

IN THE MATTER OF
JUSTICE D. WOODS, ATC

Respondent

License Number: A0001540

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BEFORE THE

MARYLAND STATE

BOARD OF PHYSICIANS

Case Number: 2225-0136A

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CONSENT ORDER

On August 12, 2025, Disciplinary Panel A of the Maryland State Board of Physicians (the “Board”) charged **JUSTICE D. WOODS, ATC** (the “Respondent”), License Number A0001540, under the Maryland Athletic Trainers Act (the “Act”), codified at Md. Code Ann., Health Occupations (“Health Occ.”) §§ 14-5D-01 *et seq.* (2021 Repl. Vol. & 2024 Supp.).

Specifically, Disciplinary Panel A charged the Respondent with violating the following provision of the Act under Health Occ. § 14-5D-14:

- (a) Subject to the hearing provisions of § 14-405 of this title, a disciplinary panel, on the affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum of the disciplinary panel, may deny a license to any applicant, reprimand any licensee, place any licensee on probation, or suspend or revoke a license, if the applicant or licensee:

....

- (17) Is disciplined by a licensing, certifying, or disciplinary authority or is convicted by a court of any state or country or is disciplined by any branch of the United States uniformed services or the Veterans Administration for an act that would be grounds for disciplinary action under this section[.]

With respect to Health Occ. § 14-5D-14(a)(17), the underlying grounds for action included the following provisions:

Health Occ. § 14-5D-14

- (a) Subject to the hearing provisions of § 14-405 of this title, a disciplinary panel, on the affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum of the disciplinary panel, may deny a license to any applicant, reprimand any licensee, place any licensee on probation, or suspend or revoke a license, if the applicant or licensee:
 - (3) Is guilty of unprofessional conduct or immoral conduct in the practice of athletic training[.]

Health Occ. § 1-212. Sexual misconduct prohibited; regulations; discipline.

- (a) *Adoption of regulations.* – Each health occupations board authorized to issue a license or certificate under this article shall adopt regulations that:
 - (1) Prohibit sexual misconduct; and
 - (2) Provide for the discipline of a licensee or certificate holder found to be guilty of sexual misconduct.
- (b) For the purposes of the regulations adopted in accordance with subsection (a) of this section, “sexual misconduct” shall be construed to include, at a minimum, behavior where a health care provider:
 - (1) Has engaged in sexual behavior with a client or patient in the context of a professional evaluation, treatment, procedure, or other service to the client or patient, regardless of the setting in which professional services is provided; [and]
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 - (3) Has engaged in any sexual behavior that would be considered unethical or unprofessional according to the code of ethics, or regulations of the appropriate health occupations board under this article.

COMAR 10.32.17.03 Sexual Misconduct.

- C. Sexual misconduct includes, but is not limited to:
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- (6) Engaging in a dating, romantic, or sexual relationship which violates § D of this regulation or the code of ethics of the American Medical Association, American Osteopathic Association, American Psychiatric Association, or other professional code of ethics[.]

D. Sexual or Romantic Relationships. A health care practitioner may not engage in sexual behavior with:

- (1) A current patient[.]

On October 15, 2025, Panel A was convened as a Disciplinary Committee for Case Resolution (“DCCR”) in this matter. Based on the negotiations occurring as a result of this DCCR, the Respondent agreed to enter into this Consent Order, consisting of Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order, and Consent.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Disciplinary Panel A finds:

I. BACKGROUND

1. The Respondent was originally licensed to practice athletic training in Maryland on May 4, 2023, under License Number A0001540. The Respondent’s license is current through September 30, 2025, subject to renewal.

2. The Respondent was employed as a staff athletic trainer at an educational institution (the “Institution”)¹ in the District of Columbia from July 11, 2022, until his termination on February 15, 2023.

¹ For confidentiality and privacy purposes, the names of individuals and health care facilities involved in this case are not disclosed in this document. The Respondent may obtain the names of all individuals and health care facilities referenced in this document by contacting the administrative prosecutor.

3. On or about January 6, 2025, the Board received a complaint from the Board of Certification for Athletic Trainers (“BOC”) reporting that it recently took disciplinary action against the Respondent. BOC made available for the Board a copy of the Consent Agreement between BOC and the Respondent.

4. After receiving the report from BOC, the Board initiated an investigation of the Respondent.

II. BOARD INVESTIGATION

5. As part of its investigation, the Board obtained BOC’s administrative and investigative files on the Respondent.

6. The Board’s investigation revealed that on or about January 5, 2025, the Respondent entered into a Consent Agreement (the “Consent Agreement”) with BOC in which he was placed on probation for three years with terms and conditions, including but not limited to completing six hours of courses in professional ethics and other reporting requirements. The effective date of the Consent Agreement was December 9, 2024.

7. As part of the Consent Agreement, the Respondent stipulated to the following:

On September 10, 2024, in response to an Investigation Notice sent by the BOC, the Respondent stated they admit to “intimate involvement with a female student athlete while he was employed as a Staff Athletic Trainer.” Respondent states they “recollects on two occasions he was asked by a colleague who was going to be traveling, to be available for the female athlete should she need assistance during her one-hour rehab therapy sessions” and that “an intimate encounter may have occurred around the same period of the second time [Respondent] provided similar support for the athlete.

