

IN THE MATTER OF
ROWENA GRUMBINE, M.D.,

Respondent

License Number D87861

* BEFORE THE
* MARYLAND STATE
* BOARD OF PHYSICIANS
* Case Number 7724-0063

* * * * *

ORDER TERMINATING SUSPENSION AND IMPOSING PROBATION

On February 21, 2024, Disciplinary Panel B (“Panel B”) of the Maryland State Board of Physicians (“Board”) and Rowena Grumbine, M.D. entered into a Consent Order. Under the Consent Order, the Panel concluded that Dr. Grumbine was professionally, physically, or mentally incompetent, in violation of Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(4), based on an assessment that concluded she was not capable of safely practicing medicine at that time due to her inflexible opinions that are contrary to specific medical standards of care. Under the terms of the Consent Order, Panel B reprimanded Dr. Grumbine and suspended Dr. Grumbine’s medical license for a minimum of one year and required her to enroll in the Maryland Professional Rehabilitation Program (“MPRP”). The Consent Order provided that Dr. Grumbine may petition Panel B to lift the suspension of her license if MPRP determined that she had complied with MPRP’s recommendations and requirements and she was safe to return to the practice of medicine. The Consent Order also provided that, if Panel B terminated the suspension, the panel could impose terms and conditions that it determines are reasonable and appropriate on Dr. Grumbine’s return to practice, which may include probation and probationary terms and conditions.

On July 24, 2025, Dr. Grumbine attended a comprehensive psychological evaluation. The evaluation concluded that Dr. Grumbine was unlikely to change her opinions on the suctioning of newborns during high-risk deliveries unless she is presented with evidence that it is not a best

practice for her patients, but opined that this rigidity in thinking was not indicative of a psychiatric illness. On September 4, 2025, MPRP provided a written update to Panel B on Dr. Grumbine's ongoing participation in and compliance with MPRP and endorsed Dr. Grumbine's return to the practice of medicine with recommendations to ensure her compliance with the standard of care and the standards of any organization in which she practices.

On September 12, 2025, the Board sent Dr. Grumbine a letter asking her to respond to six questions regarding her understanding of her conduct that led to the suspension of her license and her plans to lessen the likelihood of repeating the conduct in the future. On September 22, 2025, Dr. Grumbine submitted a written response to Panel B in which she assured the Panel that she would strictly adhere to all hospital policies, procedures, and supervisory directives and she reassured the Panel that she would only perform clinical procedures that are explicitly approved by the institution. On October 24, 2025, the administrative prosecutor submitted a letter to Panel B recommending that the Panel deny Dr. Grumbine's request to terminate her suspension. On November 19, 2025, Dr. Grumbine and the administrative prosecutor appeared before Panel B for consideration of Dr. Grumbine's petition. In her statements to the Panel, and through her counsel, Dr. Grumbine assured the Panel that if her suspension was terminated, she would follow all hospital and institutional policies and directives going forward.

Panel B finds that Dr. Grumbine has complied with the terms and conditions of her Consent Order and that, with MPRP's endorsement, Dr. Grumbine is safe to return to the practice of medicine so long as certain safeguards are in place. Accordingly, Panel B will terminate the suspension of Dr. Grumbine's license and place Dr. Grumbine on probation for a minimum of one year with certain terms and conditions, including continued enrollment in MPRP.

It is thus, by Panel B, hereby:

ORDERED that the suspension and conditions of suspension imposed under the Consent Order, dated February 21, 2024, are **TERMINATED**; and it is further

ORDERED that the reprimands imposed by the June 7, 2023 Consent Order I and February 21, 2024 Consent Order II remain in effect; and it is further

ORDERED that Dr. Grumbine is placed on **PROBATION**¹ for a minimum period of **ONE YEAR**, subject to the following terms and conditions:

(1) Dr. Grumbine shall remain enrolled in MPRP as follows:

