

IN THE MATTER OF	*	BEFORE THE
HADI M. RASSAEL, D.O.	*	MARYLAND STATE BOARD
Respondent	*	OF PHYSICIANS
License No.: H51091	*	Case No. 7715-0052
* * * * *	*	* * * * *

**ORDER TERMINATING SUSPENSION AND  
IMPOSING PROBATION**

On January 14, 2015, in order to resolved charges pending against Hadi M. Rassael, D.O., Disciplinary Panel B (the “Panel” or “Panel B”) of the Maryland State Board of Physicians (the “Board”) and Dr. Rassael entered into a Consent Order in which the Panel concluded that Dr. Rassael was guilty of immoral and unprofessional conduct in the practice of medicine, *see* Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(3)(i) and (ii); performed cosmetic surgical procedures in an unaccredited facility, *see* Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(41)(i) and (ii); and violated a previous Consent Order. Based upon these violations, under the Consent Order, Dr. Rassael’s license to practice medicine in Maryland was suspended for a minimum period of 18 months.<sup>1</sup> During the suspension, Dr. Rassael was required to enroll in the Maryland Professional Rehabilitation Program (“MPRP”) and ordered to comply with all evaluation and treatment recommendations of MPRP. Also, under the Consent Order, upon the termination of suspension, Dr. Rassael would be placed on probation for a minimum of three years subject to appropriate terms and conditions determined by the Panel.

On April 29, 2016, Dr. Rassael filed a petition for the termination of suspension and, on May 25, 2016, appeared before the Panel to discuss the termination. On May 26, 2016, the Panel

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<sup>1</sup> The 18 month suspension began retroactively on October 7, 2014, which was when the Panel had summarily suspended Dr. Rassael’s medical license. The summary suspension was terminated under the January 14, 2015, Consent Order.

issued an order continuing the suspension until the Panel approved (1) a physician supervisor to monitor his practice and the implementation of specific conditions regulating his practice and (2) practice guidelines and protection and organizational plans (“Protection Plan”) with specific conditions to ensure appropriate boundaries are maintained in his practice. In accordance with the May 26, 2016, order, Dr. Rassael offered a physician who agreed to supervise and monitor Dr. Rassael and provided the Panel with a Protection Plan. The Panel has approved the physician supervisor and, with amendments, approved the Protection Plan.

It is, thus, by Panel B, hereby

**ORDERED** that the suspension imposed under the January 14, 2015, Consent Order and continued under the May 26, 2016, order, is **TERMINATED**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that Dr. Rassael is placed on **PROBATION** for minimum period of **THREE YEARS**.<sup>2</sup> During the probationary period, Dr. Rassael shall comply with the following probationary terms and conditions:

1. Dr. Rassael shall have a chaperone present during all interactions with patients for both telephone and in-person patient encounters, with documented log-in and log-out by a chaperone for each patient;
2. Dr. Rassael shall not use or employ family members as chaperones;
3. Dr. Rassael shall not have any contact with patients outside of care and treatment for patients’ medical needs;
4. Dr. Rassael shall comply with the Panel-approved Protection Plan<sup>3</sup>;

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<sup>2</sup> If Dr. Rassael’s license expires while he is on probation, the probationary period and any probationary conditions will be tolled.

<sup>3</sup> The Protection Plan was approved by Panel B on July 27, 2016, with amendments. The Protection Plan with the Panel’s amendments was submitted to the Board by Dr. Rassael’s counsel on July 28, 2016, and is in effect and incorporated by reference into this order.

