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On April 15, 2025, Disciplinary Panel A (“Panel A”) of the Maryland State Board of Physicians (the “Board”) charged **CHRIS BURKOVICH, Radiographer** (the “Respondent”), License Number R07624, under the Maryland Radiation Therapy, Radiography, Nuclear Medicine Technology, and Radiology Assistance Act (the “Act”), Md. Code Ann., Health Occupations (“Health Occ.”) §§ 14-5B-01 *et seq.* (2021 Repl. Vol. & 2024 Supp.). Panel A charged the Respondent with violating the following provisions of the Health Occupations statute:¹

Health Occ. § 14-5B-14. Certificate denial, suspension, or revocation.

- (a) Subject to the hearing provisions of § 14-405 of this title, a disciplinary panel, on the affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum of the disciplinary panel, may deny a license to any applicant, reprimand any licensee, place any licensee on probation, or suspend or revoke a license, if the applicant or licensee:
- ...
- (3) Is guilty of unprofessional or immoral conduct in the practice of radiation therapy, radiography, nuclear medicine technology, or radiology assistance[.]

¹ Panel A also charged the Respondent with violating the provisions of Health Occ. § 1-212 and the Board's regulations at COMAR 10.32.17.

On July 9, 2025, Panel A was convened as a Disciplinary Committee for Case Resolution (“DCCR”) in this matter. Based on negotiations occurring as a result of this DCCR, the Respondent agreed to enter into this Consent Order, consisting of Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order, and Consent.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Panel A finds:

I. Background

1. At all relevant times, the Respondent was and is licensed to practice radiography in the State of Maryland. He was initially licensed in Maryland on August 15, 2005. His Maryland license is current and is scheduled to expire on April 30, 2025.

2. From on or about June 23, 2023, through on or about May 23, 2024, the Respondent was employed as a Radiologic Technologist by a healthcare facility (the “Facility”)² with multiple locations in Maryland.

II. The Report

3. The Board opened an investigation after it received a report (the “Report”) on June 4, 2024 from the Facility that stated the Facility had taken action against the Respondent on May 23, 2024, for misconduct/unprofessional behavior.

4. As part of its investigation, the Board obtained the Respondent’s personnel records from the Facility, patient records, and conducted interviews with witnesses and the Respondent.

² To ensure confidentiality and privacy, the names of individuals, patients and institutions involved in this case are not disclosed in this Consent Order.

IV. Board Investigation

5. The Board's investigation revealed that a patient (the "Patient") reported a complaint about the Respondent to the Facility. As a result, a Grievance Report was filed at the Facility which contained, in part, the following information:

- a. On May 11, 2024, the Patient presented to the Facility's location in Westminster for an X-ray examination.
- b. During the examination, the Patient asked the Respondent about how she should position herself. In response, the Respondent "grunted and proceeded to just move [the Patient.]" The Respondent then stated, "If I invited you over for dinner, would I then ask you how to make meatballs" or other words to that effect.
- c. The Patient felt uncomfortable during the exam partly because her gown would not stay closed, and the Respondent was positioning her from behind.
- d. As the Respondent positioned the Patient for the next X-ray image, the Respondent's thumbs made contact with the Patient's bare skin which caused the Patient to feel vulnerable.
- e. The Respondent later asked the Patient if she had a boyfriend to which the Patient responded in the negative. The Respondent then said, "[W]ell good, I wouldn't want you to go

home and have to tell a boyfriend that some stranger fondled you.”

- f. After the conclusion of the exam, the Patient asked the Respondent about a device³ in the room. The Respondent put his arm around the Patient, pulled her close to him, and stated “[T]his is what we use for bad patients/ones that don’t listen” or other words to that effect.

6. On or about May 22, 2024, the Facility notified the Respondent that he was being placed on suspension to investigate the complaint made by the Patient.

7. As part of its investigation, the Facility interviewed the Respondent regarding the allegations made by the Patient. When asked why the Patient would make these allegations, the Respondent stated, “I don’t know why she would make those allegations. Maybe to [start] trouble, she hates men or she didn’t like me from the beginning. I have no idea.”

8. On or about May 23, 2024, the Facility terminated the Respondent’s employment due to misconduct.

Interview with the Patient

9. During an under-oath interview with the Board regarding her encounter with the Respondent, the Patient stated, in part, the following:

³ The device referred to by the Patient is called a Pigg-O-Stat which is a pediatric immobilization device designed for positioning infants and young children for an appropriate X-ray.

