IN THE MATTER OF

BEFORE THE MARYLAND

DARRELL E. LEWIS, M.D.

* STATE BOARD OF

Respondent

PHYSICIANS

License Number: D76104

Case Number: 7724-0013 B

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FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

On June 12, 2023, Disciplinary Panel B ("Panel B") of the Maryland State Board of Physicians (the "Board") charged Darrell E. Lewis, M.D., License Number D76104, with unprofessional conduct in the practice of medicine, being professionally, physically, or mentally incompetent, willfully making or filing a false report in the practice of medicine, willfully making a misrepresentation in treatment, and selling, prescribing, giving away, or administering drugs for illegal or illegitimate medical purposes. *See* Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. ("Health Occ.") § 14-404(a) (3)(ii), (4), (11), (17) and (27). On August 18, 2023, Dr. Lewis resolved the charges against him through a Consent Order with Panel B that reprimanded him and suspended his medical license for a minimum of one year and until the Maryland Professional Rehabilitation Program ("MPRP") notified the Board that he was safe to return to the practice of medicine. On August 30, 2024, Panel B charged Dr. Lewis for violating the terms of his Consent Order by testing positive for an illicit substance in violation of his Participant Rehabilitation Agreement he entered into with MPRP.

The case was forwarded to the Office of Administrative Hearings ("OAH") for an evidentiary hearing and a proposed decision on whether Dr. Lewis violated the Consent Order he entered into with the Panel. On January 28, 2025, a hearing was held before an Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") at OAH. At the hearing, the State presented testimony from two witnesses and Dr. Lewis represented himself and testified on his own behalf.

On April 25, 2025, the ALJ issued a proposed decision concluding that Dr. Lewis ingested an illegal substance in violation of the Participant Rehabilitation Agreement he entered into with MPRP and the Consent Order he entered into with the Panel. The ALJ recommended that Dr. Lewis's license be suspended for a minimum of one year from the time he activates his license and until he successfully completes a rehabilitation plan with MPRP.¹

Neither party filed exceptions to the ALJ's proposed decision. On June 11, 2025, this matter came before Disciplinary Panel A ("Panel A") of the Board. Panel A has considered the record in this case, including the proposed decision of the ALJ, and now issues this order based on Panel A's findings of fact and conclusions of law. *See* COMAR 10.32.02.05B(4).

FINDINGS OF FACT

Panel A adopts the ALJ's proposed joint factual stipulations, numbered 1 – 11, and the proposed findings of fact, numbered 1 - 12. See ALJ proposed decision, attached as **Exhibit 1**. These facts are incorporated by reference into the body of this document as if set forth in full. Neither party filed exceptions to any of the factual findings and the factual findings were proved by a preponderance of the evidence. The Panel also adopts the ALJ's discussion set forth on pages 7-13. The discussion section is incorporated by reference into the body of this document as if set forth in full.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the Findings of Fact, Disciplinary Panel A of the Board concludes as a matter of law that Dr. Lewis violated the August 18, 2023 Consent Order he entered into with Panel B.

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¹ Dr. Lewis's license expired on September 30, 2024.

SANCTION

Neither party filed exceptions to the ALJ's proposed sanction of a minimum of one-year suspension with continued enrollment in MPRP. The Panel adopts the ALJ's proposed sanction.

ORDER

It is thus by Disciplinary Panel A of the Board, hereby:

ORDERED that Darrell E. Lewis, M.D. is **REPRIMANDED**; and it is further

ORDERED that the suspension imposed in the August 18, 2023 Consent Order is terminated; and it is further

ORDERED that the reprimand imposed in the August 18, 2023 Consent Order remains in effect; and it is further

ORDERED that Dr. Lewis's license to practice medicine in Maryland is SUSPENDED for a minimum of ONE (1) YEAR.² During the suspension, Dr. Lewis shall comply with the following terms and conditions of the suspension:

- (1) Dr. Lewis shall enroll in the Maryland Professional Rehabilitation Program (MPRP) as follows:
 - (a) Within 5 business days, Dr. Lewis shall contact MPRP to schedule an initial consultation for enrollment;
 - (b) Within 15 business days, Dr. Lewis shall enter into a Participant Rehabilitation Agreement and Participant Rehabilitation Plan with MPRP;
 - (c) Dr. Lewis 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;

² Dr. Lewis's license expired on September 30, 2024. The suspension and any conditions will be tolled until Dr. Lewis reinstates his license.

