



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

*Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr. Governor – Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor – Dennis R. Schrader,
Secretary*

MARYLAND BOARD OF PHARMACY

4201 Patterson Avenue • Baltimore, Maryland 21215-2299

Mitra Gavani, Board President – Deena Speights-Napata, Executive Director

VIA REGULAR & CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
ARTICLE #2016 0750 0001 0747 6058

May 30, 2017

Sinu Refuah Pharmacy
211 Reisterstown Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21208
Attn: Mehrah Behnamfard, R.Ph

Re: Permit No. P04471
Case No: PI-16-183
Notice of Deficiencies, Recommended Civil Monetary Penalty, and
Opportunity for Hearing

Dear Mr. Behnamfard:

On January 7, 2016, the Maryland Board of Pharmacy (the "Board") conducted an annual inspection of Sinu Refuah Pharmacy (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 medication inventory. Specifically, the Board inspector noted approximately 6 outdated drugs, primarily consisting of bulk compounding substances. The Board's records also indicate that the Pharmacy had outdated drugs in its inventory on its last two inspections of September 30, 2014 and July 13, 2013.

I. FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

The Board adopts as findings the deficiencies as stated in the Board's inspection report, dated January 7, 2016, and attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Based upon deficiencies at your Pharmacy, the Board finds that the Pharmacy is in

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violation of the Maryland Pharmacy Act and the regulations adopted thereunder. Specifically, the Board finds the Pharmacy in violation of Health Occ. Art. §§ 12-403(b)(1) and (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 Exhibit A.

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 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., 1st 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 the Pharmacy's 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 fails to appear, the Board may nevertheless hear and determine the matter in the Pharmacy's 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:

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

NOTE: Please include the case number, PI-16-183, 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 inspection of January 7, 2016, 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 M. Bethman, Board Counsel