5. Dr. Rassael shall continue enrollment with the MPRP during the entire length of the probationary period. Dr. Rassael shall continue his Participant Rehabilitation Agreement and Participant Rehabilitation Plan with MPRP. Dr. Rassael shall fully and timely cooperate and comply with all of MPRP's referrals, rules, and requirements, including, but not limited to, the terms and conditions of his Participant Rehabilitation Agreement(s) and Participant Rehabilitation Plan(s) with MPRP, and shall fully participate and comply with all therapy, treatment, evaluations, and toxicology screening as directed by MPRP;

6. Dr. Rassael shall sign and update the written release/consent forms requested by the Board and MPRP. Dr. Rassael shall sign the release/consent forms to authorize MPRP to make verbal and written disclosures to the Board, including disclosure of any and all MPRP records and files possessed by MPRP. Dr. Rassael shall also sign any written release/consent forms to authorize MPRP to exchange with (i.e., disclose to and receive from) outside entities (including Dr. Rassael's current therapists and treatment providers) verbal and written information concerning Dr. Rassael and to ensure that MPRP is authorized to receive the medical records of Dr. Rassael including, but not limited to, mental health and drug or alcohol treatment records;

7. Dr. Rassael shall undergo periodic polygraph examinations as a clinical tool for compliance at the discretion of the MPRP;

8. Dr. Rassael shall continue in the Maintenance and Accountability Seminars ("MAS-12") Program for **12 months**;

9. At a minimum, Dr. Rassael shall meet with the Panel-approved **supervising physician once a month** for the duration of probation. The purpose of the monitoring shall be to

focus on the implementation and maintenance of the ethical and professional boundary terms and conditions of probation outlined in 1-8.

10. The supervising physician shall submit **quarterly reports** to the Panel detailing Dr. Rassael's progress in implementing and maintaining compliance with these terms and conditions;

11. The supervising physician shall immediately contact the Board if there are any concerns or complaints regarding personal boundary issues or compliance with the terms and conditions of this order;

12. Dr. Rassael has sole responsibility for ensuring that the supervising physician submits the required quarterly reports to the panel in a timely manner;

13. Disciplinary Panel B has sole authority over any changes in supervision and monitoring and must approve and ratify any changes in supervision and monitoring or the frequency of supervision and monitoring;

14. In the event that Dr. Rassael's supervising physician discontinues the supervisory and monitoring process for any reason, Dr. Rassael shall immediately notify Disciplinary Panel B. Dr. Rassael shall be solely responsible for submitting a replacement candidate to serve as his supervisor under the terms specified above;

15. An unsatisfactory report from the supervising physician shall constitute a violation of probation and this Order;

16. Dr. Rassael shall comply with the Maryland Medical Practice Act, Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 14-101—14-702, and all laws and regulations governing the practice of medicine in Maryland; and it is further

**ORDERED** that, after three years, Dr. Rassael may submit a written petition to the Board requesting termination of probation. After consideration of the petition, the probation may be terminated through an order of the Board or Panel B. The Respondent may be required to appear before the Board or Panel B to discuss his petition for termination. The Board or Panel B will grant the petition to terminate the probation if the Respondent has complied with all of the probationary terms and conditions and there are no pending complaints related to the charges; and it is further

**ORDERED** that if the Board or Panel B determines, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge of the Office of Administrative Hearing if there is a genuine dispute as to a material fact, or a show cause hearing before the Board or Panel B if there is no genuine dispute as to a material fact, that Dr. Rassael has failed to comply with any term or condition of probation or this Order, the Board or Panel B may reprimand Dr. Rassael, place Dr. Rassael on further probation with appropriate terms and conditions, or suspend or revoke Dr. Rassael's license to practice medicine in Maryland. The Board or Panel B may, in addition to one or more of the sanctions set forth above, impose a civil monetary fine upon Dr. Rassael; and it is further

**ORDERED** that Dr. Rassael is responsible for all costs incurred in fulfilling the terms and conditions of this Order; and it is further

**ORDERED** that, unless otherwise stated in this Order, any time period prescribed in this Order begins when the Order goes into effect. The Order goes into effect upon the signature of the Board's Executive Director, who signs on behalf of Panel B; and it is further

**ORDERED** that this is a public document pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 14-101 *et seq.*

08/01/2016  
Date

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