

IN THE MATTER OF
SARAH PRYOR, M.D.

Respondent

License Number: D90927

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BEFORE THE
MARYLAND STATE
BOARD OF PHYSICIANS
Case Number: 7721-0099A

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ORDER AFTER SHOW CAUSE HEARING

On February 17, 2021, Sarah Pryor, M.D. entered into a Disposition Agreement with Disciplinary Panel A (“Panel A”) of the Maryland State Board of Physicians (the “Board”) wherein she agreed to enroll in the Maryland Professional Rehabilitation Program (“MPRP”), comply with all of MPRP’s recommendations, and fulfill all conditions of the Participant Rehabilitation Agreement. On October 27, 2021, Panel A issued a Violation of Board Order and Notice to Show Cause, charging Dr. Pryor with violating the terms and conditions of the Disposition Agreement based on her failure to comply with her MPRP Participant Rehabilitation Agreement. On February 9, 2022, Panel A held a show cause hearing where Dr. Pryor was represented by counsel and admitted that she violated the Disposition Agreement.¹

FINDINGS OF FACT

Background

On February 17, 2021, Dr. Pryor entered into a non-public Disposition Agreement with Panel A and was licensed to practice medicine in the State of Maryland. The Agreement required Dr. Pryor to enter into a Board-monitored Rehabilitation Agreement with MPRP and comply with the terms of the agreement. On March 2, 2021, Dr. Pryor enrolled in MPRP and entered into a Rehabilitation Agreement. Pursuant to the MPRP Rehabilitation Agreement, Dr.

¹ The specific nature of Dr. Pryor’s violation is confidential.

Pryor agreed to “not consume any controlled substances or mood-altering substance, obtained through prescription or otherwise, unless prescribed in an appropriate manner for a legitimate medical purpose.”

On June 22, 2021, MPRP reported to the Board that Dr. Pryor violated the Rehabilitation Agreement. While Dr. Pryor initially denied the violation, she admitted to violating the Rehabilitation Agreement in a letter dated August 23, 2021.

The Disposition Agreement states that

if the Applicant fails to comply with any term or condition of this Agreement, this Agreement shall be treated as a public Consent Order, the violation of which authorizes the Board or a Board panel, after notice and an opportunity to be heard, to take any action prescribed under §§ 14-404(a) and 14-405.1 of the Maryland Medical Practice Act, including a reprimand, probation, suspension or revocation of the Applicant’s medical license, and/or fine.

Show Cause Hearing

On October 27, 2021, Panel A issued a Violation of Board Order and Notice to Show Cause, charging Dr. Pryor with violating the terms and conditions of the Disposition Agreement based on her failure to comply with her MPRP Participant Rehabilitation Agreement. On February 9, 2022, Panel A held a show cause hearing where Dr. Pryor admitted that she violated the Disposition Agreement.

Dr. Pryor expressed remorse for her violation and asked that she be allowed to continue in MPRP under the nonpublic Disposition Agreement. The State argued that the Order should become public and Dr. Pryor’s license should be suspended for a minimum period of one year.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Panel A concludes that Dr. Pryor violated the terms and conditions of the February 17, 2021 Disposition Agreement by failing to comply with the terms of her MPRP Participant

Rehabilitation Agreement. Pursuant to the terms of the Disposition Agreement, the Panel is authorized to impose additional sanctions on Dr. Pryor's license, ranging from a reprimand to revocation.

SANCTION

In determining the appropriate sanction in this case, the Panel has taken into consideration the presentations of both parties at the show cause hearing. Both the State and Dr. Pryor recognized that continuing treatment and monitoring was necessary. The Panel appreciates Dr. Pryor's acknowledgement of her violation and her commitment to recovery and believes that Dr. Pryor is safe to continue to practice medicine on probation with appropriate monitoring.

ORDER

On an affirmative vote of a majority of a quorum of Disciplinary Panel A, it is hereby

ORDERED that the February 17, 2021 Disposition Agreement is terminated; and it is further

ORDERED that Dr. Pryor is **REPRIMANDED**; and it is further

ORDERED that Dr. Pryor is placed on **PROBATION** for a minimum period of **TWO (2) YEARS**.² During the probationary period Dr. Pryor shall comply with the following probationary terms and conditions:

Dr. Pryor shall remain enrolled in MPRP and continue in her Participant Rehabilitation Agreement and Participant Rehabilitation Plan with MPRP, as follows:

- A. Dr. Pryor 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 If Dr. Pryor's license expires during the period of probation, the probation and any conditions will be tolled.

B. Dr. Pryor's failure to comply with any term or condition of the Participant Rehabilitation Agreement(s) or Participant Rehabilitation Plan(s) constitutes a violation of this Order;

C. Dr. Pryor 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. A failure to, or withdrawal of consent is a violation of this Order;

D. Dr. Pryor 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. Pryor's current therapists and treatment providers) verbal and written information concerning Dr. Pryor and to ensure that MPRP is authorized to receive the medical records of Dr. Pryor, including, but not limited to, mental health and drug or alcohol evaluation and treatment records; and it

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

ORDERED that, after a minimum of two years has passed and Dr. Pryor has fully and satisfactorily complied with all terms and conditions of the probation, Dr. Pryor may submit a written petition for termination of probation. After consideration of the petition, the probation may be terminated through an order of the disciplinary panel. Dr. Pryor may be required to appear before the disciplinary panel to discuss her petition for termination. The disciplinary panel may grant the petition to terminate the probation, through an order of the disciplinary panel if Dr. Pryor has successfully complied with all of the probationary terms and conditions and there are no pending complaints relating to the charges; and it is further

ORDERED that if Dr. Pryor allegedly fails to comply with any term or condition imposed by this Order, Dr. Pryor 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. Pryor shall be given a show cause hearing before Panel A; and it is further

ORDERED that after the appropriate hearing, if the disciplinary panel determines that Dr. Pryor has failed to comply with any term or condition imposed by this Order, the disciplinary panel may reprimand Dr. Pryor, place Dr. Pryor on probation with appropriate terms and conditions, or suspend or revoke Dr. Pryor'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. Pryor; and it is further

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

ORDERED that the effective date of this 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 this Order After Show Cause Hearing is a public document. *See* Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 1-607, 14-411.1(b)(2) and Gen. Prov. § 4-333(b)(6).

02/23/2027
Date

Signature on File

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

