

IN THE MATTER OF
RAMANA GOPALAN, M.D.

Respondent

License Number: D51228

* BEFORE THE
* MARYLAND STATE
* BOARD OF PHYSICIANS
* Case Number: 7722-0072

* * * * *

TERMINATION ORDER

On March 8, 2022, Disciplinary Panel A (the “Panel”) of the Maryland State Board of Physicians (the “Board”) and Ramana Gopalan, M.D., entered into a Consent Order, wherein Panel A concluded, as a matter of law, that the Respondent failed to meet the appropriate standards for the delivery of quality medical care and failed to keep adequate medical records as determined by appropriate peer review. Pursuant to the Consent Order, the Respondent was reprimanded, placed on probation for a minimum of two (2) years, required to pay a civil fine of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) within one (1) year, required to successfully complete courses in Controlled Dangerous Substances (“CDS”) prescribing and medical documentation, required to obtain a panel-approved supervisor, prohibited from certifying patients for the medical use of cannabis, and prohibited from prescribing and dispensing opioids until he successfully completed the required courses and obtained a Board disciplinary panel-approved supervisor.¹

The Respondent has successfully completed the required courses and has obtained Board disciplinary panel-approval of a supervisor. It is thus hereby

ORDERED that the prohibition on the Respondent’s ability to prescribe and dispense opioids is **TERMINATED**; and it is further

ORDERED that the reprimand remains in effect; and it is further

¹ A copy of the Consent Order is incorporated by reference and available upon request.

ORDERED the the **PROBATION** imposed by the Consent Order dated March 8, 2022 remains in effect;² and it is further

ORDERED that the condition requiring that the Respondent pay a civil fine of **FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,000.00)** imposed by the Consent order dated March 8, 2022 remains in effect, and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent is still prohibited from certifying patients for the medical use of cannabis for the duration of probation; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent shall be subject to supervision for a minimum period of **ONE (1) YEAR** by his approved supervisor, subject of the following terms and conditions:

- (a) The Respondent shall grant the supervisor access to patient records selected by the supervisor from a list of all patients, which shall, to the extent practicable, focus on the type of treatment at issue in the Respondent's charges;
- (b) If the supervision for any reason ceases to provide supervision, the Respondent shall immediately notify the Board and shall not practice medicine beyond the 30th day after the supervisor has ceased to provide supervision and until the Respondent has submitted the name and professional background, and written notice of confirmation, from a proposed replacement supervisor to the disciplinary panel;
- (c) It shall be the Respondent's responsibility to ensure that the supervisor;
 - (1) reviews the records of 10 patients patients each month, such patients records to be chosen by the supervisor and not the Respondent;

² If the Respondent's license expires during the period of probation, the probation and any condition will be tolled.

- (2) meets in-person with the Respondent at least once each month and discuss in-person with the Respondent the care the Respondent has provided for these specific patients;
 - (3) be available to the Respondent for consultations on any patient;
 - (4) maintains the confidentiality of all medical records and patients information;
 - (5) provides the Board with quarterly reports which detail the quality of the Respondent's practice, any deficiencies, concerns, or needed improvements, as well as any measures that have been taken to improve patient care; and
 - (6) immediately reports to the Board any indication that the Respondent may pose a substantial risk to patients;
- (d) The Respondent shall follow any recommendations of the supervisor;
- (e) If the disciplinary panel, upon consideration of the supervisory reports and the Respondent response, if any, has a reasonable basis to believe that the Respondent is not meeting the standard of quality care or failing to keep adequate medical records in his or his practice; the disciplinary panel may find a violation of probation after a hearing; and it is further

ORDERED that the disciplinary panel may issue administrative subpoenas to the Maryland Drug Monitoring Program on a quarterly basis for the Respondent's CDS prescriptions. The administrative subpoenas will request the Respondent's CDS prescriptions from the beginning of each quarter; and it is further;

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

ORDERED that a violation of probation constitutes a violation of this Termination Order; and it is further

ORDERED that, after the Respondent has complied with all terms and conditions of probation and the minimum period of probation imposed by the March 8, 2022 Consent Order has passed, and after the Respondent's supervisor has submitted to the Board four quarterly reports that are satisfactory to the Panel, the Respondent may submit to the Board a written petition for termination of probation. After consideration of the petition, the probation may be administratively terminated through an order of the of the disciplinary panel if the Respondent has complied with all the probationary terms and conditions and there are no pending complaints relating to the charges; and it is further

ORDERED that this Termination Order goes into effect upon the signature of the Executive Director of the Board. The Executive Director sign the Termination Order on behalf of the Board Disciplinary Panel A; and it is further;

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

ORDERED that, if the Respondent allegedly fails to comply with any term or condition imposed by this Termination 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 Hearing 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 it 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 Termination 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 Termination Order is a public document.

06/22/2022
Date

Signature On File

Christine A. Farrelly
Executive Director
Maryland State Board of Physicians