pharmacist may not:

4

- (1) Engage in conduct which departs from the standard of care ordinarily exercised by pharmacist;
- (2) Practice pharmacy under circumstances or conditions which prevent the proper exercise of professional judgment; or
- (3) Engage in unprofessional conduct.

On October 8, 2025, a Case Resolution Conference ("CRC") was held before a panel of the Board. As a resolution of this matter, the Respondent agreed to enter this public Consent Order consisting of Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

The Board finds:

#### I. BACKGROUND

- 1. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was licensed to practice pharmacy in the State of Maryland. The Respondent was originally licensed to practice pharmacy in Maryland on July 22, 2013, under license number 21722. The Respondent's license is scheduled to expire on March 31, 2027.
- 2. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was employed as a pharmacist at a pharmacy (the "Pharmacy")<sup>3</sup> located in Wicomico County, Maryland.
- 3. On or about January 17, 2025, the Pharmacy notified the Board that the Pharmacy terminated the Respondent "due to violations of company policy." Following receipt of the notification, the Board investigated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> In order to maintain confidentiality, names of individuals and facilities involved in this matter will not be used in this document but will be provided to the Respondent on request.

#### II. BOARD'S INVESTIGATION

- 4. The Board obtained a copy of an investigatory report from the Pharmacy. According to the report, on or about November 18, 2024, the Pharmacy identified four (4) prescriptions for phentermine<sup>45</sup> from the same provider as suspicious for possible drug diversion. The four prescriptions were inconsistent with the provider's history at the Pharmacy. The provider is a physician's assistant at an urgent care facility who had 659 prescriptions filled at the Pharmacy, but the only prescriptions from the provider for controlled dangerous substances ("CDS") were the four phentermine prescriptions. The Respondent filled the four prescriptions, recording that the prescriptions were transmitted from the provider via telephone. The four prescriptions were purchased using cash. For the most recent of the four prescriptions, closed circuit television revealed that the Respondent completed the purchase. The Respondent scanned her driver's license to complete this purchase.
- 5. The four prescriptions were purchased using two patient profiles (not in Respondent's name) with one of the patient profile's addresses bearing similarity to the Respondent's address on file with the Pharmacy. The Pharmacy further identified additional transactions involving these patient profiles.
- 6. On or about January 9, 2025, the Pharmacy interviewed the Respondent. The Respondent initially denied creating patient profiles for patients that do not exist.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Phentermine, a Schedule IV CDS, is used to speed weight loss by decreasing appetite.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The Board does not allege that any of the medications identified in this document were obtained for legitimate medical purposes.

However, upon being shown documentation that the Respondent's driver's license was scanned to purchase drugs using the patient profiles, the Respondent admitted the following:

[The Respondent] admitted that she knew the Physician's Assistant at a local Urgent Care who had been forging the fake prescriptions, via call in. [The Respondent] stated, that the activity had been occurring for over a year, and previously at her store that had closed. She explained that the Physician's Assistant would call in prescriptions, which [the Respondent] would then fill for herself. She also revealed that the fake profile had been created two years ago, while at her former store. [The Respondent] went further to say, she had known her Urgent Care contact since pharmacy school, and they [were] friends. I began listing all the drugs [the Respondent] had purchased with the fake prescriptions over the last year, totaling nine times. [The Respondent] confirmed that she had been picking up the medications, some of which were controlled drugs.

- 7. The Board obtained a written statement, authored by the Respondent on or about January 9, 2025, acknowledging that she created a fictitious patient profile and used it to fill and purchase prescriptions for phentermine, cyclobenzaprine,<sup>6</sup> tizanidine,<sup>7</sup> and gabapentin.<sup>8</sup>
- 8. The Board obtained the Pharmacy's records for the patient profiles and the related prescription transactions. Each prescription was recorded as having been transmitted via telephone by the same provider. The fictitious patient profiles were used to purchase with cash, from approximately February 15, 2023, through November 18,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Cyclobenzaprine is a prescription-only skeletal muscle relaxant used to relax muscles and relieve pain and discomfort caused by strains, sprains, and other muscle injuries.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Tizanidine is a prescription-only skeletal muscle relaxant used to relieve the spasms and increased muscle tone caused by multiple sclerosis, stroke, or brain or spinal injury.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Gabapentin is a prescription-only anticonvulsant used to help control seizures in people who have epilepsy.

2024: four (4) prescriptions for 60 tablets of phentermine 37.5 mg; two (2) prescriptions for 270 tablets of tizanidine hydrocholoride 4 mg; one (1) prescription for 90 capsules of gabapentin 300 mg; one (1) prescription for 90 tablets of cyclobenzaprine 10 mg; one (1) prescription for 90 tablets of ibuprofen 800 mg; and (vi) one (1) prescription not disclosed in this document for privacy reasons.

- 9. The Board obtained court records, including an Application for Statement of Charges and Statement of Charges, in the District Court of Maryland for Wicomico County, Maryland in Case No. D-023-CR-25-000020. According to the court records, the Respondent was charged in that case with three (3) counts of obtaining a prescription drug by fraud. On or about April 9, 2025, the Respondent pled not guilty with an agreement statement of facts to a single count of obtaining a prescription drug by fraud. The Respondent was granted probation before judgment and placed on unsupervised probation for a period of one (1) year.
- 10. Based on the above information, the Board has reason to believe that the Respondent diverted multiple prescriptions drugs and/or CDS while employed as a pharmacist at the Pharmacy.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes as a matter of law that the Respondent's conduct, as set forth in the Findings of Fact, constitutes, in whole or in part, violations of Health Occ. § 12-313(b)(2), (7), (15), and (25); Crim. Law § 8-610(b)(3); COMAR 10.19.03.07C(1) through October 13, 2024, COMAR

10.19.03.12B(1)-(5) beginning October 14, 2024; and COMAR 10.34.10.01A(1) and B(1)-(3).

