

IN THE MATTER OF	*	BEFORE THE
LAUREL ZOLLARS, M.D.	*	MARYLAND STATE
Respondent	*	BOARD OF PHYSICIANS
License Number: D35228	*	Case Number: 2218-0167B

\* \* \* \* \*

**FINAL ORDER OF REVOCATION OF MEDICAL LICENSE**

On July 3, 2018, Disciplinary Panel B ("Panel B") of the Maryland State Board of Physicians (the "Board") notified **LAUREL ZOLLARS, M.D.** (the "Respondent"), **License Number D35228**, of its **INTENT TO REVOKE** the Respondent's license to practice medicine in the State of Maryland. The Notice informed the Respondent that unless the Respondent requested a hearing in writing within 30 days of the date of mailing of the Notice, Panel B intended to sign this Final Order, which was enclosed. More than 30 days have elapsed and the Respondent failed to request a hearing. Therefore, Panel B hereby revokes the Respondent's license to practice medicine.

The basis for Panel B's action was pursuant to the Maryland Medical Practice Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. ("Health Occ.") §§ 14-401 *et seq.* (2014 Repl. Vol. and 2017 Supp.), and COMAR 10.32.02.14(A).

The pertinent provisions of the Act provide:

**Health Occ. § 14-404. Denials, reprimands, probations, suspensions, and revocations –Grounds.**

- (a) *In general.* -- 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:

- (1) Fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a license for the applicant or licensee or for another;
- (3) Is guilty of:
  - (ii) Unprofessional conduct in the practice of medicine;
- (36) Willfully makes a false representation when seeking or making application for licensure or any other application related to the practice of medicine;
- (42) Fails to submit to a criminal history records check under § 14-308.1 of this title[.]

**Health Occ. § 14-308.1. Criminal history records check through Central Repository.**

- (a) In this section, "Central Repository" means the Criminal Justice Information System Central Repository of the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.
- (b) An applicant, a licensee, or a certificate holder shall apply to the Central Repository for a State and national criminal history records check.
- (c) As part of the application required under subsection (b) of this section, an individual shall submit to the Central Repository:
  - (1) Two complete sets of legible fingerprints taken on forms approved by the Director of the Central Repository and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation;
  - (2) The fee authorized under § 10-221(b)(7) of the Criminal Procedure Article for access to State criminal history records; and
  - (3) The mandatory processing fee required by the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a national criminal history records check.

The pertinent provisions of the Board's regulations under COMAR 10.32.02 provide:

**.14 Proposed Orders; . . .**

- A. Nothing in this chapter prohibits the issuance of a charging document with a proposed order which will go into effect if the respondent fails to request a hearing.

**INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS**

Panel B finds the following:

1. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was and is licensed to practice medicine in the State of Maryland. The Respondent was initially licensed to practice medicine in Maryland on June 4, 1987, under License Number D35228. The Respondent's license is active through September 30, 2019.

2. On or about September 30, 2017, the Respondent submitted an online application (the "Application") for the renewal of the Respondent's license using the Board's online renewal application process.

3. When a licensee applies online to renew his or her license, a notice appears that informs the licensee that the Board may not renew a license if it has not received the licensee's Criminal History Record Check ("CHRC") information, which includes the licensee's submission of his or her fingerprints to the Criminal Justice Information Services ("CJIS") before attempting to complete the renewal application.

4. The Respondent's signed Application states, "Failure to submit to a [CHRC] may result in disciplinary action." Prior to submitting the online Application, the Respondent checked a box attesting to completing the CHRC.

5. By email dated November 1, 2017, Board staff informed the Respondent that the Board had not received the CHRC. Board staff further informed the Respondent that the Respondent had ten business days to submit the CHRC.

6. To date, the Respondent has not replied to the email.

7. By letter dated January 16, 2018, the Board informed the Respondent that the Board opened a preliminary investigation based upon the failure to obtain a CHRC for license renewal and the attestation that the Respondent submitted to a CHRC.

8. To date, the Respondent has not replied to the letter.

9. Panel B's investigation determined that the Respondent failed to submit fingerprints to CJS in compliance with the CHRC process, as set forth in Health Occ. § 14-308.1, and misrepresented to the Board in the Application that the Respondent completed the CHRC.

10. The Respondent's failure to complete the CHRC, as described above, constitutes, in whole or in part, a violation of Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(42), Fails to submit to a criminal records history check under § 14-308.1 of this title.

11. The Respondent's misrepresentation to the Board on the Application that the Respondent completed the CHRC, and failure to cooperate with the Board's investigation, as described above, constitutes, in whole or in part, a violation of one or more of the following provisions of the Act: Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(1), Fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a license for the applicant, licensee, or for another; Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(3)(ii), Is guilty of unprofessional conduct in the practice of medicine; and

Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(36), Willfully makes or files a false report or record in the practice of medicine.

**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, Panel B concludes as a matter of law that the Respondent violated Health Occ. §§ 14-404(a) (1), (3ii), (36) and (42).

**ORDER**

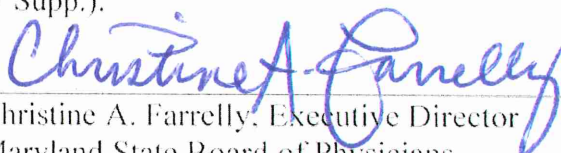
It is, on the affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum of Panel B, hereby:

**ORDERED** that the license of **Laurel Zollars, M.D.**, is **REVOKED**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent may apply for reinstatement of the Respondent's license to practice medicine after a minimum of one (1) year from the date of this Order; and it is further

**ORDERED** that this is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 *et seq.* (2014 & 2017 Supp.).

08/30/2018  
Date

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

**NOTICE OF RIGHT TO PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW**

Pursuant to Health Occ. § 14-408, the Respondent has the right to seek judicial review of this Final Decision and Order. Any petition for judicial review shall be filed within thirty (30) days from the date of mailing of this Final Decision and Order. The cover

letter accompanying this final decision and order indicates the date the decision is mailed. Any petition for judicial review shall be made as provided for in the Administrative Procedure Act, Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-222 and Title 7, Chapter 200 of the Maryland Rules of Procedure.

If the Respondent files a petition for judicial review, the Board is a party and should be served with the court's process at the following address:

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

Notice of any petition should also be sent to the Board's counsel at the following address:

Noreen M. Rubin, Assistant Attorney General  
Maryland Office of the Attorney General  
Maryland Department of Health  
300 West Preston Street, Suite 302  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201