

#### STATE OF MARYLAND

# **DHMH**

## Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Larry J. Hogan, Jr. Governor - Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor - Van T. Mitchell, Secretary

#### MARYLAND BOARD OF PHARMACY

4201 Patterson Avenue Baltimore, Maryland 21215-2299 Mitra Gavgani, Board President – Deena Speights-Napata, Executive Director

# VIA REGULAR & CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED ARTICLE #7013 1090 0000 3937 7275

August 30, 2016

Walgreens Pharmacy 06-366 2310 W. Patapsco Avenue Baltimore, Maryland 21230 Attn: Stevery Neal, R.Ph.

Re:

Permit No. P06697, Case #PI-16-216

Notice of Deficiencies, Recommended Civil Monetary Penalty, and

Opportunity for Hearing

Dear Mr. Neal:

On May 10, 2016, an annual inspection was conducted by the Board of Pharmacy (the "Board") to determine if Walgreens Pharmacy 06-366 (the "Pharmacy") was in compliance with federal and state laws regarding the operation of a pharmacy. The Inspection Report indicated that the Pharmacy was not in compliance with regulatory requirements concerning pharmacy technician registration. Specifically, the Pharmacy's front store manager was performing certain delegated pharmacy acts in the pharmacy without being registered with the Board as a pharmacy technician. To date, the Board's records reflect that the individual remains unregistered.

#### I. FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

The Board adopts the findings of deficiencies as set forth in the Pharmacy Inspection Report dated May 10, 2016, and attached as Exhibit A.

Based upon deficiencies cited at your Pharmacy, the Board finds that the Pharmacy is in violation of the Maryland Pharmacy Act and the regulations adopted thereunder.

Specifically, the Board finds the Pharmacy in violation of Health Occ. Art. § 12-403(c)(1) and § 12-6B-01.

#### II. RECOMMENDED CIVIL MONETARY PENALTY

Under Maryland Health Occupations Article § 12-410 and COMAR 10.34.11, the Board of Pharmacy has the authority to impose a civil monetary penalty based upon violations of the Maryland Pharmacy Act.

Based upon the deficiencies cited at the Pharmacy, the Board hereby recommends the imposition of a **civil monetary penalty of \$1,000.00**. The deficiencies upon which the civil monetary penalty is based are enclosed with this letter on Pharmacy Inspection Report dated May 10, 2016.

In determining the recommended civil monetary penalty, the Board took into consideration the aggregating and mitigating factors outlined in COMAR 10.34.11.08.

#### III. FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION

Please be advised that the Board of Pharmacy may perform a follow-up inspection of the Pharmacy to insure that the deficiencies noted in the Report have not reoccurred. Should the follow-up inspection indicate that the Pharmacy has further deficiencies, the Board may pursue further disciplinary action against the Pharmacy that may result in the imposition of sanctions such as suspension, revocation or additional monetary penalties.

### IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

If the Pharmacy disputes the findings, conclusions or the civil monetary penalty, the Pharmacy may request an evidentiary hearing on the Board's decision in this matter. In the event that the Pharmacy requests an evidentiary hearing, the Board shall initiate formal proceedings which will include the opportunity for a full evidentiary hearing. The hearing will be held in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, Md. Code Ann. State Gov't § 10-201 et seq., and COMAR 10.34.01. Any request for a hearing must by submitted in writing to Vanessa Thomas Gray, Compliance Investigator, Maryland Board of Pharmacy, 4201 Patterson Ave., 1st Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21215, no later than thirty (30) days of the date of this Notice.

Please be advised that at the hearing the Pharmacy would have the following rights: to be represented by counsel, to subpoena witnesses, to call witnesses on your own behalf, to present evidence, to cross-examine witnesses, to testify, and to present summation and argument. Should the Board find the Pharmacy guilty of the violations

cited in the Reports, the Board may suspend or revoke the pharmacy permit, or impose civil penalties, or both. If the Pharmacy requests a hearing but fails to appear, the Board may nevertheless hear and determine the matter in the Pharmacy's absence.

#### V. OPTION TO PAY RECOMMENDED CIVIL MONETARY PENALTY

Alternatively, the Pharmacy may pay the recommended civil monetary penalty within thirty (30) days of the date of this Notice, in the form of a certified check or money order made payable to the Maryland Board of Pharmacy.

Please mail the check or money order to:

Maryland Board of Pharmacy P.O. Box 2051 Baltimore, MD 21203-2051

NOTE: Please include the case number, Pl-16-216, on your check or money order to insure proper assignment to your case.

Upon the Pharmacy's payment of the civil monetary penalty, this Notice will constitute the Board's final action with respect to the inspection report dated, May 10, 2016, and shall be a public document in accordance with the Maryland Public Information Act.

If you have any questions concerning the instructions contained in this letter, please contact Vanessa Thomas Gray, Compliance Investigator, at 410-764-2493.

Sincerely,

Deena Speights-Napata **Executive Director** 

Linda Bethman, AAG, Board Counsel CC:

Attachment