- a. The Patient presented to the Facility on or about May 11, 2024, to obtain X-ray imaging of her shoulders, right hip, lumbar spine, and cervical spine.
- b. While preparing to conduct X-ray imaging of her hips, the Respondent stood behind her to adjust her which was different from other X-ray procedures that she has had in the past where the technician always stood in front of her. The Respondent's fingers "slipped into the back of the gown [that she was wearing] and [he] had his hands around my waist and was adjusting me skin to skin."
- c. The Respondent later "slid his hands down my back all the way down to my hips, where he was pretty much grabbing a hold of my love handles with his thumbs on the small of my back[.]" The Respondent then stated, "I just didn't want you going home and telling your boyfriend that some strange man fondled you today" or other words to that effect.
- d. The Patient further stated that when preparing the Patient for her lower lumbar imaging, the Respondent had placed his hand against her lower abdomen "with his pinky pretty much grazing my panty line[.]" The Respondent kept pushing against the Patient's stomach to push her farther back rather than asking her to move.

- e. When the Patient inquired about the Pigg-O-Stat in the exam room, the Respondent put his arm around the Patient's shoulders, pulled her body up against his, and tightened his grip around her shoulders. The Respondent began moving the Patient toward the device and said, "This is what happens to patients that don't listen[.]" or other words to that effect.
- f. The Patient also stated that the Respondent had made other rude comments and "was quite rough with the way that he moved me around."

Additional Acts of Unprofessional Conduct

10. The Board's investigation revealed that the Respondent also committed multiple acts of unprofessional conduct towards Facility employees:

- a. The Respondent would touch and/or massage the shoulders of an X-ray technician aide (the "X-ray Tech Aide") and would often get in her personal space while they worked together in the X-ray department.
- b. The Respondent asked to practice braiding the hair of another Facility employee ("Employee 1") and would often intentionally stand in her way while she was walking down the hall.

- c. The Respondent also said, “Oh, I love you too” to Employee 1 while she was having a personal conversation on her cell phone.
- d. The Respondent handed Employee 1 a sticky note that stated “text me for story time” after the Respondent had been trying to tell her a story earlier that day.
- e. The Respondent would also intentionally stand in the way of another Facility employee (“Employee 2”) while she was walking down the hallway at the Facility. Employee 2 described the Respondent as “invasive” and said that the Respondent would get “really close to you” which made her feel uncomfortable.
- f. The Respondent stood very close to Employee 2 to the point that his stomach was touching her, and she did not have any space to back away from him. The Respondent began asking her questions about her fiancé after he had asked her who she was texting.
- g. Another Facility employee (“Radiographer 1”) observed the Respondent in the X-ray Tech Aide’s personal space. Radiographer 1 accompanied the X-ray Tech Aide, Employee 1, and Employee 2 when they reported the Respondent’s

behavior to the Respondent's supervisor (the "Regional Director").

Interview with Respondent

11. On or about December 6, 2024, the Board conducted an under-oath interview with the Respondent who stated, in part, the following:

- a. The Respondent admitted that he tries to make joking comments to patients "to keep things light" and to help take their minds off any uncomfortable physical positions that may be required to perform X-ray procedures.
- b. The Respondent admitted that he made the comment to the Patient about meatballs and dinner, and that it was "a poor attempt at humor on [his] part."
- c. The Respondent admitted that as a "Jokester," he said "Oh, I love you too" to one of the employees at the Facility.
- d. The Respondent admitted that he made a comment about braiding Employee 1's hair and giving her his phone number to tell her about something that had happened in the Facility.
- e. The Respondent admitted to touching the X-ray Tech Aide's shoulders one time but denied massaging her shoulders or getting in her personal space.

- f. The Respondent recalled being counseled about his interactions with employees at the Facility and admitted that he stopped talking to them unless it was work-related.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, Disciplinary Panel A concludes as a matter of law that the Respondent: is guilty of unprofessional conduct in the practice of radiation therapy, radiography, nuclear medicine technology, or radiology assistance, in violation of Health Occ. §§ 14-5B-14(a)(3). Panel A dismisses the charges under Health Occ. § 1-212 and COMAR 10.32.17.

