IN THE MATTER OF \* BEFORE THE MARYLAND

CHARLES AVETIAN, D.O. \* STATE BOARD OF

RESPONDENT \* PHYSICIANS

License Number: H79214 \* Case Number: 2218-0041

# **CONSENT ORDER**

# **BACKGROUND**

The Maryland Board of Physicians (the "Maryland Board") received information that Charles Avetian, D.O. (the "Respondent"), License Number: H79214, was disciplined by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of State Board of Osteopathic Medicine (the "Pennsylvania Board"). In an Order dated August 9, 2017, the Pennsylvania Board disciplined the Respondent by suspending the Respondent's license with terms and conditions.

Based on the above referenced Pennsylvania Board sanction, the Maryland Board has grounds to charge the Respondent with violating the following provisions of the Maryland Medical Practice Act (the "Act"), under H. O. § 14-404(a):

- (a) 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:
  - (21) Is disciplined by a licensing or disciplinary authority or convicted or disciplined by a court of any state or country or disciplined by any branch of the United States uniformed services or the Veteran's Administration for an act that would be grounds for disciplinary action under this section,

The Maryland Board has determined that the acts for which the Respondent was disciplined in Pennsylvania would be grounds for disciplinary action under H.O. § 14-404(a). The grounds for disciplinary action under H.O. § 14-404(a) are as follows:

- 3) Is guilty of:
  - (ii) Unprofessional conduct in the practice of medicine;
- 22) Fails to meet appropriate standards as determined by appropriate peer review for the delivery of quality medical and surgical care performed in an outpatient surgical facility, office, hospital, or any other location in this State;

Based on the action taken by the Pennsylvania Board, the Respondent agrees to enter into this Consent Order with the Maryland Board of Physicians, consisting of Procedural Background, Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order of reciprocal action.

#### I. FINDINGS OF FACT

The Board finds the following:

- 1. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent is a physician licensed to practice in the State of Maryland. The Respondent was initially licensed in Maryland on or about March 18, 2015.
- 2. By Order dated August 9, 2017, the Pennsylvania Board disciplined the Respondent by Suspending the Respondent's license with terms and conditions. The Pennsylvania Board found that the Respondent engaged in unprofessional conduct when he authorized barbiturate prescriptions to individuals across the United States by use of customer internet questionnaires and without benefit of a physical examination or a detailed medical history.

A copy of the Pennsylvania Board Order is attached hereto.

of the August 9, 2017 Pennsylvania Board Order;

## II. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Maryland Board concludes as a matter of law that the disciplinary action taken by the Pennsylvania Board against the Respondent was for an act or acts that would be grounds for disciplinary action under Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(3)(ii)and(22) had those offenses been committed in this state.

### III. ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is hereby:

ORDERED that the Respondent's license to practice medicine in the State of Maryland be and is hereby SUSPENDED until such time as the Pennsylvania Board stays the suspension and imposes probation subject to the following terms and conditions:

ORDERED that:

- a. The Respondent shall remain in compliance with the terms and conditions
- b. The Maryland Order shall remain in effect until the Respondent has satisfied the terms and conditions of the Pennsylvania Board Order of August 9, 2017 and provides proof of termination of the Order;
- c. If the Respondent fails to comply with any of the terms of this Consent Order, that failure may constitute a violation of the Order and, after notice and hearing, the Maryland Board or a Board panel, may suspend or revoke the Respondent's license; and be it further;

**ORDERED** that this **CONSENT ORDER** is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§4-101 through 4-601 (2014).

10/12/2017 Date

Christine A. Farrelly Executive Director

Maryland Board of Physicians

# **CONSENT**

I, Charles Avetian, M.D., acknowledge that I have had the opportunity to consult with counsel before signing this document. By this Consent, I admit to the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and I agree and accept to be bound by this Consent Order and its conditions and restrictions. I waive any rights I may have had to contest the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

I acknowledge the validity of this Consent Order as if entered into 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 acknowledge the legal authority and the jurisdiction of the Board to initiate these proceedings and to issue and enforce this Consent Order. I also affirm that I am waiving my right to appeal any adverse ruling of the Board that might have followed any such hearing.

I sign this Consent Order after having had an opportunity to consult with counsel, without reservation, and I fully understand and comprehend the language, meaning and

terms of this Consent Order. I voluntarily sign this Consent Order, and understand its meaning and effect.

Respondent

Delaware STATE OF CITY/COUNTY OF New Castle

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this  $\frac{1}{2}$  day of  $\frac{1}{2}$  day of  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2017, before me, the subscriber, a Notary Public for the State and City/County aforesaid, personally appeared Charles Avetian, D.O., and made oath in due form of law that the execution of the foregoing Consent Agreement was his voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESSETH my hand and my notarial seal

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES:

KRISTINA MARIE RAMIREZ **NOTARY PUBLIC** STATE OF DELAWARE My Commission Expires June 14, 2018