IN THE MATTER OF

BEFORE THE

VICTOR M. IBRAHIM, M.D.

MARYLAND STATE

Respondent

BOARD OF PHYSICIANS

License Number: D69059

Case Number: 2217-0049A

ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF LICENSE TO PRACTICE MEDICINE

Disciplinary Panel A ("Panel A") of the Maryland State Board of Physicians (the "Board") hereby SUMMARILY SUSPENDS the license of VICTOR M. IBRAHIM, M.D. (the "Respondent"), License Number D69059, to practice medicine in the State of Maryland.

Panel A takes such action pursuant to its authority under Md. Code Ann., State Gov't II ("State Gov't II") § 10-226(c)(2) (2014 Repl. Vol. and 2017 Supp.) and Md. Code Regs. ("COMAR") 10.32.02.08B(7), concluding that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action.

INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS

Based on information received by, and made known to Panel A, and the investigatory information obtained by, received by and made known to and available to Panel A, including the instances described below, Panel A has reason to believe that the following facts are true:1

¹ The statements regarding the Respondent's conduct are intended to provide the Respondent with notice of the basis of the summary suspension. 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.

I. BACKGROUND

- 1. The Respondent was originally licensed to practice medicine in Maryland on April 21, 2009, under License Number D69059. The Respondent's latest license was given the expiration date of June 30, 2018.
- 2. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent operated a medical practice named *Regenerative Orthopedic & Sports Medicine*, which has locations at the following addresses: 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, Suite 200, Washington, DC 2003; and 11300 Rockville Pike, Suite 615, Rockville, Maryland 20852.
 - 3. The Respondent is board-certified in physical medicine and rehabilitation.

II. PRIOR DISCIPLINARY HISTORY

- 4. In or around 2014, the Board initiated an investigation of the Respondent under Board Case Number 2014-0681 after receiving information that the District of Columbia Board of Medicine (the "DC Board") took disciplinary action against him for engaging in an inappropriate relationship with a patient and for failing to properly document an examination of the same patient.
- 5. In a Consent Order dated January 29, 2014, the DC Board found as a matter of law that the Respondent's misconduct constituted a violation of the following provisions of D.C. Official Code § 3-1205.14(a): (9) Willfully fails to file or record any medical report as required by law; and (26) Fails to conform to standards of acceptable conduct and prevailing practice within a health profession. Pursuant to the Consent Order, the D.C. Board suspended the Respondent's District of Columbia medical license for six months, which it immediately stayed, and placed him on probation for three years, subject to probationary terms and conditions.

- 6. The Respondent resolved the Board's investigation of him by entering into a Consent Order, dated March 20, 2014, in which the Board found as a matter of law that the Respondent's professional misconduct in the District of Columbia violated the following provision of the Maryland Medical Practice Act (the "Act"): Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. ("Health Occ.") § 14-404(a)(21) Is disciplined by a licensing or disciplinary authority for an act that would be grounds under Health Occ. § 14-404(a).
- 7. Grounds under Health Occ. § 14-404(a) include: Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(3) Is guilty of: (i) Immoral conduct in the practice of medicine; and Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(12) Willfully fails to file or record any medical report as required by law, willfully impedes or obstructs the filing or recording of the report, or induces another to fail to file or record the report.
- 8. Pursuant to the Consent Order, the Board suspended the Respondent's Maryland medical license, which it immediately stayed, and placed him on probation, subject to his successful compliance with the terms and conditions of the DC Board Consent Order, dated January 24, 2014.
- 9. On January 28, 2015, the DC Board, pursuant to a Termination Order, terminated the terms and conditions it had imposed against the Respondent's medical license pursuant to its January 24, 2014, Consent Order.
- 10. As a result, on March 25, 2015, the Board issued an *Order Terminating Suspension and Probation*, in which it terminated the Respondent's suspension and probation, imposed under its March 20, 2014, Consent Order.

