

IN THE MATTER OF
PETER NWOKE, M.D.

Respondent
Unlicensed

*** BEFORE THE**
*** MARYLAND STATE**
*** BOARD OF PHYSICIANS**
*** Case Number: 2224-0058 B**

* * * * *

CEASE AND DESIST ORDER

Pursuant to the authority granted to Disciplinary Panel B (“Panel B”) of the Maryland State Board of Physicians (the “Board”) under Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. (“Health Occ.”) § 14-206(e)(1) and (2)(vii) (2021 Repl. Vol. & 2023 Supp.), Panel B hereby orders **PETER NWOKE, M.D.** (the “Respondent”), an unlicensed individual, to immediately **CEASE AND DESIST** from all activities associated with the practice of medicine in the State of Maryland, as defined in Health Occ. § 14-101(o).

The pertinent provisions of the Maryland Medical Practice Act (the “Act”), Health Occ. §§ 14-101 *et seq.*, under which Panel B issues this Order provide the following:

§ 14-101. Definitions.

- (o) *Practice medicine.* – (1) “Practice medicine” means to engage, with or without compensation, in medical:
 - (i) Diagnosis;
 - (ii) Healing;
 - (iii) Treatment; or
 - (iv) Surgery.
- (2) “Practice medicine” includes doing, undertaking, professing to do, and attempting any of the following:
 - (i) Diagnosing, healing, treating, preventing, prescribing for, or removing any physical, mental, or emotional ailment or supposed ailment of an individual:

1. By physical, mental, emotional, or other process that is exercised or invoked by the practitioner, the patient, or both; or
2. By appliance, test, drug, operation, or treatment[.]

§ 14-206. Judicial Powers.

...

- (e) *Cease and desist orders; injunctions.* – A disciplinary panel may issue a cease and desist order or obtain injunctive relief against an individual for:
- (1) Practicing a profession regulated under this title or Title 15 of this article without a license[.]

§ 14-601. Practicing without license.

Except as otherwise provided in this title, a person may not practice, attempt to practice, or offer to practice medicine in this State unless licensed by the Board.

INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS¹

Based on the investigatory information received by, made known to, and available to Panel B, there is reason to believe that the following facts are true:

I. Licensing/Background Information

1. The Respondent has never been licensed to practice medicine in the State of Maryland.
2. The Respondent has never been licensed or certified by any health occupations licensing board in Maryland.
3. The Respondent is licensed to practice medicine in the State of Michigan.
4. The Respondent is not board certified.

¹ The statements regarding the Board's investigative findings are intended to provide the Respondent with reasonable notice of the basis of the Board'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.

5. At all relevant times, the Respondent practiced as a general practitioner at a health care practice (the “Practice”)² in Detroit, Michigan where the Respondent provided in-person and telehealth services.

II. The Complaint

6. On or about August 31, 2022, the Board received information (the “Complaint”) from a member of the Baltimore County Police Department. The Complaint alleged that the Respondent was prescribing to Maryland patients via telemedicine since June 2022.

7. The Board conducted an investigation into the Complaint and made determinations as detailed below.

III. The Board Investigation

8. The Board investigation revealed that the Respondent, while unlicensed to practice medicine in Maryland, diagnosed, treated and prescribed medications to eleven Maryland residents.

9. The Board subpoenaed and received the Respondent’s prescribing records which stated that from June 22, 2022, through September 1, 2022, the Respondent prescribed medications to eleven Maryland residents (the “Maryland Patients”).

10. The Board subpoenaed and received the Respondent’s medical records for the Maryland Patients which stated that the Respondent diagnosed, treated, and prescribed medications to the Maryland Patients from June 20, 2022, until August 25, 2022.

² For confidentiality reasons, the names of health care facilities and individuals referenced herein, will not be disclosed in this document. The Respondent may obtain this information from the administrative prosecutor.

11. On or about April 17, 2024, the Board conducted an under oath interview with the Respondent where he stated, among other things, that the medical appointments with the Maryland Patients were conducted via telemedicine.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Investigative Findings, Panel B concludes as a matter of law that the Respondent practiced medicine without a license in violation of Health Occ. § 14-601.

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Investigative Findings and Conclusions of Law, it is, by a majority of the quorum of Panel B, hereby:

ORDERED that pursuant to the authority under the Act, Health Occ. § 14-206(e)(1), the Respondent, Peter Nwoke, shall **IMMEDIATELY CEASE AND DESIST** from the practice of medicine in Maryland; and it is further

ORDERED that this order is **EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY** pursuant to Md. Code Regs. 10.32.02.11E(1)(b), and it is further

ORDERED that this is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 *et seq.* and Md. Code Regs. 10.32.02.11E(1)(a).

10/11/2024

Date

Signature On File

Christine A. Farrelly
Executive Director
Maryland State Board of Physicians

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING

The Respondent may challenge the factual or legal basis of this initial order by filing a written opposition, which may include a request for a hearing, within 30 days of its issuance. The written opposition shall be made to:

Christine A. Farrelly
Executive Director
Maryland State Board of Physicians
4201 Patterson Avenue, 4th Floor
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

A copy shall also be mailed to:

Katherine Vehar-Kenyon
Assistant Attorney General
Maryland Office of the Attorney General
Health Occupations Prosecution and Litigation Division
300 West Preston Street, Suite 201
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

If the Respondent files a written opposition and a request for a hearing, the Board shall consider that opposition and provide a hearing if requested. If the Respondent does not file a timely written opposition, the Respondent will lose the right to challenge this Initial Order to Cease and Desist and this Order will remain in effect.