

IN THE MATTER OF
LEVAN ATANELOV, M.D.

Respondent

License Number: D78960

* BEFORE THE
* MARYLAND STATE
* BOARD OF PHYSICIANS
* Case Number: 2225-0086B

* * * * *

CONSENT ORDER

In or around August 2024, the Maryland State Board of Physicians (the “Board”) initiated an investigation of **LEVAN ATANELOV, M.D.** (the “Respondent”), License Number D78960, after discovering that he was the supervising physician of a physician assistant (the “Physician Assistant”),¹ who was practicing as a physician assistant in Maryland without a Board-approved delegation agreement. At the conclusion of its investigation, Panel B determined that it has grounds to charge the Respondent with failing to comply with provisions of the Maryland Medical Practice Act (the “Act”), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. (“Health Occ.”) §§ 14-101 *et seq.* (2021 Repl. Vol. & 2023 Supp.).

The pertinent provision of the Act is as follows:

Health Occ. § 14-404. Denials, reprimands, probations, suspensions, and revocations – Grounds,

- (a) *In general* – Subject to the hearing provisions of § 14-405 of this subtitle, a disciplinary panel, on the affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum of the disciplinary panel, may reprimand any licensee, place any licensee on probation, or suspend or revoke a license if the licensee:

....

¹ To ensure confidentiality, the names of individuals, hospitals and healthcare facilities involved in this case are not disclosed in this document.

- (43) Except for the licensure process described under Subtitle 3A of this title, violates any provision of this title, any rule or regulation adopted by the Board, or any State or federal law pertaining to the practice of medicine.

The underlying violations with respect to Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(43) include:

Health Occ. § 15-302. Delegation Agreements.

- (a) A physician may delegate medical acts to a physician assistant only after:
 - (1) A delegation agreement has been executed and filed with the Board[.]

COMAR 10.32.03.05 Delegation Agreements – Contents.

- A. Before a physician may delegate medical acts and before a physician assistant may perform medical acts, the physician assistant and primary supervising physician shall file with the Board:
 - (1) A delegation agreement on the Board-approved form; and
 - (2) The required fee as specified in Regulation .16 of this chapter.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

Panel B finds the following facts:

- 1. At all times relevant, the Respondent was and is licensed to practice medicine in the State of Maryland. The Respondent initially was licensed to practice medicine in

Maryland on January 23, 2015, under License Number D78960. The Respondent's license expires on September 30, 2026, subject to renewal.

2. The Respondent is board-certified in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, and at all times relevant, practiced medicine at a health care facility (the "Facility") located in Owings Mills, Maryland.

3. At all times relevant, the Respondent served as the supervisor physician to the Physician Assistant at the Facility.

4. On or about July 24, 2024, the Board received a *Delegation Agreement Addendum for Advanced Duties* (the "Addendum") from the Physician Assistant. In the Addendum, the Physician Assistant sought Board approval to perform certain advanced duties at the Facility.

5. On review, Board staff discovered that the Respondent and the Physician Assistant never had a Board-approved Delegation Agreement for Core Duties, which is a prerequisite for her to practice as a physician assistant at the Facility.

6. Based on the information above, the Board initiated an investigation of the Respondent.

7. The Board's investigation revealed that the Physician Assistant was hired to work at the Facility on February 13, 2024. After some training, the Physician Assistant began treating patients on April 10, 2024, under the Respondent's supervision. However, at the time the Physician Assistant began treating patients under the Respondent's

supervision, they did not have a Delegation Agreement for Core Duties filed and approved by the Board.

8. After discovering the oversight, the Respondent and the Physician Assistant filed a Delegation Agreement for Core Duties with the Board on August 28, 2024, which the Board approved on September 9, 2024.

9. In a letter dated September 25, 2024, the Respondent admitted that it was an administrative oversight in allowing the Physician Assistant to practice as a physician assistant at the Facility without a Board-approved Delegation Agreement for Core Duties.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, Panel B concludes as a matter of law that the Respondent delegated medical acts to the Physician Assistant from April to August 2024 without a delegation agreement having been executed and filed with the Board, which constitutes a violation of Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(43), § 15-302(a)(1) and COMAR 10.32.03.05A(1) and (2).

ORDER

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

ORDERED that the Respondent be and hereby is **REPRIMANDED**; and it is further

ORDERED that, **within 6 months** from the effective date of this Consent Order, the Respondent shall pay a civil fine of **ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000)**. The payment shall be by bank certified check or money order made payable to the Maryland

Board of Physicians, P.O. Box 37217, Baltimore, Maryland 21297. The Board will not renew or reinstate the Respondent's license if the Respondent fails to pay the fine; and it is further

ORDERED that the effective date of the Consent Order is the date the Consent Order is signed by the Executive Director of the Board or her designee. The Executive Director or her designee signs the Consent Order on behalf of the disciplinary panel which has imposed the terms and conditions of this Consent Order; and it is further

ORDERED that this Consent Order is a public document. *See* Health Occ. §§ 1-607, 14-411.1(b)(2) and Gen. Prov. § 4-333(b)(6) (2021 Repl. Vol.).

01/31/2025
Date

Signature On File

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

CONSENT

I, Levan Atanelov, M.D. , acknowledge that that I am aware of my right to consult with and be represented by counsel in considering this Consent Order and in any proceedings that would otherwise result from charges.

By this Consent, I agree to be bound by this Consent Order and all its terms and conditions and understand that the Board will not entertain any request for amendments or modifications to any condition.

I am aware of the right to a hearing before the Board pursuant to COMAR 10.32.22.06 concerning any disciplinary charges that could have been issued against me. I waive this right and elect to sign this Consent Order instead.

I acknowledge the validity and enforceability of this Consent Order as if entered 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 behalf, and to all other substantive and procedural protections as provided by law. I waive those substantive and procedural protections. I acknowledge the legal authority and the jurisdiction of the Board to initiate these proceedings and to issue and enforce this Consent Order.

I voluntarily enter into and agree to comply with the terms and conditions set forth in this Consent Order as a resolution of the pending disciplinary matters. I waive any right to contest the Findings of Fact and the Conclusions of Law set out in this Consent Order. I waive all right to appeal this Consent Order.

I sign this Consent Order without reservation, and I fully understand and

comprehend the language and meaning of its terms.

Signature On File

January 22 2025
Date

Levan Atanelov, M.D.
The Respondent

NOTARY

STATE OF Maryland
CITY / COUNTY OF Baltimore

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 22nd day of January, 2025 before me, a Notary Public of the foregoing State and City/County, personally appeared Levan Atanelov, M.D. and made oath in due form of law that signing the foregoing Consent Order was his voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESSETH my hand and notarial seal.



Deborah A. Foster
Notary Public

My commission expires: 9/23/25