

IN THE MATTER OF

LEE A. SWITZER

Respondent

Registration No. T29856

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BEFORE THE MARYLAND

STATE BOARD OF

PHARMACY

Case No. 25-171(A)

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FINAL ORDER OF REVOCATION
OF PHARMACY TECHNICIAN REGISTRATION

The Maryland State Board of Pharmacy (the "Board") notified LEE A. SWITZER (the "Respondent"), Registration Number T29856, of the Board's intent to revoke her registration to practice as a pharmacy technician in the State of Maryland under the Maryland Pharmacy Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 12-101 *et seq.* (2021 Repl. Vol. and 2024 Supp.).

The Notice also informed the Respondent that, unless she requested a hearing in writing within thirty (30) days of receipt of said Notice, the Board would sign the Final Order, which was enclosed. More than thirty (30) days have elapsed, and the Respondent failed to timely request a hearing. Therefore, this revocation is final.

The Board bases its action on the Respondent's violation of the following provisions of the Act:

Health Occ. § 12-6B-09. Grounds for reprimand or denial, probation, suspension, or revocation of registration.

Subject to the hearing provision of § 12-315 of this title, the Board may deny a pharmacy technician's registration to any applicant, reprimand a registered pharmacy technician, place any pharmacy technician's registration on probation, or suspend or revoke a

pharmacy technician's registration if the applicant or pharmacy technician registrant:

...

- (3) Fraudulently uses a pharmacy technician's registration;

...

- (22) Pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to, or has been found guilty of, a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude, regardless of whether: (i) An adjudication of guilt or sentencing or imposition of sentence is withheld; or (ii) Any appeal or other proceeding is pending regarding the matter;

...

- (27) Participates in any activity that is grounds for Board action under § 12-313 or § 12-409 of this title[.]

With respect to Health Occ. § 12-6B-09(27), the underlying grounds for

Board action under § 12-313 include:

Health Occ. § 12-313. Denials, reprimands, suspensions, and revocations – Grounds.

...

- (b) Subject to the hearing provision of § 12-315 of this subtitle, the Board, on the affirmative vote of a majority of its members then serving, may deny a license to any applicant for a pharmacist's license, reprimand any licensee, place any licensee on probation, or suspend or revoke a license of a pharmacist if the applicant or licensee:

...

- (25) Violates any rule or regulation adopted by the Board[.]

...

With respect to Health Occ. § 12-313(b)(25), the pertinent provisions of the regulations adopted by the Board are as follows:

**COMAR 10.34.10.01. Pharmacist and Pharmacy Technician
Code of Conduct – Patient Safety and Welfare.**

A. A pharmacist shall:

- (1) Abide by all federal and State laws relating to the practice of pharmacy and the dispensing, distribution, storage, and labeling of drugs and devices, including but not limited to:

- (a) United States Code, Title 21,

...

- (c) Health Occupations Article, Title 12, Annotated Code of Maryland, [and]

- (d) Criminal Law Article, Title 5, Annotated Code of Maryland[.]

...

B. A pharmacist may not:

...

- (3) Engage in unprofessional conduct.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Board finds the following facts:

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 currently suspended.¹

2. At all relevant times, the Respondent was employed as a pharmacy technician at a national pharmacy chain (the "Pharmacy")² location in Dunkirk, Maryland.

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 tramadol³ 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:

¹ On July 9, 2025, the Board issued an Order summarily suspending the Respondent's registration to practice as a pharmacy technician pursuant to its authority under Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-226(c)(2) and COMAR 10.34.01.12, having concluded that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively required emergency action in the case.

² For confidentiality and privacy purposes, the names of individuals and facilities involved in this case are not disclosed in this document. The Respondent may obtain the names of all individuals referenced in this document by contacting the administrative prosecutor.

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

	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

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.

14. Based on the above information, the Board finds that the Respondent diverted controlled substances from the Pharmacy she was employed by on multiple occasions in late 2024 and early 2025 and pleaded guilty to a crime involving moral turpitude on July 2, 2025.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes that the Respondent's conduct constitutes grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to the Act, Md.

Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 12-6B-09 (3), (22) and (27), and Health Occ. § 12-313(b)(25),
and COMAR 10.34.10.01(A)(1) and (B)(3).

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is this 19th
day of November 2025, by a majority of the quorum of the Board, hereby:

ORDERED that the registration to practice as a pharmacy technician in the State of
Maryland held by the Respondent, **LEE A. SWITZER**, Registration Number T29856, is
REVOKED; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent shall return to the Board all Maryland pharmacy
technician registrations within ten (10) days of the date of this Order; and it is further

ORDERED that the effective date of this Order is the date that it is signed by the
Board; and it is further

ORDERED that this is a Final Order of the Maryland State Board of Pharmacy and
as such is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. § 4-333(b).

11-19-2025

Date



Kristopher Rusinko, PharmD
President, Maryland State Board of Pharmacy

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

Pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 12-316, the Respondent has the right to seek judicial review of this Order. Any petition for judicial review shall be filed within thirty (30) days of service of this Order and shall be made as provided for in the Administrative Procedure Act, Md. Code Ann., State Gov't §§ 10-201 *et seq.*, and Title 7, Chapter 200 of the Maryland Rules.

If the Respondent files a petition for judicial review, the Board is a party and shall be served with the court's process at the following address:

Maryland State Board of Pharmacy
Deena Speights-Napata, MA, Executive Director
4201 Patterson Avenue, 5th Floor
Baltimore, Maryland 21215