

**IN THE MATTER OF
PREETI ROUT, M.D.**

Respondent

License Number: D72850

*** BEFORE THE
* MARYLAND STATE
* BOARD OF PHYSICIANS
* Case Number: 7723-0048B**

* * * * *

ORDER AFTER SHOW CAUSE HEARING

On December 26, 2017, Disciplinary Panel B (“Panel B”) of the Maryland State Board of Physicians (the “Board”) and Preeti Rout, M.D. (the “Respondent”) entered into a Consent Order (“Consent Order”). On April 6, 2023, Panel B issued a Violation of Consent Order and Notice to Show Cause, which charged the Respondent with violating the terms and conditions of the Consent Order.

On or about April 6, 2023, the Violation of Consent Order and Notice to Show Cause was mailed to the Respondent by regular U.S. mail at her mailing address of record, in accordance with COMAR 10.32.02.03E(7). The Violation of Consent Order and Notice to Show Cause notified the Respondent that the show cause hearing would be held on June 28, 2023, at 11:15 a.m.

On June 20, 2023, the Board sent an email to the Respondent, stating that the show cause hearing was going to be held by video-conference on the Zoom platform and that, on June 27, 2023, the Board would email the Respondent the Zoom link for the hearing. On June 27, 2023, the Board sent the Respondent an email with the Zoom link for the show cause hearing and further told the Respondent to “[p]lease sign in 10 to 15 minutes before 11:15 a.m.”

On June 28, 2023, after waiting for the Respondent for approximately one hour, the show cause hearing began at 12:14 p.m., and was conducted by video-conference on the Zoom platform. The Respondent did not attend or participate in the show cause hearing. The Respondent did not sign onto the Zoom link to attend the show cause hearing, did not appear in-person at the hearing, did not request a postponement, and did not have legal counsel represent her at the show cause hearing. An Assistant Attorney General from the Office of the Attorney General's Health Occupations Prosecution and Litigation Unit appeared as the Administrative Prosecutor for the State and presented the State's case.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Panel B makes the following factual findings:

Background/Licensing Information

1. The Respondent was initially licensed to practice medicine by the Board on August 1, 2011, under License Number D72850. The Respondent retained continuous licensure until September 30, 2017, when her license expired.
2. The Respondent's license was administratively reinstated on January 17, 2023.

Prior Disciplinary History

3. In June 2016, the Board initiated an investigation of the Respondent after receiving a complaint regarding the Respondent's conduct. The Respondent, however, failed to cooperate with the Board's investigation.

Charges Under the Maryland Medical Practice Act, 2017

4. On or about June 7, 2017, Panel B issued disciplinary charges against the Respondent, alleging that she was guilty of unprofessional conduct in the practice of medicine, Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(3)(ii); was professionally, physically, or mentally incompetent, Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(4); and failed to cooperate with a lawful investigation conducted by the Board or disciplinary panel, Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(33).

5. The Respondent did not renew her medical license during the 2017 renewal period. Consequently, the Respondent's medical license expired, effective September 30, 2017. The Board, however, retained jurisdiction over this matter under Health Occ. § 14-403(a).¹

Order for Summary Suspension, 2017

6. While the above disciplinary charges were pending, Panel B, on or about November 14, 2017, notified the Respondent of its intent to summarily suspend her medical license pursuant to its authority under Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-226(c)(2)(i) (2014 Repl. Vol. & 2015 Supp.).

7. On November 29, 2017, upon finding that the Respondent's continued practice constituted a substantial risk to the public health, safety or welfare, Panel B issued an Order for Summary Suspension of License to Practice Medicine, summarily suspending the Respondent's license to practice medicine in Maryland.

Consent Order, 2017

¹ Health Occ. § 14-403(a) states, "Unless a disciplinary panel agrees to accept the surrender of a license, certification, or registration of an individual the Board regulates, the individual may not surrender the license, certification, or registration nor may the license, certification, or registration lapse by operation of law while the individual is under investigation or while charges are pending."

8. On December 26, 2017, Panel B and the Respondent entered into the Consent Order, in which 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); is professionally, physically, or mentally incompetent, in violation of Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(4); and failed to cooperate with a lawful investigation conducted by the Board or a disciplinary panel, in violation of Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(33).

9. Under the Consent Order, Panel B suspended the Respondent's medical license until such time as she demonstrated that she was competent to practice medicine.²

Also, under the Consent Order, the following terms and conditions were ordered:

1. Within 10 days, the Respondent shall enroll in [a Board-approved program, referred to *infra* as the "Program"]. The Respondent shall enter into a Participant Rehabilitation Agreement and Participant Rehabilitation Plan with [the Program]. The Respondent shall fully and timely cooperate and comply with all of [the Program'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 [the Program], and shall fully participate and comply with all therapy, treatment, evaluations, and screenings as directed by [the Program];
2. The Respondent shall sign and update the written release/consent forms required by the Board and [the Program]. The Respondent shall sign the release/consent forms to authorize the Board to authorize [the Program] to make verbal and written disclosures to the Board, including disclosure of any and all [Program] records and files possessed by [the

² Because the Respondent's license expired in September 2017, and was not renewed, Panel B tolled the imposition of the suspension and terms and conditions until such time as the Respondent reinstated her medical license. See COMAR 10.32.02.05C(3).

Program]. The Respondent shall also sign any written release/consent forms to authorize [the Program] 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 [the Program] is authorized to receive the medical records of the Respondent, including, but not limited to, mental health and drug or alcohol treatment records;

3. The Respondent shall be responsible for assuring that any treatment provider(s) submit reports to the [Program] and to the Board at least once every three (3) months regarding her attendance, progress, payment of fees, and recommendations as to the continuation, frequency, and/or termination of treatment. The Respondent shall sign any consent forms required to authorize Disciplinary Panel B and the [Program] to receive any written reports from her treating mental health providers and health professionals or any treatment providers.

The Consent Order also states:

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

Post-Consent Order

10. On or about September 29, 2022, the Respondent applied to the Board for reinstatement of her medical license.

11. On January 17, 2023, the Respondent's Maryland medical license was reinstated, at which point the terms and conditions of the Consent Order went into effect.

12. By letter, dated January 18, 2023, the Board notified the Respondent that its probation department would be monitoring the terms and conditions of her Consent Order. The Board advised the Respondent that she was responsible for timely compliance with all terms and conditions of the Consent Order.

15. Thereafter, the Respondent failed to comply with Program requirements, including, *inter alia*, failing to comply with the Participant Rehabilitation Agreement. Overall, the Respondent violated conditions one, two, and three of the Consent Order.³

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Panel B concludes that the Respondent failed to comply with conditions 1, 2, and 3 of the Order section of the Consent Order, which went into effect on December 26, 2017.

ORDER

It is, by Board Disciplinary Panel B, hereby

ORDERED that the Respondent Preeti Rout, M.D.'s license to practice medicine in Maryland is **REVOKED**; and it is further

ORDERED that this is a public document.

08/24/2023
Date

Signature On File

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

³ For privacy reasons, details of the violations of the Consent Order are not disclosed in this document.