



Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Meena Seshamani, M.D., Ph.D., Secretary

Maryland Board of Pharmacy
Akash Patel, PharmD, Board President
Deena Speights-Napata, M.A., Executive Director
4201 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

July 23, 2026

**REGULAR AND CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
ARTICLE # 7019 2280 0000 6558 6841**

Apotheco Pharmacy
4801 Dorsey Hall Drive, Suite 120
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042
Attn: Pharmacy Manager

Re: Permit No. P08802
Case No. 26-322
Notice of Deficiencies, Recommended Civil Monetary Penalty, and
Opportunity for Hearing

Dear Pharmacy Manager:

The Maryland Board of Pharmacy (the “Board”) conducted an annual inspection of Apotheco Pharmacy (the “Pharmacy”) on March 25, 2026, for compliance with statutes and regulations governing the operation of a pharmacy. The Board’s inspection report indicated that the Pharmacy was not compliant with laws relating to pharmacy technician registration. Specifically, the Board’s inspector observed an unlicensed staff member (Staff A) performing delegated pharmacy acts although the Pharmacy location did not have a Board-approved technician training program. The Board’s inspector was advised by the pharmacist on duty that Staff A was studying for a national technician certification. The Board’s records indicate that Staff A has not submitted an application for a pharmacy technician registration to date.

I. FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

The Board finds that the Pharmacy permitted an unlicensed staff member (Staff A) to perform delegated pharmacy acts without the Pharmacy location having a Board-approved pharmacy technician training program. A Board-approved national technician certification qualifies an applicant for a pharmacy technician registration; however, it does not authorize an applicant to perform delegated pharmacy acts until a technician registration is obtained. A Pharmacy location must have a Board-approved technician training program, which includes 160 hours of work experience, in order to authorize unlicensed trainees to perform delegated pharmacy acts for no more than six (6) months.

Based upon the deficiencies noted at your Pharmacy, the Board finds that the Pharmacy is in violation of the Maryland Pharmacy Act. Specifically, the Board finds the Pharmacy in violation of Health Occ. Art. §§ 12-403(c)(1), 12-6B-01 and COMAR 10.34.34.07.

II. RECOMMENDED CIVIL MONETARY PENALTY

Under Maryland Health Occupations Article § 12-410 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 deficiencies cited at the Pharmacy, the Board hereby recommends the imposition of a **civil monetary penalty of \$1,000.00**. The deficiencies upon which the civil monetary penalty is based are set forth above in this Notice and in the Board's inspection report, dated March 25, 2026.

In determining the recommended civil monetary penalty, the Board took into consideration the aggregating and mitigating factors outlined in COMAR 10.34.11.08.

III. FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION

Please be advised that the Board of Pharmacy may perform a follow-up inspection of the Pharmacy to ensure that the deficiencies noted herein have been addressed and corrected. Should the follow-up inspection indicate that the Pharmacy has further deficiencies, the Board may pursue further disciplinary action against the Pharmacy that may result in the imposition of sanctions such as suspension, revocation or additional monetary penalties.

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

If the Pharmacy disputes the findings, conclusions or the proposed civil monetary penalty, the Pharmacy may request an evidentiary hearing on the Board's decision in this matter. In the event that the Pharmacy requests 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 Trina Leak, Pharm.D., Compliance Director, Maryland Board of Pharmacy, 4201 Patterson Ave., 5th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21215, **no later than thirty (30) days of the date of this Notice**.

Please be advised that at the hearing the Pharmacy would have the following rights: to be represented by counsel, to subpoena witnesses, to call witnesses on its own behalf, to present evidence, to cross-examine witnesses, to testify, and to present summation and argument. Should the Board find the Pharmacy in violation of the Maryland Pharmacy Act, the Board may suspend or revoke the pharmacy permit, impose civil penalties, or both. If the Pharmacy requests a hearing but fails to appear, the Board may nevertheless hear and determine the matter in its absence.

V. OPTION TO PAY RECOMMENDED CIVIL MONETARY PENALTY

Alternatively, the Pharmacy 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:

Santander Bank
Attn: State of Maryland - Board of Pharmacy
Lockbox Operations – Box #2051
101 Woodcrest Road, Suite 201
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08003

NOTE: Please include the case number, 26-322, on your check or money order to ensure proper assignment to your case.

Upon the Pharmacy's payment of the civil monetary penalty, this Notice will constitute the Board's final action with respect to the March 25, 2026, inspection, and shall be a public document and order under the Maryland Public Information Act, Md. Code Ann., General Provisions Art. § 4-101, *et seq.*, and posted and reported in accordance with State and federal laws.

If you have any questions concerning the instructions contained in this letter, please contact Trina Leak, Pharm.D., Compliance Director, at trina.leak1@maryland.gov or 443-635-8318.

Sincerely,



Deena Speights-Napata, M.A.
Executive Director