IN THE MATTER OF

BEFORE THE

SANDRA NOHEMI HERNANDEZ

MARYLAND STATE

Respondent

* **BOARD OF PHYSICIANS**

License Number: (Unlicensed)

Case Number: 2225-0083 B

CEASE AND DESIST ORDER

Pursuant to the authority granted to Disciplinary Panel B ("Panel B") of the Maryland State Board of Physicians (the "Board") under Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. 14-206(e)(2)(i) and (e)(2)(vii) (2021 Repl. Vol. & 2024 Supp.) and Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 14-5F-25 (2021 Repl. Vol. and 2024 Supp.), Panel B hereby orders SANDRA NOHEMI HERNANDEZ (the "Respondent"), an unlicensed individual, to immediately CEASE AND DESIST from representing to the public, by description of services, methods, or procedures, or otherwise, that she is authorized to practice medicine and naturopathic medicine in the State of Maryland.

The pertinent provisions of the Maryland Medical Practice Act, Health Occ. §§ 14-101 et seq. and the Maryland Naturopathic Medicine Act, Health Occ. §§ 14-5F-01 et seq., under which Panel B issues this Order provide the following:

§ 14-206. Judicial Powers.

- (e) A disciplinary panel may issue a cease and desist order or obtain injunctive relief against an individual for:
 - (2) Representing to the public, by title, description of services, methods, procedures, or otherwise, that the individual is authorized to practice:

- (i) Medicine in this State, in violation of § 14-602 of this title;
- (vii) Naturopathic medicine in this State, in violation of § 14-5F-30 of this title[.]

§ 14-602. Misrepresentation as practitioner of medicine.

- (a) Unless authorized to practice medicine under this title, a person may not represent to the public, by description of services, methods, or procedures, or otherwise, that the person is authorized to practice medicine in this State.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in this article, a person may not use the words or terms "Dr.", "doctor", "physician", "D.O.", or "M.D." with the intent to represent that the person practices medicine, unless the person is:
 - (1) Licensed to practice medicine under this title[.]

§ 14-5F-30. Unauthorized practice – Representations to public.

- (a) Unless an individual is licensed to practice naturopathic medicine, the individual may not:
 - (1) Represent to the public by title, by description of services, methods, or procedures, or otherwise, that the individual is licensed by the Board to practice naturopathic medicine;
 - (2) Use the title "doctor of naturopathic medicine", "doctor of naturopathy", "naturopathic doctor", or "naturopath"; or
 - (3) Use the initials "N.D.", "ND", "NMD", or "N.M.D." after the name of the individual.

INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS¹

Based on the investigatory information received by, made known to, and available to Panel B, there is reason to believe that the following facts are true:

I. BACKGROUND AND COMPLAINT

- 1. The Respondent is not and never has been licensed to practice medicine and/or naturopathic medicine in the State of Maryland.
- 2. On or about October 21, 2024, the Board received a complaint that the Respondent was representing to the public that she was a doctor despite not being licensed to practice medicine and/or naturopathic medicine. The complaint also alleged that the Respondent was providing medical care to individuals in her residence in Montgomery County, Maryland.
- 3. After receiving the complaint, the Board initiated an investigation of the Respondent.

II. BOARD INVESTIGATION

4. As part of its investigation, the Board received a written response from and conducted an under-oath interview with the Respondent. The Respondent also produced to the Board documents reflecting training and/or certifications as a Board certified Holistic Health Practitioner, Phlebotomy technician, nursing assistant, and American Drugless Practitioner. The Board also conducted an internet search and downloaded marketing materials and social media posts from the Respondent on TikTok, Facebook and LinkedIn.

¹ The statements regarding the Board's investigative findings are intended to provide the Respondent with reasonable 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 connection with this matter.

- 5. The investigation revealed that the Respondent refers to herself as a "Naturopathic Therapist." As a Naturopathic Therapist, the Respondent states she sells natural products to clients.
- 6. On her LinkedIn profile, the Respondent describes herself as a "Naturopathic Medicine Professional." The Respondent also states on her LinkedIn profile that she has "been leading a team of healthcare professionals for over 9 years, providing holistic and natural medicine to our patients. I also am a Naturopathic Therapist with over 10 years of experience in promoting health and wellness through natural products."
- 7. In the Spanish-language marketing materials, the Respondent represents herself as "Dra. Sandra Hernandez, Naturopata Certificada." The Respondent also represents she is "Bienvenidos a la Clinica de Medicina Natural Meryland atendida por la Dra Sandra Nohemi Hernandez."
- 8. In her Spanish-language social media posts, the Respondent refers to herself as "Doctora Sandra Nohemi Hernandez," "Dra. Sandra Nohemi Hernandez Flores," and "Dra. Sandra Noemy Hernandez Flores." Social media posts of the Respondent also show her wearing a white lab coat with a stethoscope around her neck.