Respondent's conduct as described above violates the Code of Professional Responsibilities ("Code") 1.6 of the BOC *Standards of Professional Practice* ("BOC Practice Standards"). Code 1.6 states, "Does not engage in intimate or sexual activity with a patient and/or parent/guardian of a minor patient."

8. The Board's investigation further revealed that the Respondent initially met the female student athlete (the "Student") in or around September 2022. The Student was an 18-year-old freshman member of an athletic team at the Institution where the Respondent was employed as a staff athletic trainer.²

9. From in or around September to November 2022, the interactions between the Respondent and the Student were related to athletic training.

10. In or around December 2022, when the Student went home for winter vacation, the text exchanges between the Respondent and the Student became more flirtatious and inappropriate.

11. In or around January 2022, when the Student returned to the Institution, she met with the Respondent privately for the first time in his car. The Respondent drove the Student around the neighborhood by the Institution during which he asked her sexually related questions. Before dropping the Student off at the Institution, the Respondent and the Student began kissing during which the Respondent made sexual contact with the Student.

12. On or about February 4, 2023, the Respondent drove the Student to a hotel where he provided her with alcoholic drinks, and they had sexual intercourse.

² The Respondent did not work directly with the Student's athletic team but would provide coverage for them sometimes.

13. On or about February 15, 2023, the Respondent was terminated from the Institution for reasons unrelated to his interactions with the Student.

14. Between on or about February 22, 2023, to April 19, 2023, the Respondent and the Student engaged in sexual acts and had sexual intercourse twice more in his car. During this time, the Respondent also asked the Student to send him sexually explicit images and videos of herself, which she did. April 19, 2023, was the last time the Student met with the Respondent in person, though they continued to communicate with each other throughout the Fall of 2023. November 4, 2023, was the last time the Student communicated with the Respondent.

15. In a typed statement to the Board dated April 4, 2024, the Respondent admitted “engaging in an intimate relationship with an adult student athlete between November 2022 and the spring semester of 2023.” The Respondent also admitted to BOC having taken disciplinary action against his certificate.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, Disciplinary Panel A concludes as a matter of law that the Respondent’s placement on probation for three-years with terms and conditions for engaging in sexual activity with a patient pursuant to his Consent Agreement with BOC constitutes being disciplined by a certifying authority for an act that would be grounds for disciplinary action under the Board’s disciplinary statutes, *i.e.* Health Occ. § 14-5D-14(a)(3) and the Board’s sexual misconduct regulations, in violation of Health Occ. § 14-5D-14(a)(17).

ORDER

It is, on the affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum of Disciplinary Panel A,
hereby:

ORDERED that the Respondent is **REPRIMANDED**; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent is placed on **PROBATION**³ for a minimum of
TWENTY SEVEN (27) MONTHS. During probation, the Respondent shall comply with
the following terms and conditions of probation:

- (1) The Respondent shall enroll in the Maryland Professional Rehabilitation
Program (MPRP) as follows:
- (a) Within 5 business days, the Respondent shall contact MPRP to schedule an
initial consultation for enrollment;
 - (b) Within 15 business days, the Respondent shall enter into a
Participant Rehabilitation Agreement and Participant Rehabilitation Plan
with MPRP;
 - (c) the Respondent shall fully and timely cooperate and comply with
all MPRP's referrals, rules, and requirements, including, but not limited
to, the terms and conditions of the Participant Rehabilitation
Agreement(s) and Participant Rehabilitation Plan(s) entered with MPRP,
and shall fully participate and comply with all therapy, treatment,
evaluations, and screenings as directed by MPRP;
 - (d) the Respondent shall sign and update the written release/consent
forms requested by the Board and MPRP, including release/consent forms
to authorize MPRP to make verbal and written disclosures to the Board
and to authorize the Board to disclose relevant information from
MPRP records and files in a public order. The Respondent shall not
withdraw his release/consent;

³ If the Respondent's license expires during the period of probation, the probation and any conditions will
be tolled.

- (e) the Respondent shall also sign any written release/consent forms to authorize MPRP to exchange with (i.e., disclose to and receive from) outside entities (including all of the Respondent's current therapists and treatment providers) verbal and written information concerning the Respondent and to ensure that MPRP is authorized to receive the medical records of the Respondent, including, but not limited to, mental health and drug or alcohol evaluation and treatment records. The Respondent shall not withdraw his release/consent;
- (f) if, upon the authorization of MPRP, the Respondent transfers to a rehabilitation program in another state, the Respondent's failure to comply with any term or condition of that state's rehabilitation program, constitutes a violation of this Consent Order. The Respondent shall also sign any out-of-state written release/consent forms to authorize the Board to exchange with (i.e., disclose to and receive from) the out-of-state program verbal and written information concerning the Respondent, and to ensure that the Board is authorized to receive the medical records of the Respondent, including, but not limited to, mental health and drug or alcohol evaluation and treatment records. The Respondent shall not withdraw the release/consent;
- (g) the Respondent's failure to comply with any of the above terms or conditions including terms or conditions of the Participant Rehabilitation Agreement(s) or Participant Rehabilitation Plan(s) constitutes a violation of this Consent Order;

