IN THE MATTER OF

BEFORE THE

KRISHAN SINGAL, M.D.

MARYLAND STATE

Respondent

BOARD OF PHYSICIANS

License Number: D36900

Case Number: 7722-0066B

ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF LICENSE TO PRACTICE MEDICINE

Disciplinary Panel B ("Panel B") of the Maryland State Board of Physicians (the "Board") hereby SUMMARILY SUSPENDS the license to practice medicine of KRISHAN SINGAL, M.D. (the "Respondent"), License Number D36900, in the State of Maryland.

Panel B takes such action pursuant to its authority under Md. Code Ann., State Gov't ("State Gov't") §10-266(c)(2) (2021 Repl. Vol.) and Md. Code Regs. ("COMAR") 10.32.02.08B(7), concluding that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action.

INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS

Based on information received by, and made known to Panel B, and the investigatory information obtained by, received by, and made known to and available to Panel B, including the instances described below, Panel B has reason to believe that the following facts are true¹:

Introduction

1. Panel B is summarily suspending the Respondent's license to practice medicine based on an evaluation that was ordered after Panel B issued a Final Decision and Order, dated February 24, 2022, wherein Panel B found that he engaged in sexual boundary violations with female subordinates. The evaluation determined that the Respondent had little insight into his boundary violations and continued to be at risk for repeating the same unprofessional behaviors. Thus, the evaluators did not endorse the Respondent to practice medicine and recommended that he attend an in-patient treatment program. The Respondent failed to comply with the directives of the Maryland Professional Rehabilitation Program ("MPRP"), in violation of the February 24, 2022 Final Decision and Order.

Background/Licensing Information

- 2. The Respondent was originally issued a license to practice medicine in Maryland on June 17, 1988, under License Number D36900. The Respondent has retained continuous licensure in Maryland since that date.
 - 3. The Respondent is board-certified in Cardiology and Internal Medicine.

¹ The statements regarding the Respondent's conduct are intended to provide the Respondent with reasonable notice of the basis of Panel B'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 this matter.

- 4. Since in or around 2000, the Respondent has practiced medicine at offices located in Glen Burnie and Pasadena, Maryland.
- 5. In May of 2009, the Respondent also entered into an agreement with a local academic institution (the "College") to become a preceptor with its Physician Assistant Program.

Prior Disciplinary History

1994 Consent Order

- 6. On May 25, 1994, the Respondent entered into a Consent Order with the Board in Case Number 93-0602 in which he admitted to having sexual contact with a female employee on two separate occasions in 1992. He also admitted to having sexual contact and sexual intercourse with another female who was also a patient.
- 7. Pursuant to the terms of the Consent Order, the Board suspended the Respondent's license to practice medicine in Maryland for a period of six (6) months and placed him on probation for a period of three (3) years, subject to terms and conditions including being evaluated by, and entering into treatment as directed with, a Board-approved psychiatrist, and attending a Board-approved "mini residency" course in medical ethics, focusing upon sexual misconduct.
- 8. The Respondent complied with the terms of probation after which the Board terminated his probation on June 17, 1997.

2020 Final Decision and Order

- 9. On August 31, 2020, Disciplinary Panel A of the Board issued disciplinary charges against the Respondent based on a complaint from an investigator at the College. The complaint stated that a female physician assistant reported to the College that the Respondent made sexually inappropriate statements to her while she was participating in a clinical rotation at the Respondent's office as part of her studies.
- 10. The Respondent requested a hearing on the charges before the Office of Administrative Hearings, after which Panel B issued a Final Decision and Order on February 24, 2022. In its Final Decision and Order, Panel B concluded that the Respondent was guilty of unprofessional conduct in the practice of medicine, in violation of Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(3)(ii).
- 11. Pursuant to the Final Decision and Order, Panel B reprimanded the Respondent and placed him on probation for a minimum of two (2) years, subject to terms and conditions including enrollment in MPRP and fully and timely complying with its referrals, rules, and requirements, including, but not limited to, full participation and compliance with all screening, evaluations, therapy and treatment as directed.

Failure to Comply with the Terms and Conditions of MPRP

12. The Respondent enrolled in MPRP on March 21, 2022 and entered into a Participant Rehabilitation Agreement and Participant Rehabilitation Plan.

- 13. Following the Respondent's initial consultation on March 21, 2022, MPRP ordered the Respondent to undergo a complete, comprehensive, multi-day, independent evaluation with a specialist in behavioral issues and unprofessional conduct. The Respondent completed the evaluation on July 29, 2022.
- 14. The evaluation found that the Respondent denied wrongdoing in any of his prior incidents and showed evidence of a "profound lack of understanding about his behavior and sexual boundary violations." The evaluation did not endorse the Respondent's practice of medicine and recommended that he should enter an in-patient program for a more in-depth assessment of his professional boundary violations.²
- 15. On September 14, 2022, MPRP notified the Respondent of the results of the evaluation and directed him to enroll in one of three MPRP-approved treatment programs no later than September 16, 2022.
- 16. On September 23, 2022, the Respondent notified MPRP of his intention to seek treatment at a non MPRP-approved facility, in non-compliance with MPRP's directive.
- 17. On September 23, 2022, MPRP again directed the Respondent to enroll in one of the MPRP-approved programs by September 26, 2022, in order to continue his participation in the program.

² For confidentiality reasons, the full contents of the evaluation are not set forth in this document. Panel B was aware of the contents of the evaluation prior to issuing this Order for Summary Suspension.

18. The Respondent failed to enroll in an MPRP-approved program in compliance with its directive, after which MPRP closed the Respondent's case for cause on September 27, 2022.

CONCLUSION OF LAW

Based upon the foregoing Investigative Findings, Panel B concludes that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, and that pursuant to State Gov't § 10-226(c)(2) and COMAR 10.32.02.08B(7), the Respondent's license is summarily suspended.

ORDER

IT IS thus, by Panel B of the Board, hereby:

ORDERED that pursuant to the authority vested in Panel B by State Gov't. §10-226(c)(2)(2021 Repl. Vol.) and COMAR 10.32.02.08B(7), the Respondent's license to practice medicine in the State of Maryland is hereby **SUMMARILY SUSPENDED**; and it is further

ORDERED that during the course of the summary suspension, the Respondent shall not practice medicine in the State of Maryland; and it is further

ORDERED that in accordance with Md. Code Regs. 10.32.02.08B(7) and E, a post deprivation initial hearing on the summary suspension will be held on Wednesday, October 26, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. at the Board's offices, located at 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215-0095; and it is further

ORDERED that after the SUMMARY SUSPENSION hearing before Panel B, the Respondent, is dissatisfied with the result of the hearing, may request, within ten (10) days, an evidentiary hearing, such hearing to be set within thirty (30) days of the request, before an Administrative Law Judge at the Office of Administrative Hearings, Administrative Law Building, 11101 Gilroy Road, Hunt Valley, Maryland 21031-1301; and it is further

ORDERED that a copy of the Order for Summary Suspension shall be filed by Panel B immediately in accordance with Health Occ. § 14-407(a)(2021 Repl. Vol.); and it is further

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

10/12/2022

Signature on File

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