IN THE MATTER OF

\* BEFORE THE

COLLINA O. AFRIYIE, PA-C

\* MARYLAND STATE

Respondent

\* BOARD OF PHYSICIANS

License Number: C05636

\* Case Number: 7721-0027A

## ORDER TERMINATING SUSPENSION AND IMPOSING PROBATION

On September 2, 2020, Collina O. Afriyie, PA-C and Disciplinary Panel A ("Panel A") of the Maryland State Board of Physicians (the "Board") entered into a Consent Order. Under the terms of the Consent Order, Panel A suspended Ms. Afriyie's physician assistant license for a minimum period of six months, and the Consent Order required Ms. Afriyie to enroll in the Maryland Professional Rehabilitation Program ("MPRP"), comply with MPRP's requirements, and successfully complete a course in professional ethics and a course in CDS Prescribing.

On March 15, 2021, MPRP provided a written update to Panel A on Ms. Afriyie's ongoing participation in, and compliance with, MPRP. MPRP endorsed Ms. Afriyie's return to the practice of medicine and noted that Ms. Afriyie complied with MPRP's requirements and completed the two courses required by the Board. On March 23, 2021, Ms. Afriyie filed a written Petition to Lift Suspension. On April 14, 2021, Ms. Afriyie appeared before Panel A for consideration of her Petition.

Panel A finds that Ms. Afriyie has complied with the terms of the Consent Order and is safe to return to the practice of medicine if certain terms and conditions are in place. It is, thus, by Panel A, hereby

**ORDERED** that the suspension imposed under the September 2, 2020 Consent Order is **TERMINATED**; and it is further

ORDERED that Ms. Afriyie is placed on PROBATION for a minimum period of SIX (6) MONTHS.<sup>1</sup> During the probationary period, Ms. Afriyie shall comply with the following probationary terms and conditions:

- 1. Ms. Afriyie shall remain enrolled in the Maryland Professional Rehabilitation Program (MPRP) and shall:
  - (a) continue her Participant Rehabilitation Agreement and Participant Rehabilitation Plan with MPRP or be entered into an amended Participant Rehabilitation Agreement and Participant Rehabilitation Plan as determined by MPRP;
  - (b) 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 and Participant Rehabilitation Plan entered with MPRP, and shall fully participate and comply with all therapy, treatment, evaluations, and screenings as directed by MPRP;
  - (c) 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. Ms. Afriyie shall not withdraw his release/consent;
  - (d) sign and update the written release/consent forms as requested by the Board and MPRP. Ms. Afriyie shall sign the release/consent forms to authorize MPRP to make verbal and written disclosures to the Board, including disclosure of any and all MPRP records and files possessed by MPRP. Ms. Afriyie 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 Ms. Afriyie's current therapists and treatment providers) verbal and written information concerning Ms. Afriyie and to ensure that MPRP is authorized to receive the medical records of Ms. Afriyie, including, but not limited to, mental health and drug or alcohol treatment records. Ms. Afriyie shall not withdraw his release/consent;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, after a minimum period of SIX MONTHS, after the Respondent has complied with all terms and conditions of probation, and upon MPRP's determination that the Respondent can practice without additional monitoring, Ms. Afriyie may

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> If Ms. Afriyie's license expires while Ms. Afriyie is on probation, the probationary period and any probationary conditions will be tolled.

submit a written petition to the Board requesting termination of probation. After consideration of the petition, the probation may be terminated through an order of Panel A. Ms. Afriyie may be required to appear before Panel A to discuss his petition for termination or the Panel may choose to administratively terminate the probation. Panel A will grant the petition to terminate the probation if Ms. Afriyie has complied with all of the probationary terms and conditions, MPRP determines that Ms. Afriyie can practice without additional monitoring, and there are no pending complaints related to the charges; and it is further

ORDERED that, if Ms. Afriyie allegedly fails to comply with any term or condition of probation or this Order Terminating Suspension and Imposing Probation, Ms. Afriyie shall be given notice and an opportunity for a hearing. If 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 and, if there is no genuine dispute as to a material fact, Ms. Afriyie shall be given a show cause hearing before Panel A; and it is further

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

**ORDERED** that there shall be no early termination of probation; and it is further

**ORDERED** that Ms. Afriyie is responsible for all costs incurred in fulfilling the terms and conditions of this Order; and it is further

**ORDERED** that, unless stated otherwise in the order, any time period prescribed in this order begins when this Order goes into effect. This Order goes into effect upon the signature of the Board's Executive Director, who signs on behalf of Panel A; and it is further

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

04/23/2021 Date Signature on File

Christine A. Farrelly, Executive Director / Maryland State Board of Physicians