IN THE MATTER OF * BEFORE THE

MICHELLE BAHRAIN, D.O. * MARYLAND STATE

Respondent * BOARD OF PHYSICIANS

License Number: H57147 * Case Number: 2225-0112 A

ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF LICENSE TO PRACTICE MEDICINE

Disciplinary Panel A ("Panel A") of the Maryland State Board of Physicians (the "Board") hereby **SUMMARILY SUSPENDS** the license of **MICHELLE BAHRAIN**, **D.O.** (the "Respondent"), License Number H57147, to practice medicine in the State of Maryland.

Panel A takes such action pursuant to its authority under Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-226(c) (2021 Repl. Vol. & 2024 Supp.), concluding that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action.

INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS

Based on information received by, and made known to Panel A, and the investigatory information obtained by, received by and made known to and available to Panel A, including the instances described below, Panel A has reason to believe that the following facts are true: ¹

¹ The statements regarding Panel A's investigative findings are intended to provide the Respondent with notice of the basis of the suspension. 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 connection with this matter.

I. BACKGROUND

- 1. At all times relevant hereto, 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 February 27, 2001, under License Number H57147. The Respondent's license is current through September 30, 2026.
- 2. The Respondent was employed as a physician with a health care facility (the "Facility")² in Baltimore County, Maryland from January 1, 2023, until her resignation on September 11, 2024. The Respondent practiced as an infectious disease internist.
- 3. On or about October 10, 2024, the Board opened an investigation of the Respondent after receiving a Mandated 10-Day Report from the Facility. The report stated that the Respondent had resigned while under investigation for workplace harassment concerning her conduct toward another employee.³

II. BOARD INVESTIGATION

- 4. The Board's investigation revealed that the Respondent engaged in a pattern of unwelcome and persistent personal communication with a colleague ("Individual 1") through the Facility's internal communication system.
- 5. Despite Individual 1's repeated requests to cease contact, the Respondent continued to send excessive and inappropriate messages over a period of more than one year.

² For confidentiality and privacy purposes, the names of individuals and health care facilities involved in this case are not disclosed in this document. The Respondent may obtain the names of all individuals and health care facilities referenced in this document by contacting the administrative prosecutor.

³ This Facility employee is referred to as Individual 1 later in the order.

- 6. On or about November 22, 2023, the Facility suspended the Respondent with pay pending investigation after allegations arose that she had violated the Facility's Code of Conduct and Workplace Harassment Prevention Policy. This initial suspension was based on concerns that her conduct created a hostile work environment and was disruptive to professional operations.
- 7. On or about January 19, 2024, the Facility issued the Respondent a Letter of Expectations ("Letter") which prohibited her from directly communicating with Individual 1 and warned her that violations would result in further action.
- 8. On or about September 6, 2024, the Facility's IT team detected that the Respondent had used the Facility's internal communication system and contacted Individual 1 in violation of the Letter.
- 9. On or about September 9, 2024, Respondent was suspended a second time pending further investigation.
- 10. On or about September 11, 2024, Respondent resigned while under the Facility's investigation.
- 11. In the course of its investigation, the Board obtained a report of a psychological evaluation that the Respondent had undergone. Based on the evaluation, the evaluators concluded that the Respondent could not practice medicine safely due to certain underlying medical conditions.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based upon the foregoing Investigative Findings, Panel A concludes as a matter of law that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action,

pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-226(c)(2) (2021 Repl. Vol. and 2024 Supp.) and Md. Code Regs. ("COMAR") 10.32.02.08B(7)(a).

<u>ORDER</u>

It is, by a majority of the quorum of Panel A, hereby:

ORDERED that pursuant to the authority vested in Panel A by Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-226(c)(2) and COMAR10.32.02.08B(7)(a), the Respondent's license to practice medicine in the State of Maryland is hereby **SUMMARILY SUSPENDED**; and it is further

ORDERED that a post-deprivation hearing in accordance with COMAR 10.32.02.05B(7) on the summary suspension will be held on **Wednesday, March 12, 2025,** at 10:00 a.m. before Panel A at the Maryland State Board of Physicians, 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215-0095; and it is further

ORDERED that at the conclusion of the post-deprivation hearing before Panel A, the Respondent, if dissatisfied with the result of the hearing, may request within ten (10) days an evidentiary hearing, such hearing to be set within thirty (30) days of the request, before an Administrative Law Judge at the Office of Administrative Hearings, Administrative Law Building, 11101 Gilroy Road, Hunt Valley, Maryland 21031-1301; and it is further

ORDERED that a copy of this Order for Summary Suspension shall be filed with the Board in accordance with Health Occ. § 14-407 (2021 Repl. Vol. and 2023 Supp.); and it is further

ORDERED that this is an Order of Disciplinary Panel A, and as such, is a PUBLIC DOCUMENT. See Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 1-607, 14-411.1(b)(2) and Gen. Provisions § 4-333(b)(6).

02/26/2025 Date Signature On File

Christine A. Farrelly

Executive Director

Maryland State Board of Physicians