#### **ORDER**

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, on the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board, it is hereby:

**ORDERED** that the Order for Summary Suspension, dated April 8, 2025, was properly issued; and be it further,

**ORDERED** that the public health and safety is not at risk by the Respondent provided that the Respondent fully complies with terms and conditions set forth herein; and be it further,

ORDERED that, upon execution of this Consent Order, the summary suspension imposed in the Board's Order for Summary Suspension, dated April 8, 2025, is hereby LIFTED; and be it further,

**ORDERED** that the Respondent's license shall be placed on **SUSPENSION**, effective April 8, 2025, for at least **ONE** (1) **YEAR**, during which time the Respondent:

1. Shall pay a monetary fine in the amount of \$1,000, payable by certified check or money order to The Maryland State Board of Pharmacy and sent to:

Wells Fargo Bank Attn: State of MD - Board of Pharmacy Lockbox 2051 401 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19106

Please reference Case Number 25-268 – Aminat Adekoya on your certified check or money order to ensure proper assignment to your case;

- 2. Shall submit to a substance use evaluation with Pharmacy Rehabilitation Services ("PRS") or another Board-approved evaluator within thirty (30) days of this Order;
- 3. Shall, if the Board-approved evaluator recommends treatment, promptly enter into, and fully comply with, a rehabilitation contract with PRS, during which time the Respondent:
  - a. Shall ensure PRS submits monthly progress reports to the Board regarding the Respondent's compliance with the PRS contract;
  - b. Shall execute any and all releases necessary to allow PRS and the Board to access medical and treatment information for purposes of monitoring and enforcement of this Order and the PRS contract;
  - c. Shall comply with any and all treatment and monitoring conditions imposed as part of the PRS contract, including participating in group and/or individual therapy sessions, submitting to urinalysis screening, and abstaining from the use of controlled dangerous substances and all other mood-altering substances, unless PRS is provided sufficient written documentation from the Respondent's healthcare provider regarding medical necessity; and be it further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent may petition the Board to modify the terms of suspension after SIX (6) MONTHS provided that the Respondent has been fully compliant with all terms, and that any such modification shall relate to the monitoring terms under this Order only; and be it further,

ORDERED that the Respondent may petition to lift the suspension of her license after ONE (1) YEAR, commencing April 8, 2025, provided that the Respondent has fully complied with all conditions of this Order, and the Respondent does not have any pending complaints against her; and be it further,

**ORDERED** that in the event that the Board lifts the suspension of the Respondent's license, the Board shall place the Respondent's license on immediate **PROBATION** for a

period of ONE (1) YEAR, with terms and conditions to be determined at the time; and be it further,

**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall bear all costs for compliance with the terms of this Order; and be it further,

**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall at all times fully cooperate with the Board in its monitoring, supervision, and investigation of the Respondent's compliance with the terms and conditions of this Order; and be it further,

ORDERED that the Respondent's failure to fully cooperate with the Board shall be deemed a violation of the terms of suspension and a violation of this Order; and be it further,

ORDERED that in the event the Board finds for any good faith reason that the Respondent has violated any of the conditions of suspension herein, or in the event that the Board finds for any good faith reason that the Respondent has committed a violation of Title 12 of the Health Occupations Article or regulations adopted thereunder, the Board may take further disciplinary action, to include summary suspension, against the Respondent's license, provided that the Respondent is given notice and an opportunity for a hearing; and be it further,

ORDERED that this Consent Order is a public document. See Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. § 4-101 et seq. (2019 Repl. Vol. & 2024 Supp.).

12-1-25

Date

Kristopher Kusinko

President, Maryland Board of Pharmacy

#### **CONSENT**

I, Aminat Adekoya, acknowledge that I have had the opportunity to consult with legal counsel before signing this document. By this Consent, I accept, to be bound by this Consent Order and its conditions and restrictions. I waive any rights I may have had to contest the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

I acknowledge the validity of this Consent Order as if entered into after the conclusion of a formal evidentiary hearing in which I would have had the right to counsel, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to call witnesses on its behalf and to all other substantive and procedural protections as provided by law.

I acknowledge the legal authority and the jurisdiction of the Board to initiate these proceedings and to issue and enforce this Consent Order. I also affirm that I am waiving my right to appeal any adverse ruling of the Board that might have followed any such hearing.

I sign this Consent Order without reservation, and I fully understand and comprehend the language, meaning and terms of this Consent Order. I voluntarily sign this Order and understand its meaning and effect.

11-26-2025

Date

Aminat Adekoya

# **NOTARY**

STATE OF Maryland	<u></u>
CITY/COUNTY OF	courico
before me, a Notary Public of the Sta appeared AMINAT ADEKOYA and Order was her voluntary act and dee	
AS WITNESS, my hand and Nota	ry Seai.
HUNTER R WEWERKA Notary Public - State of Maryland Wicomico County My Commission Expires May 28, 2029	Notary Public
	My commission Expires: 65 · 28 · 2029