

IN THE MATTER OF
WONNESE BRIDGEFORTH

Respondent

Registration No. T28174

*** BEFORE THE**
*** MARYLAND STATE**
*** BOARD OF PHARMACY**
*** Case No. 26-083**

* * * * *

ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION
OF REGISTRATION TO PRACTICE AS A PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

The Maryland State Board of Pharmacy (the "Board") hereby **SUMMARILY SUSPENDS** the registration of **WONNESE ASHANTI BRIDGEFORTH** (the "Respondent"), Registration Number **T28174**, to practice as a pharmacy technician in the State of Maryland. The Board takes such action pursuant to its authority under Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-226(c), and Md. Code Regs. ("COMAR") 10.34.01.12, having concluded that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action.

INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS¹

1. At all times relevant, the Respondent was registered to practice as a pharmacy technician in the State of Maryland under registration number T28174. The Respondent's pharmacy technician registration was initially issued on or about March 7, 2023. The Respondent's registration is active through April 30, 2026.

¹ The statements regarding the Respondent's conduct are intended to provide the Respondent with reasonable notice of the basis for the Board's action. They are not intended as, and do not necessarily represent, a complete description of the evidence to be offered against the Respondent in this matter.

2. At all times relevant, the Respondent was employed as a pharmacy technician at a national pharmacy chain (the "Pharmacy")² location in Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

3. In October 2025, the Pharmacy notified the Board that the Respondent had stolen a significant amount of a controlled substance from the Upper Marlboro location, and the Pharmacy sent the Board a copy of the Drug Enforcement Agency ("DEA") Report of Theft or Loss of Controlled Substances Form ("DEA Form 106") for the theft, dated October 2, 2025.

4. In the DEA Form 106, the Pharmacy reported a total loss of 120 oxycodone-acetaminophen³ tablets from the Upper Marlboro location due to employee theft. The Pharmacy reported that the Respondent admitted to drug diversion and that her employment was pending termination. The Pharmacy listed the following controlled substances as lost / stolen:

| | Substance | NDC No. | Dosage and Form | Quantity |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------|----------|
| 1 | OXYCODONE-ACETAMINOPHEN | 42858010401 | 10mg-325mg tablet | 120 |

5. As part of the Board's investigation, the Board obtained, *inter alia*, documents from the Pharmacy's internal investigation and video footage from the Pharmacy's CCTV system.

² For confidentiality and privacy purposes, the names of individuals and facilities involved in this case are not disclosed in this document. The Respondent may obtain the names of all individuals referenced in this document by contacting the administrative prosecutor.

³ Oxycodone-acetaminophen is a Schedule II opioid pain medication.

Pharmacy Internal Investigation

6. On or about September 12, 2025, a pharmacy manager at the Upper Marlboro location contacted a Pharmacy District Asset Protection Leader (“DAPL”) and reported a missing prescription. More specifically, the manager informed the DAPL that, earlier that afternoon, a patient she was familiar with as a regular customer came in to pick up their medication based on a prescription for 120 oxycodone-acetaminophen 10mg-325mg tablets, but records showed that the prescription had been filled and picked up earlier in the day, at approximately 1:08 p.m. The manager and the DAPL then reviewed security footage, which showed the Respondent ringing up the sale and handing the medication to someone other than the patient at approximately 1:08 p.m. The DAPL also reviewed security footage of the parking lot, which revealed that that Respondent left the store at approximately 1:33 p.m. and got in the car of the unknown male who had picked up the medication.

7. On September 19, 2025, the DAPL interviewed the Respondent in the presence of another member of the Pharmacy’s district asset protection team. During the interview, the Respondent admitted that she gave the prescription oxycodone-acetaminophen tablets to a friend who was supposed to give her money after the pills were sold.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing investigative findings, the Board concludes, as a matter of law, that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action in

this case, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-226(c)(2) and COMAR 10.34.01.12.

ORDER

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

ORDERED that pursuant to the authority vested in the Board by Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-226(c)(2), the registration to practice as a pharmacy technician in the State of Maryland issued to the Respondent, **WONNESE BRIDGEFORTH**, registration number **T28174**, is **SUMMARILY SUSPENDED**; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent is prohibited from practicing as a pharmacy technician in the State of Maryland; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent shall immediately return all registrations to the Board; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent has the opportunity to appear before the Board for a post-deprivation show cause hearing. A request for a post-deprivation show cause hearing must be made in writing **WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS**; and it is further

ORDERED that if the Respondent does not request a post-deprivation show cause hearing in writing within thirty (30) days, or if the Respondent requests a post-deprivation show cause hearing but fails to appear when scheduled, the Respondent's registration will remain **SUSPENDED**; and it is further

ORDERED that this **ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION** is a **PUBLIC**
DOCUMENT pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 *et seq.*

1-12-26
Date

Deena Speights-Napata
Deena Speights-Napata, M.A.
Executive Director