III. CURRENT INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS

- 11. In or around April 2017, the Board initiated an investigation of the Respondent under Board Case Number 2217-0049A after receiving information from the Arlington County, Virginia, Police Department that on two dates (January 24 and March 9, 2017), the Respondent had overdosed on controlled dangerous substances ("CDS") and experienced seizures. The Respondent was hospitalized in both incidents.
- 12. In the first incident, on January 24, 2017, emergency services responded to the Respondent's residence after receiving a report that he had overdosed and was having a seizure. After the Respondent regained consciousness, he stated that he had taken and overdosed on Tramadol 25 mg samples (Tramadol is an opioid and Schedule IV CDS).
- 13. In the second incident, on March 9, 2017, emergency services personnel responded to the Respondent's residence to treat the Respondent, who had again overdosed on CDS. After the Respondent was hospitalized, he stated to police that he had intravenously injected and overdosed on cocaine, and that he had misrepresented that he had taken Tramadol.
- 14. By letter dated June 16, 2017, the Board requested that the Respondent provide a response to allegations that he was hospitalized after overdosing on a CDS.
- 15. By letter dated July 7, 2017, the Respondent provided a written response to the Board in which he admitted to an "addiction" and that he "overdosed, and needed medical attention, on January 24 and March 9, 2017." The Respondent stated that after the March 9, 2017, overdose and hospitalization, he underwent in-patient treatment and is currently under the supervision of the Medical Society of the District of Columbia's Physician Health Program ("MSDC-HP").

- 16. On August 28, 2017, the Respondent consented to an under-oath interview by Board investigators. In this interview, the Respondent admitted that he began using cocaine approximately two and one-half years prior to the date of the interview, which over time escalated to use on a weekly basis. The Respondent admitted that his route of ingestion was through inhalation or injection. The Respondent admitted that in both instances where he was transported by emergency medical services to a hospital (*i.e.*, on January 24 and March 9, 2017), he had used cocaine, which precipitated seizures. The Respondent denied telling police/emergency services responders that he used Tramadol. The Respondent claimed that he had not used/abused any CDS since his March 9, 2017, overdose.
- 17. On or about March 13, 2018, the Board received a comprehensive evaluation report concerning the Respondent.²
- 18. Based on the investigative facts and the Respondent's acknowledged use of cocaine, Panel A finds that the Respondent presents a substantial likelihood of a risk of serious harm to the public health, safety and welfare.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based upon the foregoing Investigative Findings, Panel A of the Board concludes that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, and that pursuant to State Gov't II § 10-226(c)(2) and COMAR 10.32.02.08B(7), the Respondent's license is summarily suspended.

ORDER

IT IS thus, by Panel A of the Board, hereby:

² In order to maintain confidentiality, the details of the comprehensive report will not be disclosed in this Order, but the report will be made available to the Respondent upon request.

ORDERED that pursuant to the authority vested in Panel A by State Govt. II § 10-226(c)(2)(2014 Repl. Vol. and 2017 Supp.) and COMAR 10.32.02.08B(7), the Respondent's license to practice medicine in the State of Maryland is hereby SUMMARILY SUSPENDED; and it is further

ORDERED that in accordance with Md. Code Regs. 10.32.02.08B(7) and E, a post-deprivation initial hearing on the summary suspension will be held on Wednesday, April 11, 2018, at 11:15 a.m. at the Board's offices, located at 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland, 21215-0095; and it is further

ORDERED that after the SUMMARY SUSPENSION hearing before Panel A, the Respondent, if dissatisfied with the result of the hearing, may request, within ten (10) days, an evidentiary hearing, such hearing to be set within thirty (30) days of the request, before an Administrative Law Judge at the Office of Administrative Hearings, Administrative Law Building, 11101 Gilroy Road, Hunt Valley, Maryland 21031-1301; and it is further

AND IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of the Order for Summary Suspension shall be filed by Panel A immediately in accordance with Health Occ. II § 14-407 (2014 Repl. Vol.); and it is further

ORDERED that this is an Order of Panel A, and as such, is a PUBLIC DOCUMENT pursuant to Md. Code Ann. Gen Prov. §§ 4-101 et seq. (2014).

03/30/2018

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