



MARYLAND

Department of Health

Larry Hogan, Governor • Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor • Dennis Schrader, Secretary

MARYLAND BOARD OF PHARMACY

4201, Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215-2299

Mitra Gaygani, Board President • Deena Speights-Napata, Executive Director

VIA REGULAR & CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
ARTICLE #7016 0750 0001 0747 6492

August 4, 2017

CVS Pharmacy #16396
3343 Corridor Market Place
Laurel, Maryland 20724
Attn: Richaben Patel, Pharm.D.

Re: Permit No. P07023
Case No.17-085
Notice of Deficiencies, Recommended Civil Monetary Penalty, and
Opportunity for Hearing

Dear Pharmacy Manager:

On February 8, 2017, the Maryland Board of Pharmacy (the "Board") conducted an annual inspection of CVS Pharmacy #16396 (the "Pharmacy") for compliance with statutes and regulations governing the operation of a pharmacy. The Board's inspection indicated that the Pharmacy was not compliant with laws relating to registration of pharmacist immunizers. Specifically, the Board's inspection and subsequent investigation determined that a pharmacist on staff, although appropriately trained, was administering vaccinations without being duly approved and registered with the Board. The Board's records indicate that the pharmacist subsequently registered with the Board on March 2, 2017.

I. FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

The Board finds that the Pharmacy permitted a licensed pharmacist to administer vaccinations without authorization from approximately September 2016 to February 2017.

Based upon deficiencies at your Pharmacy, the Board concludes that the Pharmacy is in violation of the Maryland Pharmacy Act and the regulations adopted thereunder. Specifically, the Board concludes that the Pharmacy in violation of Health Occ. Art. §§ 12-403(b)(1) and 12-508 and COMAR 10.34.32.03.

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 \$2,500.00**. The deficiencies upon which the civil monetary penalty is based are set forth above in this Notice.

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 insure 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 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 disciplinary 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 Vanessa Thomas Gray, Compliance Investigator, 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 guilty of the violations cited in the Reports, the Board may suspend or revoke the pharmacy permit, or impose civil penalties, or both. If the Pharmacy requests a hearing but fail 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 of money order to:

Maryland Board of Pharmacy
P.O. Box 2051
Baltimore, MD 21203-2051

NOTE: Please include the case number, 17-085, on your check or money order to insure proper assignment to your case.

Upon the Pharmacy's payment of the civil monetary penalty, this Notice will constitute the Board's final formal action with respect to the February 8, 2017 inspection, and shall be a public document in accordance with the Maryland Public Information Act, General Provisions Article § 4-333.

If you have any questions concerning the instructions contained in this letter, please contact Vanessa Thomas Gray, Compliance Investigator, at 410/764-2493.

Sincerely,



Deena Speights-Napata
Executive Director

cc: Linda Bethman, AAG, Board Counsel

Bill Irvin, R.Ph.
Director, Regulatory Affairs
CVS Corporation
13 Commerce Avenue
Londonderry, NH 03053