

IN THE MATTER OF \* BEFORE THE  
THOMAS CLOSSON, P.D. \* STATE BOARD  
LICENSE NO.: 14131 \* OF  
Respondent \* PHARMACY  
\* Case No. 11-072

\* \* \* \* \*

**ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

Pursuant to Md. State Govt. Code Ann. §10-226 (c) (2) (2009 Repl. Vol., 2010 Supp.), the State Board of Pharmacy (the "Board") hereby suspends the license to practice pharmacy in Maryland issued to Thomas Closson, P.D. (the "Respondent"), under the Maryland Pharmacy Act (the "Act"), Md. Health Occ. Code Ann. § 12-101, et seq., (2009 Repl. Vol., 2010 Supp.). This Order is based on the following investigative findings, which the Board has reason to believe are true:

**BACKGROUND**

1. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was licensed to practice pharmacy in Maryland. The Respondent was first licensed on March 13, 1998. The Respondent's license expires on December 31, 2012.

2. On February 25, 2011, a National chain pharmacy located in Severn, Maryland in Anne Arundel County, Maryland, reported that its pharmacist employee, the Respondent, admitted in writing and orally to stealing Sumatriptan<sup>1</sup>, 100 mg tablets, and Butal-Apap-Caff-325<sup>2</sup> pills from his employer, totaling, according to his estimate, over

<sup>1</sup> Sumatriptan is used for the treatment of migraine headaches.

<sup>2</sup> Butalbital is in a group of drugs call barbiturates. It relaxes muscle contractions involved in a tension headache.

\$18,000. The pharmacy later estimated the cost at over \$27,000, which the Respondent signed a promissory note for.

3. As a result of this admission, the Respondent was terminated from employment with the company; the Anne Arundel police were called; and, he was arrested and charged with theft over \$10,000.

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

As set forth above, a pharmacist who steals drugs from his employer for his own use is a threat to the health, welfare and public safety.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Based on the foregoing, the Board finds that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, pursuant to Md. St. Gov't. Code Ann. §10-226(c) (2) (2009 Repl. Vol., 2010 Supp.).

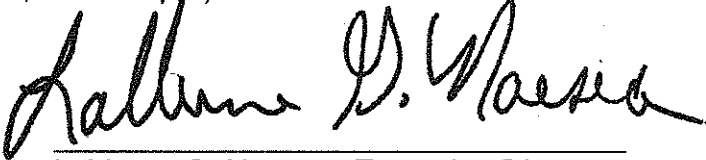
### **ORDER**

Based on the foregoing, it is therefore this 18<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011, by a majority vote of a quorum of the State Board of Pharmacy, by authority granted by the Board by Md. St. Gov't. Code Ann. §10-226(c)(2) (2009 Repl. Vol., 2010 Supp.), the license held by the Respondent to practice pharmacy in Maryland, License No. 14131, is hereby **SUMMARILY SUSPENDED**; and be it further

**ORDERED**, that, upon the Board's receipt of a written request from the Respondent, a Show Cause Hearing shall be scheduled within a reasonable time of said request, at which the Respondent will be given an opportunity to be heard as to whether the Summary Suspension should be continued, regarding the Respondent's fitness to practice pharmacy and the danger to the public; and be it further

**ORDERED**, that the Respondent shall immediately turn over to the Board his wall certificate and wallet-sized license to practice pharmacy issued by the Board; and be it further

**ORDERED**, that this document constitutes a final Order of the Board and is therefore a public document for purposes of public disclosure, as required by Md. State Gov't Code Ann. §10-617(h) (2009 Repl. Vol., 2010 Supp.).



LaVerne G. Naesea, Executive Director  
Board of Pharmacy

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

A Show Cause hearing to determine whether the Summary Suspension shall be continued will be held before the Board at 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, 21215 following a written request by the Respondent for same.