² In English, this translates as "Dr. Sandra Hernandez, Certified Naturopath."

³ In English, this translates as "Welcome to the Maryland Natural Medicine Clinic, attended by Dr. Sandra Nohemi Hernandez."

⁴ In English, "Doctora" and "Dra." translate as "doctor."

- 9. In one social media post on TikTok, the Respondent posts a business card slide that refers to herself as "Dr. Sandra Nohemi Hernandez Especialista en medicina Orthomolecular Biologica y Nutrigenica."⁵
- 10. In another social media post on TikTok, the Respondent is shown performing a Platelet-Rich Plasma injection into the neck on an individual while wearing a white lab coat.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Investigative Findings, Panel B concludes as a matter of law that the Respondent: represented to the public, by description of services, methods, or procedures, or otherwise, that she is authorized to practice medicine in this State in violation of Health Occ. § 14-602(a); used the words or terms "Dr.", "doctor", "physician", "D.O.", or "M.D." with the intent to represent that the person practices medicine in Maryland without being licensed by the Board in violation of Health Occ. § 14-602(b); represented to the public by title, by description of services, methods, or procedures, or otherwise, that she is licensed by the Board to practice naturopathic medicine in violation of Health Occ. § 14-5F-30(a)(1); used the title "doctor of naturopathic medicine", "doctor of naturopathy", "naturopathic doctor", or "naturopath" after her name in Maryland without being licensed by the Board in violation of Health Occ. § 14-5F-30(a)(2); and/or used the initials "N.D.", "ND", "NMD", or "N.M.D." after her name in Maryland without being licensed by the Board in violation of Health Occ. § 14-5F-30(a)(3). As a result, Panel

⁵ The Respondent mentions as credentials, in Spanish, both "Nutrigemica" and "Nutrigenica." The Board believes both are misspellings of "Nutrigenomica," which translates in English to "Nutrigenemics," and "Nutrigenetica," which translates in English to "Nutrigenetics." *See* TikTok video ending in 9175.

B is authorized to issue this cease and desist order under Health Occ. § 14-206(e)(2)(i) and (2)(vii).

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Investigative Findings and Conclusions of Law, it is, by a majority of the quorum of Panel B, hereby:

ORDERED that pursuant to the authority under the Maryland Medical Practice Act, Health Occ. § 14-206(e)(2)(i) and (2)(vii), the Respondent, Sandra Nohemi Hernandez, shall IMMEDIATELY CEASE AND DESIST from representing to the public that she is authorized to practice medicine and naturopathic medicine in the State of Maryland; and it is further

ORDERED that this order is **EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY** pursuant to Md. Code Regs. 10.32.02.11E(1)(b), and it is further

ORDERED that, pursuant to COMAR 10.32.02.11E(4), after notice and an opportunity for a hearing, the Board may impose a fine as provided in COMAR 10.32.02.09C for any violation of this Cease and Desist Order; and it is further

ORDERED that this is a PUBLIC DOCUMENT pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 *et seq.* and Md. Code Regs. 10.32.02.11E(1)(a).

 $\frac{11/21/2025}{\text{Date}}$

Signature on file

Christine A. Farrelly \ Executive Director

Maryland State Board of Physicians

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING

The Respondent may challenge the factual or legal basis of this initial order by filing a written opposition, which may include a request for a hearing, within 30 days of its issuance. The written opposition shall be made to:

Christine A. Farrelly
Executive Director
Maryland State Board of Physicians
4201 Patterson Avenue, 4th Floor
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

A copy shall also be mailed to:

Gregory L. Lockwood Assistant Attorney General Maryland Office of the Attorney General Health Occupations Prosecution and Litigation Division 300 West Preston Street, Suite 201 Baltimore, Maryland 21201

If the Respondent files a written opposition and a request for a hearing, the Board shall consider that opposition and provide a hearing if requested. If the Respondent does not file a timely written opposition, the Respondent will lose the right to challenge this Initial Order to Cease and Desist and this Order will remain in effect.