IN THE MATTER OF

* BEFORE THE MARYLAND

KATHERINE A. ASADI, D.O.

STATE BOARD OF

Respondent

* PHYSICIANS

License Number: H54970

Case Number: 2223-0133 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 to practice medicine of **KATHERINE A. ASADI, D.O.** (the "Respondent"), License Number H54970, in the State of Maryland.

Panel A takes such action pursuant to its authority under Md. Code Ann., State Gov't §10-226(c)(2)(2021 Repl. Vol. and 2022 Supp.) and Md. Code Regs. ("COMAR") 10.32.02.08B(7), 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 the Respondent's conduct are intended to provide the Respondent with reasonable notice of the basis of Panel A'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.

Introduction

Panel A is summarily suspending the Respondent's license to practice medicine after a Board investigation revealed that she has health conditions that affect her ability to practice medicine safely.

Background/Licensing Information

- 1. The Respondent was originally issued a license to practice medicine in Maryland on July 1, 1999, under License Number H54970. The Respondent's license expires on September 30, 2024, subject to renewal.
 - 2. The Respondent is not board-certified.
- 3. At all relevant times, the Respondent was employed at a health care practice (the "Practice")² in Rosedale, Maryland until on or about December 21, 2022. The Respondent left the Practice after the Practice owner notified the Respondent that her employment was terminated as of January 1, 2023.

The Complaint

4. On or about June 22, 2023, the Board received information (the "Complaint") from members of the Baltimore County Police Department. The Complaint alleged that the Respondent may be engaging in prescription fraud.³

² For confidentiality reasons, the names of health care facilities and individuals referenced herein, will not be disclosed in this document. The Respondent may obtain this information from the administrative prosecutor.

³ The Board investigated this allegation however the Respondent's prescribing practices are not the basis for the summary suspension of the Respondent's license.

5. The Board conducted an investigation into the Complaint and determined, among other things, that the Respondent was unsafe to practice medicine.

The Board Investigation

- 6. On August 7, 2023, the Board conducted an under-oath interview of the Respondent where the Respondent made statements about her health⁴ including but not limited to:
 - a. In December 2022, she "began to realize that [she] shouldn't practice [medicine]" and she stopped practicing medicine due to her health conditions.
 - b. Her health conditions caused her to "not [be] aware of a lot of things...I don't remember things that happened to me."
 - c. She was recently hospitalized, twice, due to her health conditions. In April 2023, she required surgery and in late July 2023, she was hospitalized for 11 days.
- 7. The Respondent also provided the Board written authorization to release her medical and health records (the "Respondent's Medical and Health Records") to the Board.
- 8. A medical professional reviewed documents contained in the Board's investigative file, including but not limited to the Respondent's Medical and Health Records received by the Board, and opined that the Respondent "is not safe to practice medicine at this time."

⁴ For confidentiality reasons, specific information regarding the Respondent's health, including but not limited to the Respondent's reported health conditions and information in the Respondent's Medical and Health Records, will not be disclosed in this document. This information was known to the will be disclosed to the Respondent upon request. Panel A reviewed this information prior to the issuance of this Order for Summary Suspension of License to Practice Medicine.

CONCLUSION OF LAW

Based upon the foregoing Investigative Findings, Panel A of the Board concludes that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, and that pursuant to State Gov't § 10-226(c)(2) and COMAR 10.32.02.08B(7), the Respondent's license is summarily suspended.

<u>ORDER</u>

IT IS thus, by Panel A of the Board, hereby:

ORDERED that pursuant to the authority vested in Panel B by State Govt. § 10-226(c)(2)(2021 Repl. Vol. and 2022 Supp.) and COMAR 10.32.02.08B(7), the Respondent's license to practice medicine in the State of Maryland is hereby SUMMARILY SUSPENDED; and it is further

ORDERED that, during the course of the summary suspension, the Respondent shall not practice medicine in the State of Maryland; and it is further

ORDERED that in accordance with Md. Code Regs. 10.32.02.08B(7) and E, a post-deprivation hearing on the summary suspension will be held on **Wednesday**, **October 11, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.** at the Board's offices, located at 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland, 21215-0095; and it is further

ORDERED that after the SUMMARY SUSPENSION 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 the Order for Summary Suspension shall be filed by Panel A immediately in accordance with Health Occ. § 14-407 (2021 Repl. Vol. and 2022 Supp.); and it is further

ORDERED that this is a disciplinary Order of Panel A, and as such, is a public document. *See* Health Occ. §§ 1-607, 14-411.1(b)(2) and Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. § 4-333(b)(6).

09/27/2023 Date Signature On File

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