

IN THE MATTER OF * BEFORE THE
COREY WHITE, PHARM TECH * STATE BOARD
Registration No.: T05762 * OF
Respondent * PHARMACY
* Case No. PT-16-023

* * * * *

ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

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

INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS¹

1. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was registered to practice as a Pharm Tech in Maryland. The Respondent was first registered on June 10, 2009. The Respondent's registration expires on October 3, 2016.

2. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was employed as a Pharm Tech at Pharmacy A.² Pharmacy A is located in Hospital A.

¹ The statements regarding the Respondent's conduct are only intended to provide the Respondent with notice of the basis of the Board's action. 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 this action.

² The Respondent may obtain the names of the individuals and entities referred to in this Order by contacting the Administrative Prosecutor.

3. On or about February 24, 2016, the Board received documentation from Pharmacy A indicating that the Respondent was terminated from employment on February 16, 2016, for violation of Pharmacy A's Drug, Alcohol and Substance Abuse Policy. The documentation revealed the following::

- A. On February 5, 2016, a nurse employed within a unit at Hospital A received an opened packet of 40 mg of Oxycontin³ from a medicine machine at Hospital A and reported it to Pharmacy A;
- B. Pharmacy A investigated and discovered the opened packet labeled 40 mg Oxycontin actually contained a glipizide⁴ xl 2.5 mg pill, which looks very similar to the Oxycontin medicine in size, shape and color;
- C. Once discovered, all of the medicine machines in the hospital were checked to see whether all of the OxyContin were appropriately packaged and unopened;
- D. Reports were run to determine what Pharm Techs had access into these machine as far back as November 2015;
- E. It was determined that of all of the Pharm Techs who accessed the machines only the Respondent had no assigned reason to do so on three different occasions;
- F. As a result, a meeting was held with the Respondent and several hospital personnel on February 9, 2016;

³ Oxycontin is a narcotic that treats moderate to severe pain.

⁴ Glipizide is an oral diabetes medicine that helps control blood sugar levels by helping the pancreas produce insulin.

- G. At the meeting, the Respondent came up with a reason why he opened one of the machines when he was not scheduled to work that date and denied that he was on drugs or that he had taken the medicine;
- H. Finally, after denying tampering with the drugs, the Respondent admitted that he had removed four OxyContin packages and placed them in a bag to take to the pharmacy and had stepped on the bag, crushing them. He claimed that he disposed of the crushed tablets in a "sharps" container and then substituted the glipizide for the OxyContin because they looked so similar. He further admitted that he changed the dates and replaced the packets in the machine;
- I. The Respondent was told to self-report this incident to the Board and that Hospital A would report it to the Board and file a DEA "Report of Theft and Loss" as required.

4. As a result of the above actions/admissions, the Respondent was terminated from employment on February 16, 2016.

5. Pharmacy A filed the DEA report as required.⁵

6. A Pharm Tech who tampers with narcotic medication and substitutes other medication for it is a threat to the public health, safety or welfare of the public.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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

⁵ The Respondent failed to self-report the incident to the Board.


ORDER

Based on the foregoing, it is therefore this 20th day of September, 2016, by a majority vote of a quorum of the State Board of Pharmacy, by authority granted to the Board by Md. St. Govt. Code Ann. §10-226(c) (2) (2014 Repl. Vol. II), the registration held by the Respondent to practice as a Pharm Tech in Maryland, Registration No. T05762 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 Pharm Tech and the danger to the public; and be it further

ORDERED, that the Respondent shall immediately turn over to the Board his wall certificate and wallet-sized registration to practice as a Pharm Tech 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.).


Deena Speights-Napata, Executive Director
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, 21215 following a written request by the Respondent for same.