ORDER

It is thus, on the affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum of Panel A, hereby:

ORDERED that Respondent is **REPRIMANDED**; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent is placed on probation⁴ for a minimum period of **ONE (1)** year. During probation, the Respondent shall comply with the following terms and conditions of probation:

1. The Respondent shall enroll in the Maryland Professional Rehabilitation Program (“MPRP”) as follows:
 - (a) Within **5 business days** of the effective date of this Consent Order, the Respondent shall contact MPRP to schedule an initial consultation for enrollment;
 - (b) Within **15 business days** of the effective date of this Consent Order, the Respondent shall enter into a Participant Rehabilitation Agreement and Participant Rehabilitation Plan with MPRP;

⁴ If the Respondent’s license expires during the period of probation, the probation and any conditions of probation, will be tolled.

- (c) The Respondent 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;
- (d) The Respondent 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. The Respondent shall not withdraw the release/consent;
- (e) The Respondent 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 the Respondent's current therapists and treatment providers) verbal and written information concerning the Respondent and to ensure that MPRP is authorized to receive the medical records of the Respondent, including, but not limited to, mental health and drug or alcohol evaluation and treatment records. The Respondent shall not withdraw the release/consent;
- (f) If, upon the authorization of MPRP, the Respondent transfers to a rehabilitation program in another state, the Respondent's failure to comply with any term or condition of that state's [the out-of-state's] rehabilitation program, constitutes a violation of this Consent Order. The Respondent shall also sign any out-of-state written release/consent forms to authorize the Board to exchange with (i.e. disclose to and receive from) the out-of-state program verbal and written information concerning the Respondent, and to ensure that the Board is authorized to receive the medical records of the Respondent, including, but not limited to, mental health and drug or alcohol evaluation and treatment records. The Respondent shall not withdraw the release/consent;
- (g) The Respondent's failure to comply with any of the above terms or conditions including terms or conditions of the Participant Rehabilitation Agreement(s) or Participant Rehabilitation Plan(s) constitutes a violation of this Consent Order;

2. Within **SIX (6) MONTHS** of the effective date of this Consent Order, the Respondent is required to take and successfully complete a course in **Professional Boundaries**. The following terms apply:

(a) it is the Respondent's responsibility to locate, enroll in and obtain the disciplinary panel's approval of the course before the course is begun;

(b) the Respondent must provide documentation to the disciplinary panel that the Respondent has successfully completed the course;

(c) the course may not be used to fulfill the continuing medical education credits required for license renewal;

(d) the Respondent is responsible for the cost of the course; 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 Consent Order; and it is further

ORDERED that this Consent Order shall not be amended or modified, and future requests for modification will not be considered by the Board or a disciplinary panel; and it is further

ORDERED that after the minimum period of probation imposed by the Consent Order has passed, and the Respondent has fully and satisfactorily complied with all terms and conditions of probation, and MPRP notifies the Board of the Respondent's compliance with all MPRP's referrals, rules, and requirements, the Respondent may submit a written petition for termination of probation. After consideration of the petition, the Applicant's probation may be terminated through an order of the disciplinary panel. The Respondent

may be required to appear before the disciplinary panel to discuss his petition for termination. The disciplinary panel may grant the petition to terminate the probation, through an order 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 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 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, 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 or revoke the Respondent's license to practice radiography 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 the Respondent is responsible for all costs incurred in fulfilling the terms and conditions of this Consent 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 this Consent Order is a public document. *See* Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 1-607, 14-411.1(b)(2) and Gen. Prov. § 4-333(b)(6).

Signature On File

07/28/2025
Date

Christine A. Farrelly
Executive Director
Maryland State Board of Physicians

CONSENT

I, Chris Burkovich, Radiographer, understand that I have the right to be represented by counsel in this matter. I have chosen to proceed without counsel, and I acknowledge that my 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

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

7-26-25
Date

Chris Burkovich, Radiographer

NOTARY

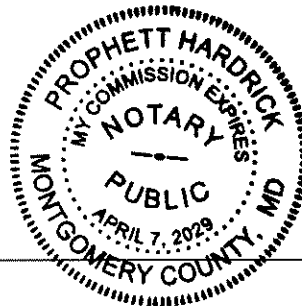
STATE OF Maryland

CITY/COUNTY OF Carroll

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 26th day of July 2025, before me, a Notary Public of the foregoing State and City/County, Chris Burkovich, Radiographer, personally appeared and made oath in due form of law that signing the foregoing Consent Order was his voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESSETH my hand and notarial seal.

[Signature]
Notary Public



My Commission expires: April 7, 2029