- (d) Dr. Lewis 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. Dr. Lewis shall not withdraw his release/consent;
- (e) Dr. Lewis 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 Dr. Lewis's current therapists and treatment providers) verbal and written information concerning Dr. Lewis and to ensure that MPRP is authorized to receive the medical records of Dr. Lewis, including, but not limited to, mental health and drug or alcohol evaluation and treatment records. Dr. Lewis shall not withdraw his release/consent;
- (f) If, upon the authorization of MPRP, Dr. Lewis transfers to a rehabilitation program in another state, Dr. Lewis's failure to comply with any term or condition of the out-of-state's rehabilitation program, constitutes a violation of this Order. Dr. Lewis 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 Dr. Lewis, and to ensure that the Board is authorized to receive the medical records of Dr. Lewis, including, but not limited to, mental health and drug or alcohol evaluation and treatment records. Dr. Lewis shall not withdraw his release/consent;
- (f) Dr. Lewis'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 Order;
- (2) During the suspension period, Dr. Lewis shall not:
 - (a) practice medicine;
 - (b) take any actions after the effective date of this Order to hold himself out to the public as a current provider of medical services;
 - (c) authorize, allow or condone the use of Dr. Lewis's name or provider number by any health care practice or any other licensee or health care provider;
 - (d) function as a peer reviewer for the Board or for any hospital or other medical care facility in the State;
 - (e) prescribe or dispense medications; or
 - (f) perform any other act that requires an active medical license; and it is further

ORDERED that Dr. Lewis shall not apply for early termination of suspension; and it is further;

order has passed and Dr. Lewis has fully and satisfactorily complied with all terms and conditions for the suspension and if MPRP finds, and notifies the Board, that Dr. Lewis is safe to return to the practice of medicine, Dr. Lewis may submit a written petition to the disciplinary panel to terminate the suspension of Dr. Lewis's license. Dr. Lewis may be required to appear before the disciplinary panel to discuss his petition for termination. If the disciplinary panel determines that it is safe for Dr. Lewis to return to the practice of medicine, the suspension will be terminated through an order of the disciplinary panel, and the disciplinary panel may impose any terms and conditions it deems appropriate on Dr. Lewis's return to practice, including, but not limited to, probation and/or continuation of Dr. Lewis's enrollment in MPRP. If the disciplinary panel determines that it is not safe for Dr. Lewis to return to the practice of medicine, the suspension shall be continued through an order of the disciplinary panel for a length of time determined by the disciplinary panel, and the disciplinary panel may impose any additional terms and conditions it deems appropriate; and it is further

ORDERED that a violation of suspension constitutes a violation of this Order; and is further

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

ORDERED that if Dr. Lewis allegedly fails to comply with any term or condition imposed by this Order, Dr. Lewis 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 followed by an exceptions process before a disciplinary panel; and if there is no genuine dispute as to a material fact, Dr. Lewis 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 Dr. Lewis has failed to comply with any term or condition imposed by this Order, the disciplinary panel may reprimand Dr. Lewis, place Dr. Lewis on probation with appropriate terms and conditions, or suspend or revoke Dr. Lewis'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 Dr. Lewis, and it is further

ORDERED that the effective date of the Order is the date the Order is signed by the Executive Director of the Board or her designee. The Executive Director signs the Order on behalf of the disciplinary panel which has imposed the terms and conditions of this Order, and it is further

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

ORDERED that this 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).

07/14/2025 Date Signature On File

Christine A. Farrelly
Executive Director
Maryland State Board of Physicians

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW

Pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 14-408, Dr. Lewis has the right to seek judicial review of this Final Decision and Order. Any petition for judicial review shall be filed within thirty (30) days from the date of mailing of this Final Decision and Order. The cover letter accompanying this Order indicates the date the decision is mailed. Any petition for judicial review shall be made as provided for in the Administrative Procedure Act, Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-222 and Title 7, Chapter 200 of the Maryland Rules of Procedure.

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

Maryland State Board of Physicians Christine A. Farrelly, Executive Director 4201 Patterson Avenue Baltimore, Maryland 21215

Notice of any petition should also be sent to the Board's counsel at the following address:

Stacey Darin Assistant Attorney General Maryland Department of Health 300 West Preston Street, Suite 302 Baltimore, Maryland 21201