

IN THE MATTER OF

\*

BEFORE THE

LEE A. SWITZER

\*

MARYLAND STATE

Respondent

\*

BOARD OF PHARMACY

Registration No. T29856

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Case No. 25-171(A)

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**ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION  
OF REGISTRATION TO PRACTICE AS A PHARMACY TECHNICIAN**

The Maryland State Board of Pharmacy (the “Board”) hereby **SUMMARILY SUSPENDS** the registration of **LEE A. SWITZER** (the “Respondent”), Registration Number **T29856**, to practice as a pharmacy technician in the State of Maryland. The Board takes such action pursuant to its authority under Md. Code Ann., State Gov’t § 10-226(c) (2021 Repl. Vol. & 2024 Supp.) and Md. Code Regs. (“COMAR”) 10.34.01.12, having concluded that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action.

**INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS**<sup>1</sup>

1. At all relevant times, the Respondent was registered to practice as a pharmacy technician in the State of Maryland under registration number T29856. The Respondent’s pharmacy technician registration was initially issued on or about March 7, 2024. The Respondent’s registration is active through August 31, 2025.

2. At all relevant times, the Respondent was employed as a pharmacy technician at a national pharmacy chain (the “Pharmacy”)<sup>2</sup> location in Dunkirk, Maryland.

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<sup>1</sup> The statements regarding the Respondent’s conduct are intended to provide the Respondent with reasonable notice of the basis for the Board’s action. They are not intended as, and do not necessarily represent, a complete description of the evidence to be offered against the Respondent in this matter.

<sup>2</sup> For confidentiality and privacy purposes, the names of individuals and facilities involved in this case are

3. On or about March 21, 2025, the Pharmacy notified the Board that, after completing an internal investigation, it concluded that the Respondent stole a significant amount of tramadol<sup>3</sup> from the Dunkirk location, and the Pharmacy sent the Board a copy of the Drug Enforcement Agency (“DEA”) Report of Theft or Loss of Controlled Substances Form (“DEA Form 106”) for the theft, dated March 10, 2025.

4. In the DEA Form 106, the Pharmacy reported a total loss of 1,702 tablets of 50mg tramadol, with an estimated purchase value of \$1,415, from the Dunkirk location due to employee theft. The Pharmacy reported that it terminated the Respondent’s employment after concluding an internal investigation in which the Respondent admitted to stealing approximately 200 tablets of 50mg tramadol, and other evidence indicated that she was responsible for the loss of additional 50mg tramadol tablets beyond what she admitted to. The Pharmacy listed the following controlled substances as lost / stolen:

	Substance	NDC No.	Dosage	Quantity
1	TRAMADOL HCL	00093005805	50 mg tablet	121
2	TRAMADOL HCL	72888008001	50 mg tablet	3
3	TRAMADOL HCL	00093330105	50 mg tablet	307
4	TRAMADOL HCL	57664037708	50 mg tablet	241
5	TRAMADOL HCL	57664037718	50 mg tablet	2
6	TRAMADOL HCL	60219234807	50 mg tablet	1,008
7	TRAMADOL HCL	60219234805	50 mg tablet	20

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not disclosed in this document. The Respondent may obtain the names of all individuals referenced in this document by contacting the administrative prosecutor.

<sup>3</sup> Tramadol is a Schedule IV opioid analgesic generally prescribed to treat moderate to severe pain in adults.

5. As part of the Board's investigation, the Board obtained, *inter alia*, video footage from the Pharmacy's internal surveillance system and documents from the Pharmacy's internal investigation.

**Pharmacy Internal Investigation**

6. The Pharmacy first discovered the loss of 50mg tramadol tablets from the Dunkirk location on or about October 7, 2024. While the internal investigation was pending, the Pharmacy discovered additional variances in the Dunkirk location's count for 50mg tramadol tablets, including a - 232 tablet variance on or about January 18, 2025, and a cycle count variance of - 111 tablets between December 24, 2024 and January 5, 2025.

7. Upon the discovery of the December 2024 and January 2025 variances, the Pharmacy's Divisional Diversion Manager ("DDM") reviewed the relevant records in the Pharmacy's computer system and video footage from the Pharmacy's internal surveillance system for that time period, which revealed that the Respondent had been stealing 50mg tramadol tablets from the Pharmacy.

8. Video footage from the Pharmacy's internal surveillance system shows that the Respondent stole medication from the Dunkirk location on December 27, 2024, January 1, 2025, January 22, 2025, and January 27, 2025, by taking tablets from a stock bottle and placing them in her sock or shoe.

9. On January 30, 2025, the Pharmacy's DDM interviewed the Respondent in the presence of a Pharmacy District Asset Protection Leader ("DAPL"). The interview was memorialized in the DDM's notes, a two-page written statement by the DAPL, and a two-



page written statement by the Respondent. During the interview, the Respondent admitted to stealing approximately 200 tablets of 50mg tramadol from the Dunkirk location – specifically, she admitted that she stole tramadol from the Pharmacy about 10 times, and that she stole approximately 20 tablets each time.

10. In the Respondent’s written statement, which she signed and affirmed as true, she admitted that she took 50mg tramadol tablets from the Dunkirk location on multiple occasions and explained, “While filling prescriptions[,] I put it under the computer and poured some into my hand and put it in my shoe.” The Respondent also signed a promissory note agreeing to make restitution to the Pharmacy in the amount of \$158.99.

11. At the conclusion of the interview, the Pharmacy suspended the Respondent and called the Calvert County Sheriff’s Office, who responded and issued the Respondent a criminal citation.

### **Criminal Cases**

12. Based on the conduct described above, the Respondent was criminally charged in two cases in the District Court of Maryland for Calvert County. In case number D-041-CR-25-000279, the Respondent was charged with five counts of theft for stealing tramadol from the Pharmacy on multiple occasions between December 17, 2024 and January 27, 2025. In case number D-041-CR-25-060021, the Respondent was charged with one count of theft for stealing tramadol from the Pharmacy on January 30, 2025.

13. On July 2, 2025, the Respondent appeared for trial in the criminal matters and pleaded guilty to one count of misdemeanor Theft Scheme: \$100 to < \$1,500 in case

number D-041-CR-25-000279. The other charges were dismissed pursuant to her plea agreement. The Respondent's sentencing hearing is currently scheduled for October 10, 2025.

### **CONCLUSIONS 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 Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-226(c)(2) and COMAR 10.34.01.12.

### **ORDER**

Based on the foregoing Investigative Findings and Conclusions of Law, it is this 9<sup>th</sup> day of July 2025, by a majority 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) (2021 Repl. Vol. & 2024 Supp.), the registration to practice as a pharmacy technician in the State of Maryland issued to the Respondent, **LEE A. SWITZER**, registration number **T29856**, is **SUMMARILY SUSPENDED**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent is prohibited from practicing as a pharmacy technician in the State of Maryland; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall immediately return all registrations 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 made in writing **WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that if the Respondent does not request a post-deprivation show cause hearing in writing within thirty (30) days, or if the Respondent requests a post-deprivation show cause hearing but fails to appear when scheduled, the Respondent's registration will remain **SUSPENDED**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that this **ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION** is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 *et seq.*

7-9-25  
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Date

  
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Deena Speights-Napata, M.A., Executive Director