(a) Dr. Grumbine shall fully and timely cooperate and comply with all MPRP's referrals, rules, and requirements, including, but not limited to, the terms and conditions of the Participant Rehabilitation Agreement(s) and Participant Rehabilitation Plan(s) entered with MPRP, and shall fully participate and comply with all therapy, treatment, evaluations, and screenings as directed by MPRP;

(b) Dr. Grumbine shall sign and update the written release/consent forms requested by the Board and MPRP, including release/consent forms to authorize MPRP to make verbal and written disclosures to the Board and to authorize the Board to disclose relevant information from MPRP records and files in a public order. Dr. Grumbine shall not withdraw her release/consent;

(c) Dr. Grumbine shall also sign any written release/consent forms to authorize MPRP to exchange with (i.e., disclose to and receive from) outside entities (including all of Dr. Grumbine's current therapists and treatment providers) verbal and written information concerning Dr. Grumbine and to ensure that MPRP is authorized to receive the medical records of Dr. Grumbine, including, but not limited to, mental health and drug or alcohol evaluation and treatment records. Dr. Grumbine shall not withdraw her release/consent;

(d) Dr. Grumbine's failure to comply with any of the above terms or conditions including terms or conditions of the Participant Rehabilitation Agreement(s) or Participant Rehabilitation Plan(s) constitutes a violation of this Order; and it is further

ORDERED that if, upon the authorization of MPRP, Dr. Grumbine transfers to a rehabilitation program in another state, Dr. Grumbine's failure to comply with any term or

¹ If Dr. Grumbine's license expires while Dr. Grumbine is on probation, the probation period and any probationary conditions will be tolled.

condition of the out-of-state's rehabilitation program, constitutes a violation of this Consent Order. Dr. Grumbine shall also sign any out-of-state written release/consent forms to authorize the Board to exchange with (i.e., disclose to and receive from) the out-of-state program verbal and written information concerning Dr. Grumbine, and to ensure that the Board is authorized to receive the medical records of Dr. Grumbine, including, but not limited to, mental health and drug or alcohol evaluation and treatment records. Dr. Grumbine shall not withdraw her release/consent; and it is further

ORDERED that Dr. Grumbine shall not apply for early termination of probation; and it is further

ORDERED that, after Dr. Grumbine has complied with all terms and conditions of probation, the minimum period of probation has passed, and MPRP has determined that Dr. Grumbine is safe to return to the practice of medicine without monitoring, Dr. Grumbine may submit to the Board a written petition for termination of probation. After consideration of the petition, the probation may be terminated through an order of the disciplinary panel. Dr. Grumbine may be required to appear before the disciplinary panel to discuss her petition for termination. The disciplinary panel may grant the petition to terminate the probation, through an order of the disciplinary panel, if Dr. Grumbine has complied with all probationary terms and conditions and there are no pending complaints relating to the charges; and it is further

ORDERED that if Dr. Grumbine allegedly fails to comply with any term or condition imposed by this Order Terminating Suspension and Imposing Probation, Dr. Grumbine shall be given notice and an opportunity for a hearing. If the disciplinary panel determines there is a genuine dispute as to a material fact, the hearing shall be before an Administrative Law Judge of the Office of Administrative Hearings; and if the disciplinary panel determines there is no genuine

dispute as to a material fact, Dr. Grumbine shall be given a show cause hearing before a disciplinary panel; and it is further

ORDERED that, after the appropriate hearing, if a disciplinary panel determines that Dr. Grumbine has failed to comply with any term or condition imposed by this Order Terminating Suspension and Imposing Probation, a disciplinary panel may reprimand Dr. Grumbine, place Dr. Grumbine on probation with appropriate terms and conditions, or suspend with appropriate terms and conditions, or revoke Dr. Grumbine's license to practice medicine in Maryland. A disciplinary panel may, in addition to one or more of the sanctions set forth above, impose a civil monetary fine upon Dr. Grumbine; and it is further

ORDERED that this Order shall not be amended or modified and future requests for modification will not be considered by the Board or a disciplinary panel; and it is further

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

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

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

12/18/2025
Date

Signature on File

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