

IN THE MATTER OF * **BEFORE THE**
RYANN TAYLOR, PHARM TECH * **STATE BOARD**
Registration No.: T17843 * **OF**
Respondent * **PHARMACY**
* **Case No. PT-16-026**

* * * * *

ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Pursuant to Md. State Gov't. (SG) Code Ann. §10-226 (c) (2) (2014 Repl. Vol. II), the State Board of Pharmacy (the "Board") hereby suspends the registration to practice as a Pharmacy Technician (Pharm Tech) in Maryland issued to **RYANN TAYLOR** , (the "Respondent"), under the Maryland Pharmacy Act (the "Act"), Md. Health Occ. Code Ann. §§ 12-101 *et seq.* (2014 Repl. Vol. II). 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 Maryland. The Respondent was first registered on March 29, 2016. The Respondent's registration expires on August 31, 2017.
2. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was employed as a Pharmacy Technician at a chain pharmacy in Riverdale, Prince George's County, Maryland, hereinafter "Pharmacy A."²

¹ The allegations set forth in these charges are intended to provide the Respondent with notice of the Board's action. 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 these charges.

² The names of the individuals and facilities are confidential but may be disclosed to the Respondent upon contacting the Administrative Prosecutor.

3. On or about June 4, 2016, the Board received documentation from Pharmacy A indicating that it had identified a theft or loss of controlled substances and had begun an investigation.

4. By documentation dated June 13, 2016, the Board received further information from Pharmacy A as follows:

A. Pharmacy A reviewed video footage and observed the following:

- (1) On May 20, 2016, the pharmacist was seen removing a bottle of Oxycodone³ from the safe and filling a script;
- (2) The remaining pills were not immediately put in the safe but were left on production where the Respondent was observed removing the basket with other drugs in them and returning them to their shelves;
- (3) When the Respondent returned, the bottle of Oxycodone was not returned to the pharmacist;
- (4) On May 24, 2016, the Respondent was observed removing a prescription bag from the production table and was then seen removing its contents and tucking the contents under her lab jacket;
- (5) The Respondent was then seen shielding herself with her lab jacket while making a concealing motion. After hanging up the jacket, the Respondent exited the pharmacy;

³ Oxycodone is an opioid pain medication. An opioid is sometimes called a narcotic. Oxycodone is used to treat moderate to severe pain.

(6) On May 26, 2016, the Respondent was observed removing several prescriptions from the production counter, appearing to consolidate the bags into one. The Respondent was observed at production placing a phone call on her cell phone, and then proceeding to the pick-up area;

(7) Minutes later, two males appear to be waiting but did not enter the line until the Respondent had no customers in front of her;

(8) The Respondent provided one of the males with a prescription, and once the individuals left, the Respondent followed and was gone for five minutes;

(9) On May 31, 2016, the Respondent was observed going to the pick-up window from production. A young female was observed pacing near the line but never entered the line until the Respondent was free, at which time, the Respondent gave the female a prescription bag and the female exited the pharmacy;

B. In an undated report, the Supervising Pharmacist at Pharmacy A relayed the following:

(1) He was informed by "Corporate" that Pharmacy A could potentially have some discrepancies in Alprazolam⁴, 1 and 2 mg;

(2) During the course of the investigation, it was discovered that there were numerous instances where the Respondent modified the reports to reflect that the on-hand amounts of Alprazolam had been reset to either zero or reduced;

⁴ Alprazolam is used to treat anxiety disorders, panic disorders, and anxiety.

- (3) The ordering patterns for Alprazolam for the month of May were researched and it was determined that the drugs were ordered on the Respondent's shifts for several days;
 - (4) Based on video surveillance, it was determined that there were several potential instances of the Respondent's concealing drugs upon her person;
 - (5) In addition, there were two known instances of the incorrect prescription being sold to the incorrect individual.
- C. On June 2, 2016, the Pharmacist-in-Charge had discovered that the Respondent had given two prescriptions to customers to whom they did not belong, via the pick-up window;
 - D. It was also established that the Respondent was seen on video picking up a prescription at closing time from the production counter, walking near the trash can, and palming the prescription under her lab jacket and then leaving Pharmacy A;
 - E. Based upon the above, the Respondent was interviewed by Pharmacy A's Regional Loss Prevention Manager (RLPM), in the presence of the Pharmacist-in-Charge. The Respondent denied giving a prescription away. The Respondent then looked at her phone and replied "yes" when asked whether she needed to make a call. The Respondent then exited the office and used the phone for approximately seven minutes, pacing in front of the store. The RLPM then informed the Respondent that they needed to finish the interview. The RLPM headed back to the

office, whereupon the Respondent got in her car and drove out of the parking lot;

F. Based upon the original issue of an unnamed subject receiving controlled medication, the police were called and viewed the video footage. The RLPM provided the officer with the driver's license of the individual who picked up the medication;

G. The Respondent later sent a fax message that she had "quit" and would not be finishing the interview.

5. Pharmacy A filed a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) "Report of Theft Or Loss of Controlled Substances", as follows, *inter alia*:

A. Pharmacy A stated that the loss was due to employee pilferage;

B. Pharmacy A stated that the total loss was \$1748;

C. Pharmacy A stated that the employee was terminated and that all loss prevention policy and procedures will be reviewed with the pharmacy team, including diligent inventory management, bag and smock checks, as well as no personal items allowed in the pharmacy;

D. The stolen drugs were listed as follows:

(1) Alprazolam, 1 mg	2087 tablets;
(2) Alprazolam, 2 mg	837 tablets;
(3) Oxycontin ⁵ , 20 mg	60 tablets;
(4) Alprazolam, .05 mg	110 tablets.

⁵ OxyContin is a prescription narcotic pain reliever. Its active ingredient is oxycodone, a derivative of opium. When taken orally and as prescribed, it may last up to 12 hours.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing, the Board finds that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, pursuant to Md. St. Gov't. Code Ann. §10-226 (c) (2) (2014 Repl. Vol. II.).

ORDER

Based on the foregoing, it is therefore this 2nd day of September, 2016, by a majority vote of a quorum of the State Board of Pharmacy, by authority granted to the Board by Md. St. Gov't. Code Ann. §10-226 (c) (2) (2014 Repl. Vol. II), the registration held by the Respondent to practice as a Pharmacy Technician in Maryland, Registration No. T17843 is hereby **SUMMARILY SUSPENDED**; and be it further

ORDERED that upon the Board's receipt of a written request from the Respondent, a Show Cause Hearing shall be scheduled within a reasonable time of said request, at which the Respondent will be given an opportunity to be heard as to whether the Summary Suspension should be continued, regarding the Respondent's fitness to practice as a Pharmacy Technician and the danger to the public; and be it further

ORDERED, that the Respondent shall immediately turn over to the Board her wall certificate and wallet-sized registration to practice as a Pharmacy Technician issued by the Board; and be it further

ORDERED, that this document constitutes a final Order of the Board and is, Therefore, a public document for purposes of public disclosure, as required by Md. Code Ann. Gen. Prov., §§ 4-101 *et seq.* (2014 Vol.).


Deena Speights-Kapata, Executive Director
Board of Pharmacy

NOTICE OF HEARING

A Show Cause hearing to determine whether the Summary Suspension shall be continued will be held before the Board at 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, 21215 following a written request by the Respondent for same.