IN THE MATTER OF

\* BEOFRE THE MARYLAND

ANTONE ANGELO WRIGHT, L.P.

STATE BOARD OF

Respondent

\* PHYSICIANS

**License Number: Y00077** 

. . .

**Case Number: 2218-0259 B** 

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## **CONSENT ORDER**

On October 19, 2018, Disciplinary Panel B ("Panel B") of the Maryland State Board of Physicians (the "Board") charged **ANTONE ANGELO WRIGHT, L.P.** (the "Respondent"), License Number Y00077, under the Maryland Perfusion Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 14-5E-01 *et seq.* (2014 Repl. Vol. & 2017 Supp.).

Panel B charges the Respondent with violating the following provisions of the Act: Health Occ. §14-5E-16. License- Denial, suspension, revocation; reprimand or probation of license

- (a) In general. 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 licensee, if the applicant or licensee:
  - (1) Fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a license for the applicant or licensee or for another;
  - (3) Is guilty of unprofessional or immoral conduct in the practice of perfusion;
  - (10) Willfully makes or files a false report or record in the practice of perfusion[.]

On November 28, 2018, Disciplinary Panel B was convened as a Disciplinary Committee for Case Resolution ("DCCR") in this matter. Based on negotiations occurring as a result of the DCCR, the Respondent agreed to enter this Consent Order, consisting of Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order and Consent.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

Panel B makes the following findings of fact:

# I. Background

- 1. At all times relevant, the Respondent was licensed as a perfusionist advanced in the State of Maryland. The Respondent was initially licensed as a perfusionist -advanced on April 8, 2014. The Respondent last renewed his perfusionist license on or about January 22, 2018, which will expire on January 31, 2020.
- 2. The Respondent is also licensed as a respiratory care practitioner in Maryland, having been initially licensed on March 6, 1998. The Respondent last renewed his respiratory care practitioner license on or about May 8, 2018, which will expire on May 31, 2020.
- 3. The Respondent previously worked as a perfusionist and a respiratory care practitioner at a hospital in Maryland ("Hospital A").

# II. <u>Licensure Applications</u>

4. On February 27, 2014, the Respondent submitted an Application for Initial Licensure: Perfusionist – Advanced. The Respondent answered "No" to the following "Character and Fitness" Question 14 e:

Have you been charged with or convicted of any criminal act for which you pled nolo contendere, could receive, or did receive, probation before judgment, or were sentenced to probation or confinement?

- 5. On or about January 22, 2018, submitted a renewal Application for Licensure: Perfusionist.
- 6. As part of the 2018 renewal process, the Respondent was required, for the first time, to submit finger prints so that the Board could obtain a Criminal History Records Check ("CHRC").<sup>1</sup>

### III. Criminal History

- 7. In or about January 2018, the Board obtained the CHRC, which revealed that the Respondent has a criminal history
- 8. In or about February 2018, the Board obtained certified court documents from the circuit court for Lee county, Florida, which revealed the following:
  - a. On May 29, 1991, the Respondent pled guilty to Attempted Capital Sexual Battery in the Circuit Court of Leon County, Florida (Case No. 90-CF1613). The Respondent was placed on 15 years of probation, directed to pay for any counseling required by the victim, to have a psychological evaluation, and complete any counseling that may be required. After 5 years, on May 20, 1996, the Respondent's Motion to Terminate Probation was granted.
  - b. On July 13, 1993, the Respondent pled *nolo contendere* and was convicted of "Provide Merchant False Information to Obtain Refund" in the Circuit Court of Leon County, Florida (Case No. 1993-MM5336). The Respondent was placed on 6 months of probation, which was terminated on February 22, 1994.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Health Occ. § 14-308.1 which became effective July 1, 2015; however, the Board did not begin requesting CHRC until October 1, 2016, after the Respondent's date of renewal of his perfusionists license in January 2016.

### IV. The Respondent's Response to Criminal History Information

- 9. On or about April 5, 2018, the Respondent submitted a response to the Board's request for a detailed explanation of the reportable criminal events in 1991 and 1993 and why he failed to report this information on his application for licensure as a perfusionist. The Respondent provided a detailed description of both events, summarized as follows:
  - a. Regarding the 1991 event, when the Respondent was 18 years old, the Respondent stated that he used drugs, alcohol, and marijuana and had no memory of the crime with which he was charged. He stated that part of the plea agreement was that "adjudication would be withheld" and he would be placed on probation. He stated that he did not report the event because his public defender told him that because the adjudication was withheld, it would not be considered a conviction. The Respondent acknowledged that he should have reported the event.
  - b. Regarding the 1993 event, when the Respondent was 20 years old, he stated he pled *nolo contendere* to a misdemeanor. He stated he failed to report the event because he misread the question to require disclosure of felony convictions only. The Respondent acknowledged that he should have reported the event.
- 10. On May 8, 2018, the Respondent submitted a renewal application for his respiratory care practitioner license and "yes" to the question about criminal history.<sup>3</sup>

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Disciplinary Panel B of the Board concludes as a matter of law that the Respondent violated Health Occ. § 14-5E-16(a)(1) (fraudulently or deceptively obtained a license); Health Occ. § 14-5E-16(a)(3) (is guilty of unprofessional conduct in the practice of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Plea Agreement states: "W/H ADJ, 15 years" probation, can terminate early if all conditions of probation met." On May 29, 1991, the judge signed an order stating, ADJUDICATION WITHELD."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Respondent was not required to answer "yes" since the application states that the character and fitness questions only pertain to the period since May 31, 2016.

perfusion); and Health Occ. § 14-5E-16(a)(10) (willfully made a false report or record in the practice of perfusion).

#### **ORDER**

It is thus ORDERED that the Respondent is REPRIMANDED; and it is further

ORDERED that within three (3) years, the Respondent shall pay a civil fine of \$2,500. The Payment shall be by money order or bank certified check made payable to the Maryland Board of Physicians and mailed to P.O. Box 37217, Baltimore, Maryland 21297. The Board will not renew or reinstate the Respondent's license if the Respondent fails to timely pay the fine to the Board; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent shall comply with the Maryland Perfusion Act, Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 14-5E-01 et seq., and all laws and regulations governing the practice of perfusion in Maryland; and it is further

ORDERED that the effective date of the Consent Order is the date the Consent Order is signed by Board's Executive Director, or her designee. The Executive Director 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, 14-4111.1(b)(2) and Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. § 4–333(b)(6).

Christine A. Farrelly, Executive Director

Maryland State Board of Physicians

#### **CONSENT**

I, Antone Angelo Wright, L.P., acknowledge that I have consulted with counsel before signing this document.

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 these rights 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 their 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 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 understands the language and meaning of its terms. Signature on File

12/21/18 Date

Antone Angelo Wright, L.P., Respondent

### **NOTARY**

STATE OF Many LAND

CITY/COUNTY OF Ame Amundal

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 21 day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2018 before me, a Notary Public of the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared Antone Angelo Wright, L.P., License Number Y00077, and gave oath in due form of law that the foregoing Consent Order was his voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESS, my hand and Notary Seal.

Notary Public

지기기원 Date My commission expires 9-22-2021