

IN THE MATTER OF * **BEFORE THE MARYLAND**
LAURA E. PURDY, M.D. * **STATE BOARD OF**
Respondent * **PHYSICIANS**
License Number: D86195 * **Case Number: 2223-0134B**
* * * * *

CONSENT ORDER

PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

The Maryland Board of Physicians (the “Maryland Board”) received information that Laura E. Purdy, M.D., (the “Respondent”) License Number D86195, was disciplined by the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure (the “Mississippi Board”). In a Corrected Determination and Order dated May 18, 2023, the Mississippi Board disciplined the Respondent by stayed suspension for three (3) months subject to certain conditions.

Based on the above referenced Mississippi Board sanction, the Maryland Board has grounds to charge the Respondent with violating the following provisions of the Maryland Medical Practice Act (the “Act”), under H. O. § 14-404(a):

- (a) Subject to the hearing provisions of § 14-405 of this subtitle, a disciplinary panel, on the affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum of the disciplinary panel, may reprimand any licensee, place any licensee on probation, or suspend or revoke a license if the licensee:
 - (21) Is disciplined by a licensing or disciplinary authority or convicted or disciplined by a court of any state or country or disciplined by any branch of the United States uniformed services or the Veteran’s Administration for an act that would be grounds for disciplinary action under this section,

Disciplinary Panel B ("Panel B") has determined that the acts for which the Respondent was disciplined in Mississippi would be grounds for disciplinary action under H.O. § 14-404(a). The grounds for disciplinary action under H.O. § 14-404(a) are as follows:

(3) Is guilty of:

(ii) Unprofessional conduct in the practice of medicine;

(22) Fails to meet appropriate standards as determined by appropriate peer review for the delivery of quality medical and surgical care in an outpatient surgical facility, office, hospital, or any other location in this State.

(43) Except for the licensure process described under Subtitle 3A of this title, violates any provision of this title, any rule or regulation adopted by the Board, or any State or federal law pertaining to the practice of medicine;

According to Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 10.32.05.05

(A). A telehealth practitioner shall perform a synchronous, audio-visual evaluation adequate to establish diagnoses and identify underlying conditions or contraindications to recommended treatment options before providing treatment or prescribing medication.

According to COMAR § 10.32.05.06

(B). A Telehealth practitioner may not treat a patient or prescribe medication based solely on an online questionnaire.

Based on the action taken by the Mississippi Board, the Respondent agrees to enter into this Consent Order with Panel B, consisting of Procedural Background, Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order and Consent.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Panel B makes the following findings of fact:

1. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was a physician licensed to practice medicine in the State of Maryland. The Respondent was initially licensed in Maryland on or about September 13, 2018.

2. The Mississippi Board found in its investigation that the Respondent was prescribing medications to at least 3 patients in Mississippi. The investigation also found that all patient encounters were conducted via text messaging through a phone application and website called "Push Health."

3. The Respondent testified that she only reviewed questionnaires completed by patients when they registered for "Push Health" prior to prescribing medications. Other than the text messages, the Respondent testified that she does not ask any questions or engage in any relevant communication with patients to establish the physician/ patient relationship needed to practice telemedicine in the state of Mississippi.

4. By Order dated May 18, 2023, the Mississippi Board disciplined the Respondent by stayed suspension for three (3) months subject to certain conditions. A copy of the Mississippi Board Order is attached hereto.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, Panel B concludes as a matter of law that the Respondent is subject to discipline under Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(21) for the disciplinary action taken by the Mississippi Board against the Respondent for an act or

acts that would be grounds for disciplinary action under Health Occ. §14-404(a)(3)(ii), (22), and (43) as well as COMAR § 10.32.05.05, and COMAR § 10.32.05.06.

ORDER

It is, thus, by Panel B, hereby:

ORDERED that the Respondent's license to practice medicine in the State of Maryland be and is hereby **SUSPENDED** for three (3) months with the suspension **IMMEDIATELY STAYED**; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent shall comply with the terms and conditions of the May 18, 2023 Mississippi Board Corrected Determination and Order; and it is further

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

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

ORDERED that, if the Respondent allegedly fails to comply with any term or condition imposed by this Consent 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 Hearings 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 is 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 Consent Order, the disciplinary panel may reprimand the Respondent, place the Respondent on probation with appropriate terms and conditions, or suspend Respondent's license with appropriate terms and conditions, or revoke the Respondent's license. 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 Consent Order is a public document. *See* Health Occ. §§1-607, 14-411.1(b)(2) and Gen. Prov. §4-333(b)(6).

09/06/2023
Date

Signature On File

Christine A. Farrelly
Executive Director
Maryland Board of Physicians

CONSENT

I, Laura E. Purdy, MD, acknowledge that I am aware of my right to consult with and be represented by counsel in considering this Consent Order. I have chosen to proceed without counsel and I acknowledge that the decision to proceed without counsel is freely and voluntarily made.

By this Consent, I agree to be bound by this Consent Order and all its terms and conditions and understand that the disciplinary panel will not entertain any request for amendments or modifications to any condition.

I assert that I am aware of my right to a formal evidentiary hearing, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 14-405 and Md. Code Ann., State Gov't §§ 10-201 *et seq.* concerning the pending charges. I waive this right and have elected to sign this Consent Order instead.

I acknowledge the validity and enforceability of this Consent Order as if entered after the conclusion of a formal evidentiary hearing in which I would have had the right to counsel, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to call witnesses on my behalf, and to all other substantive and procedural protections as provided by law. I waive those

procedural and substantive protections. I acknowledge the legal authority and the jurisdiction of the disciplinary panel to initiate these proceedings and to issue and enforce this Consent Order.

I voluntarily enter into and agree to comply with the terms and conditions set forth in the Consent Order as a resolution of the charges. I waive any right to contest the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and Order set out in the Consent Order. I waive all rights to appeal this Consent Order.

I sign this Consent Order, without reservation, and fully understand the language and meaning of its terms.

Signature On File

8/18/23
Date

Laura E. Purdy, MD
Respondent

NOTARY

STATE OF Tennessee

CITY/COUNTY OF Montgomery

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 18 day of August, 2023, before me, a Notary Public of the State and City/County aforesaid, personally Laura E. Purdy, MD, and made oath in due form of law that the foregoing Consent Order was her voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESS my hand and notarial seal.

Jenna Elizabeth Tate
Notary Public

My Commission expires: April 25th, 2027

