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| IN THE MATTER OF | * | BEFORE THE |
| JENNIFER M. HAMMER, M.D. | * | MARYLAND STATE |
| Respondent | * | BOARD OF PHYSICIANS |
| License Number: D76137 | * | Case Number: 2016-0186B |
| * * * * * | * | * * * * * |

CONSENT ORDER

PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

On February 10, 2016, the Maryland State Board of Physicians (the "Board") voted to charge **JENNIFER M. HAMMER, M.D.** (the "Respondent"), License Number D76137, under the Maryland Medical Practice Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. II ("Health Occ. II") §§ 14-101 *et seq.* (2014 Repl. Vol.).

Specifically, the Board voted to charge the Respondent with violating the following provision of the Act:

Health Occ. II § 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.

Prior to the issuance of charges, the Respondent agreed to enter into this public Consent Order consisting of Procedural Background, Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order, Consent and Notary.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Board makes the following Findings of Fact:

1. The Respondent was initially licensed to practice medicine in the State of Maryland on May 29, 2013. The Respondent retained medical licensure in Maryland

until September 30, 2014, when her license expired due to her failure to submit a timely renewal application.

2. The Respondent is board-certified in ophthalmology.

3. On or about August 19, 2015, the Respondent submitted an application to the Board to reinstate her medical license. In her application, the Respondent stated that from March 2014 until August 2015, she practiced medicine at a medical facility located in the State of Maryland.

4. On or about September 2, 2015, the Board reinstated the Respondent's medical license.

5. On or about September 11, 2015, the Board initiated an investigation of the Respondent's medical licensure.

6. By letter to the Respondent dated October 2, 2015, the Board requested that she address her continued practice of medicine in the State of Maryland after her Maryland medical license expired on September 30, 2014.

7. By letter to the Board dated October 16, 2015, the Respondent acknowledged that she failed to renew her Maryland medical license in August 2014, stating,

In August of 2014, in conjunction with my practice manager, I began the process to renew my license. After everything was completed my practice manager said she had submitted the renewal form. I assumed it was completed and my license was renewed. In August of this year I discovered my license was expired. As soon as I found out I called the Maryland Board of Physicians and immediately completed the necessary paperwork to have my license reinstated. It was never my intention to practice medicine without a valid license and I am truly sorry this occurred. From this point forward I will personally complete and submit every form to ensure this does not happen again.

8. The Board's investigation determined that for the period beginning in or around October 2014, and continuing until in or around August 2015, the Respondent practiced medicine in the State of Maryland without a valid Maryland medical license.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes as a matter of law that the Respondent violated the following provision of the Act: Health Occ. II § 14-601, Practicing medicine without a license.

ORDER

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

ORDERED that within **SIX (6) MONTHS**, the Respondent shall pay a monetary fine in the amount of **TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000.00)**, by bank certified check or money order, made payable to the Maryland Board of Physicians, P.O. Box 37217, Baltimore, Maryland 21297; and it is further

ORDERED that if the Respondent fails to comply with any term or condition of this Consent Order, the Board or Board disciplinary panel, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge of the Office of Administrative Hearings if there is a genuine issue as to a material fact or a show cause hearing before the Board or Board disciplinary panel if there is no genuine dispute as to a material fact, may reprimand the Respondent, place the Respondent on probation with appropriate terms and conditions, or suspend or revoke the Respondent's medical license; and it is further

ORDERED that unless stated otherwise in the order, any time period prescribed in this order begins when the Consent Order goes into effect. The Consent Order goes

into effect upon the signature of the Board's Executive Director, who signs on behalf of the Board; and it is further

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

03/30/2016
Date

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

CONSENT

I, Jennifer M. Hammer, M.D., acknowledge that I am represented by counsel and have consulted with counsel before entering into this Consent Order. By this Consent and for the purpose of resolving the issues raised by the Board, I agree and accept to be bound by the foregoing Consent Order and its conditions.

I acknowledge the validity of this Consent Order as if entered into 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 own behalf, and to all other substantive and procedural protections provided by the law. I agree to forego my opportunity to challenge these allegations. I acknowledge the legal authority and jurisdiction of the Board to initiate these proceedings and to issue and enforce this Consent Order. I affirm that I am waiving my right to appeal any adverse ruling of the Board that might have followed after any such hearing.

I sign this Consent Order, voluntarily and without reservation, and I fully understand and comprehend the language, meaning and terms of this Consent Order.

3/28/16
Date

J. Hammer
Jennifer M. Hammer, M.D.
Respondent

Read and approved:

Lawrence B. Russell
Lawrence B. Russell, Esquire
Counsel for Dr. Hammer

NOTARY

STATE OF Maryland
CITY/COUNTY OF Carroll

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 28 day of March, 2016,
2016, before me, a Notary Public of the foregoing State and City/County aforesaid,
personally appeared Jennifer M. Hammer, M.D., and made oath in due form of law that
signing the foregoing Consent Order was her voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESSETH my hand and notary seal.

John L. Deal IV
Notary Public

My commission expires:

