

IN THE MATTER OF	*	BEFORE THE MARYLAND
NICHOLAS MATTHEW FORD, JR.	*	STATE BOARD OF
Pharmacy Technician	*	PHARMACY
Registration Number: T27751	*	Case Number: 24-186(C)
Respondent	*	

* * * * *

**ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF
PHARMACY TECHNICIAN REGISTRATION**

The Maryland Board of Pharmacy (the “Board”) hereby summarily suspends the registration of Nicholas Matthew Ford, Jr. (the “Respondent”), Registration Number T27751, to practice as a pharmacy technician in the State of Maryland. The Board takes such action pursuant to the Board’s authority under Md. Code Ann., State Gov’t § 10-226(c)(2) (2021 Repl. Vol. & 2023 Supp.) and Code of Maryland Regulations (“COMAR”) 10.34.01.12F, concluding that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action. This Order is based on the following investigative findings, which the Board has reason to believe are true:

INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS¹

1. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was registered to practice as a pharmacy technician in the State of Maryland. The Respondent was originally registered

¹ The statements regarding the Respondent’s conduct are intended to provide the Respondent with notice of the allegations. They are not intended as, and do not necessarily represent a complete description of the evidence, either documentary or testimonial, to be offered against the Respondent in connection with this matter.

to practice as a pharmacy technician in Maryland on December 9, 2022, under registration number T27751. The Respondent's registration is scheduled to expire on August 31, 2024.

2. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was employed as a pharmacy technician at a pharmacy (the "Pharmacy")² located in Prince George's County, Maryland.

3. On January 22, 2024, the Pharmacy notified the Board that "[d]uring an internal investigation it was determined that [the Respondent] was stealing drugs from the [P]harmacy. He admitted to the theft during an interview with our loss prevention team. He has since been terminated."

4. The Pharmacy submitted an Amended DEA Form 106 – Report of Theft or Loss of Controlled Substances dated February 15, 2024. The report identified the type of theft or loss as "EMPLOYEE THEFT (OR SUSPECTED)."

5. The Board obtain a Pharmacy case report dated February 22, 2024. According to the report, on November 8, 2023, the Pharmacy received information that the Respondent "was stealing as well as paying others to steal controlled substances from the pharmacy." The Pharmacy investigated and on January 15, 2024, the Pharmacy interviewed the Respondent. During the interview, the Respondent "admitted to taking a prescription for Oxycodone 5/325 and Adderall 20mg from the ready bins in August of 2023." The Respondent "stated that he took the Oxycodone prescription to give to his grandmother who was in pain but unable to get a prescription. [The Respondent] stated

² 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.

that he did not have a reason for taking the Adderall.” The Respondent further “stated that both prescription bottles were confiscated by police while they were searching his car during an arrest in August. Both bottles contained the full amount when seized.” The Respondent “denied selling the medication he was taking from the pharmacy or paying anyone else in the pharmacy to steal drugs for him.”

6. The Respondent provided a signed written statement dated January 15, 2024, which stated “[r]esponsible for missing Oxy 325 and Adderall found in vehicle during arrest. Oxy was taken to [?] to my grandmother. Adderall was taken just because.”

7. Based on the above information, the Board has reason to believe that the Respondent diverted multiple controlled dangerous substances while employed as a pharmacy technician at the Pharmacy.

CONCLUSION 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 State Gov’t. § 10-226(c)(2) and COMAR 10.34.01.12F.

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Investigative Findings and Conclusions of Law, it is this 23rd day of May 2024, by a majority of the quorum of the Board, hereby:

ORDERED that pursuant to the authority vested in the Board by Md. Code Ann., State Gov’t § 10-226(c)(2), the Respondent’s registration to practice as a pharmacy technician, Registration Number T27751, in the State of Maryland be and is hereby **SUMMARILY SUSPENDED**; and it is further

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

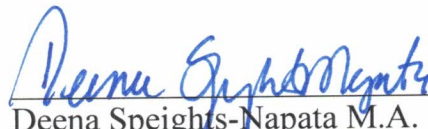
ORDERED that the Respondent has the opportunity to appear before the Board for a post-deprivation show cause hearing. A request for a post-deprivation show cause hearing must be in writing and be made **WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS** of receipt of this order; and it is further

ORDERED that if the Respondent does not submit a timely written request to the Board for a post-deprivation show cause hearing, or if the Respondent requests a post-deprivation show cause hearing but fails to appear when scheduled, the investigative findings contained in this Order shall stand and the Respondent's pharmacy technician registration will remain **SUSPENDED** absent any further action by the Board; and be it further

ORDERED that this is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** pursuant to the Maryland Public Information Act. Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 – 4-601 (2019 Repl. Vol. & 2023 Supp.).

5-23-24

Date



Deena Speights-Napata M.A.
Executive Director
Maryland Board of Pharmacy