



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

April 14, 2026

**VIA CERTIFIED & REGULAR MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED  
ARTICLE # 7021 0350 0001 7157 0672**

Merritt Star Pharmacy  
1576 Merritt Blvd., Suite 12  
Baltimore, Maryland 21222  
Attn: Fawad Shaikh, R.Ph., Pharmacy Manager

Re: Permit No. P05831  
Case No. 26-113  
Notice of Deficiencies, Recommended Civil Monetary Penalty, and  
Opportunity for Hearing

Dear Pharmacy Manager:

On October 23, 2025, the Maryland Board of Pharmacy (the "Board") conducted an annual inspection of Merritt Star Pharmacy (the "Pharmacy") 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 prescription drug storage. Specifically, the Board's inspector conducted a spot check of the Pharmacy's inventory and noted approximately 26 expired medications. The Board notes that some of the expired drugs listed on the inspection report expired before the Pharmacy's last inspection on November 22, 2024, during which a spot check of the inventory also noted expired medications. The Board's records also reflect that the Pharmacy paid a fine in 2019 for repeated findings of outdated medications in its inventory.

### **I. FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION**

The Board finds that the Pharmacy had approximately 26 expired medications in its inventory noted on its October 23, 2025, inspection, some of which expired prior to the Board's inspection on November 22, 2024. The Pharmacy was advised of the expired medications during the November 2024 inspection.

Based upon the deficiencies noted at your Pharmacy, the Board finds the Pharmacy is in violation of the Maryland Pharmacy Act and the regulations adopted thereunder. Specifically, the Board finds the Pharmacy is in violation of Health Occ. Art. §§ 12-403(c)(1) and (c)(12), and COMAR 10.34.12.01.

## **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 October 23, 2025.

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 ACTION REQUIRED AND INSPECTION**

Within 14 days of receipt of this notice, the Pharmacy shall submit documentation of the appropriate return or disposal of the expired medications noted on the Inspection Report.

Please also 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 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 deficiencies cited above, 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 MD - Board of Pharmacy  
Lockbox 2051  
101 Woodcrest Road, Suite 201  
Cherryhill, New Jersey 08003

**NOTE: Please include the case number, 26-113, 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 October 23, 2025, 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 443-635-8318.

Sincerely,



Deena Speights-Napata, M.A.  
Executive Director

cc: Linda Bethman, AAG, Board Counsel