

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**LISA WHITE, R.Ph.**

**License No. 12969**

**Respondent**

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**BEFORE THE**

**MARYLAND BOARD**

**OF**

**PHARMACY**

**Case No. 18-043**

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**ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

Pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Gov't. §10-226 (c) (2) (2014 Repl. Vol. and 2020 Supp.), the Maryland Board of Pharmacy (the "Board") hereby suspends the license to practice as a Pharmacist in Maryland issued to **LISA WHITE, R.Ph.**, (the "Respondent"), under the Maryland Pharmacy Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 12-101 *et seq.* (2014 Repl. Vol. and 2020 Supp.). This Order is based on the following investigative findings, which the Board has reason to believe are true:

**INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS**

1. At some of the times relevant hereto, the Respondent was registered to practice as a Pharmacist in Maryland. The Respondent was first licensed on November 18, 1992. The Respondent's license expires on February 28, 2023.

**BACKGROUND**

2. On June 21, 2010, the Board first issued a summary suspension against the license of the Respondent based upon her admitted theft and ingestion of narcotics from her pharmacy employer, which occurred from 2007-2009.

3. The Respondent subsequently pled guilty to possession of a controlled substance in a criminal court, received Probation Before Judgment and was court-ordered to attend Alcoholics Anonymous (“AA”) and submit to urine screening once a week.

4. By a Consent Order of September 1, 2010, the Respondent and the Board entered into an agreement which indicated that she had completed an eight-week intensive outpatient substance abuse program and continued to participate in a program. The Order also suspended the Respondent’s license for one year, beginning November 1, 2009, and set forth certain conditions, including urinalysis and abstaining from ingestion of controlled dangerous substances.

5. On January 5, 2011, the Board signed a Supplemental Order Lifting Suspension and placed the Respondent on conditional Probation for four years, which included restrictions on working in a dispensing role.

6. On February 10, 2012, the Board signed an Order of Modification which allowed the Respondent to practice as a dispensing pharmacist without the presence of another pharmacist on-site and allowed her to work in a dispensing role as a floater or for a staffing agency.

7. The Board signed an Order terminating Probation on March 23, 2015.

8. On August 13, 2018, the Board issued a second Order for Summary Suspension. The basis for the 2018 Summary Suspension was that, while employed as a pharmacist at a pharmacy in Worcester County, narcotics were missing from various bottles and, upon review of the Closed-Circuit TV video, the Respondent was observed walking to the narcotics cabinet and opening it. Afterwards, she was seen picking up

numerous narcotic bottles, opening them and appearing to dump some of the contents into her hand and then putting them in her pocket before leaving.

9. As a result, the Respondent was terminated from employment and criminal charges were brought against her in the District Court of Maryland for Worcester County, which she pled guilty to, for Theft \$100 to under \$1,500. The Respondent received Probation Before Judgment, unsupervised, and costs of \$357.50 to be paid by February 1, 2018. The Respondent was also ordered to complete a substance addiction program.

### **CURRENT INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS**

10. On November 6, 2020, the Board issued an Order Lifting Suspension and Imposing Probation, based upon a recommendation from the Board's designated rehabilitation committee, Pharmacy Rehabilitation Services ("PRS"), due to evidence of her compliance with conditions of her suspension. The Order placed her on Probation for at least three years, ordering her to remain in compliance with her monitoring contract and to submit to random urine screenings at a frequency established by PRS, attend NA/AA meetings at least three times per week and submit proof of attendance to PRS.

11. The Respondent signed a five-year contract with PRS on July 21, 2020. The records showed that she has had three outpatient substance abuse treatment episodes starting in 2009: 2009-2010, 2017-2018, and 2020-2021. The first episode was completed successfully, but the Respondent relapsed from the last two episodes, most recently on June 24, 2021.

12. The Respondent admitted that she is drinking following her positive urine test on June 24, 2021. Since then, she has produced three additional positive urine tests for alcohol on July 14, 16, and 20, 2021.

13. The counselors and PRS agree that the best option would be inpatient treatment but, financially, the second-best option is for her to attend an intensive outpatient program (“IOP”).

14. According to the counselors and PRS, the Respondent is reported to be “drinking daily” and non-compliant with her treatment program—“drinking a large amount of alcohol per results of testing.”

15. A subsequent report showed that the Respondent missed her group session of August 11, 2021, and reported that she is “drinking a glass of wine nightly.” PRS reports that she is currently working one to three days per week at a pharmacy.

16. In addition, the Respondent is “doctor shopping” and has stopped attending outpatient group treatment but is still working while impaired.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Based on the foregoing, the Board finds that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., St. Gov't. §10-226 (c) (2) (2014 Repl. Vol. and 2020 Supp.).

### **ORDER**

Based on the foregoing, it is therefore this 9<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021, by a majority vote of a quorum of the Maryland Board of Pharmacy, by authority granted to the Board by Md. Code Ann., St. Gov't. §10-226(c) (2) (2014 Repl. Vol. and 2020 Supp.),

ORDERED, that the license held by the Respondent, **LISA WHITE, R.Ph.**, to practice as a Pharmacist, **License No. 12969**, is hereby **SUMMARILY SUSPENDED**; and be it further

ORDERED, that upon the Board's receipt of a written request from the Respondent, a Show Cause Hearing shall be scheduled within a reasonable time of said request, at which the Respondent will be given an opportunity to be heard as to whether the Summary Suspension should be continued, regarding the Respondent's fitness to practice as a Pharmacist and the danger to the public; and be it further

ORDERED, that the Respondent shall immediately turn over to the Board her wall certificate and wallet-sized license to practice as a Pharmacist issued by the Board; and be it further

ORDERED, that this document constitutes a final Order of the Board and is, therefore, a public document for purposes of public disclosure, as required by Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 *et seq.* (2014 Vol. and 2020 Supp.).

  
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Deena Speights-Napata, M.A.  
Executive Director  
Maryland Board of Pharmacy

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

A Show Cause Hearing to determine whether the Summary Suspension shall be continued will be held before the Board at 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215 following a written request by the Respondent for same.