(2) Within **SIX (6) MONTHS**, the Respondent is required to take and successfully complete a course in Appropriate Professional Boundaries. The following terms apply:

- (a) it is the Respondent's responsibility to locate, enroll in and obtain the disciplinary panel's approval of the course before the course is begun;
- (b) the Respondent must provide documentation to the disciplinary panel that the Respondent has successfully completed the course;
- (c) the course may not be used to fulfill the continuing medical education credits required for license renewal;
- (d) the Respondent is responsible for the cost of the course;

(3) Within **TEN (10) DAYS**, the Respondent shall provide a copy of this Consent Order to his current employer and any prospective employer before the start of his employment;

(4) Within **ONE (1) YEAR**, the Respondent shall pay a civil fine of **ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000)**. The payment shall be by certified check or money order made payable to the Maryland Board of Physicians, P.O. Box 37217, Baltimore, MD 21297. The Board will not renew or reinstate the Respondent's license if the Respondent fails to pay the fine; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent shall not apply for early termination of probation; and it is further

ORDERED that, after the Respondent has complied with all terms and conditions of probation and MPRP determines that it is safe to return to the practice of Athletic Training without monitoring, the Respondent may submit a written petition for termination of probation. After consideration of the petition, the Respondent's probation may be terminated through an order of the disciplinary panel. The Respondent may be required to appear before the disciplinary panel to discuss his petition for termination. The disciplinary panel may grant the petition to terminate the probation through an order of the disciplinary panel if the Respondent has complied with all probationary terms and conditions and there are no pending complaints relating to the charges; and it is further; and it is further

ORDERED that a violation of probation constitutes a violation of the Consent Order; and it is further

ORDERED that, if the Respondent allegedly fails to comply with any term or condition imposed by this Consent Order, the Respondent shall be given notice and an opportunity for a hearing. If the disciplinary panel determines there is a genuine dispute as to a material fact, the hearing shall be before an Administrative Law Judge of the Office of Administrative Hearings followed by an exceptions process before a disciplinary panel; and if the disciplinary panel determines there is no genuine dispute as to a material fact, the Respondent shall be given a show cause hearing before a disciplinary panel; and it is further

ORDERED that after the appropriate hearing, if the disciplinary panel determines that the Respondent has failed to comply with any term or condition imposed by this Consent Order, the disciplinary panel may reprimand the Respondent, place the Respondent on probation with appropriate terms and conditions, or suspend with appropriate terms and conditions, or revoke the Respondent's license to practice medicine in Maryland. The disciplinary panel may, in addition to one or more of the sanctions set forth above, impose a civil monetary fine on the Respondent; and it is further

ORDERED that this Consent Order shall not be amended or modified and future requests for modification will not be considered; and it is further,

ORDERED that the Respondent is responsible for all costs incurred in fulfilling the terms and conditions of this Consent Order; and it is further

ORDERED that the effective date of the Consent Order is the date the Consent Order is signed by the Executive Director of the Board or her designee. The Executive

Director or her designee signs the Consent Order on behalf of the disciplinary panel which has imposed the terms and conditions of this Consent Order; and it is further

ORDERED that this Consent Order is a public document. *See* Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 1-607, 14-411.1(b)(2) and Gen. Prov. § 4-333(b)(6).

11/12/2025
Date

Signature on file

Christine A. Farrelly
Executive Director
Maryland State Board of Physicians

CONSENT

I, Justice Woods, ATC, acknowledge that I have consulted with counsel before signing this document.

By this Consent, I agree to be bound by this Consent Order and all its terms and conditions and understand that the disciplinary panel will not entertain any request for amendments or modifications to any condition.

I assert that I am aware of my right to a formal evidentiary hearing, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 14-405 and Md. Code Ann., State Gov't §§ 10-201 et seq. concerning the pending Charges. I waive this right and have elected to sign this Consent Order instead.

I acknowledge the validity and enforceability of this Consent Order as if entered after the conclusion of a formal evidentiary hearing in which I would have had the right to counsel, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to call witnesses on my behalf, and to all other substantive and procedural protections as provided by law. I waive those procedural

and substantive protections. I acknowledge the legal authority and the jurisdiction of the disciplinary panel to initiate these proceedings and to issue and enforce this Consent Order.

I voluntarily enter into and agree to comply with the terms and conditions set forth in the Consent Order as a resolution of the charges. I waive any right to contest the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and Order set out in the Consent Order. I waive all rights to appeal this Consent Order.

I sign this Consent Order, without reservation, and fully understand the language and meaning of its terms.

Signature on file

11/10/25
Date

Justice Woods, ATC

NOTARY

STATE OF District of Columbia

CITY/COUNTY OF District of Columbia

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 10 day of

November 2025, before me, a Notary Public of the foregoing

State and City/County, Justice Woods, ATC personally appeared and made oath in due form of law that signing the foregoing Consent Order was his voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESSTH my hand and notarial seal.

Priscilla Berth
Notary Public

My commission expires: 07/14/2029

