

IN THE MATTER OF
AMAN K. PATEL, D.O.

Respondent

License Number: H94067

* BEFORE THE
* MARYLAND STATE
* BOARD OF PHYSICIANS
* Case Number: 2225-0050 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 **AMAN K. PATEL, D.O.** (the “Respondent”), License Number H94067, 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. & 2023 Supp.), and Md. Code Regs. (“COMAR”) 10.32.02.08B(7)(a), 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 April 19, 2022, under License Number H94067. The Respondent's license is current through September 30, 2025.

2. The Respondent is licensed to practice medicine in all 50 states of the United States, and the District of Columbia and Guam.

3. The Respondent was employed as a locum tenens physician at a specific regional health care facility (the "Facility")² from around the end of January 2024 until his termination around the end of May 2024. The Respondent practiced interventional cardiology at this Facility's location in Maryland.

4. On or about June 3, 2024, the Board opened an investigation of the Respondent after receiving a Mandated 10-Day Report from the Facility stating that it had terminated the Respondent's employment after several female employees alleged that the Respondent "engaged in inappropriate conduct, including hugging female employees and other behavior that was harassing in nature." On or about June 6, 2024, the Board received a complaint from a Facility staff member alleging that the Respondent sexually assaulted her.³

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 particular Facility staff member is referred to as Staff Member D later in the order.

II. BOARD INVESTIGATION

5. The Board's investigation revealed that from around April 2024 to around May 2024, the Respondent engaged in a pattern of sexual harassment of at least four female staff members ("Staff Members A, B, C and D") at the Facility. The Respondent's harassing conduct, which occurred at the Facility's location, included, but was not limited to: sending inappropriate, and at times, sexually explicit, text messages to female staff members; hugging female staff members with excessive force and frequency; forcefully kissing female staff members' face and neck area, in some instances, grabbing them by their hair; groping female staff members' intimate body parts; exposing his genitals to female staff members; and having and/or attempting to have female staff members perform oral sex on him.

Staff Member A

6. Staff Member A was a female clinical staff member at the Facility's location, who started working with the Respondent in or around mid-February 2024. The first day Staff Member A worked with the Respondent, the Respondent asked for a hug from her, which she described as "a really tight squeeze." Subsequently, Staff Member A worked with the Respondent at least two times per week, during which time the Respondent would frequently hug Staff Member A.

7. Beginning in or around late-February 2024, the Respondent began kissing Staff Member A without consent when they met in the hallway or in the Respondent's office. As time went on, the Respondent's harassing conduct became more aggressive.

The Respondent would frequently pull Staff Member A's head back by her hair and forcefully kissed her face and neck. The Respondent also began groping Staff Member A's breasts and buttocks. On these occasions, Staff Member A would tell the Respondent to leave her alone, but the Respondent would refuse.

8. On or about April 30, 2024, around early afternoon, Staff Member A went to the Respondent's office to discuss a patient and to drop off some paperwork. While Staff Member A was talking to the Respondent in his office, the Respondent got up and closed the door. The Respondent then pulled Staff Member A towards him and began kissing her neck in an aggressive manner and groping her breasts and buttocks. Staff Member A pushed the Respondent away, but he pulled her back towards him. At one point, the Respondent grabbed Staff Member A's hair and pulled her head towards his genitals, which were exposed. Staff Member A attempted to push the Respondent away but was unable to do so. The Respondent then had Staff Member A perform oral sex on him. After the Respondent had finished, Staff Member A quickly left his room and went to a nearby bathroom to vomit. Later that day, the Respondent sent Staff Member A a sexually explicit text message regarding details of the incident in his office.

9. After April 30, 2024, the Respondent continued to aggressively kiss Staff Member A and grope her breasts and buttocks whenever they worked together. On or about May 21, 2024, Staff Member A was at her desk when the Respondent came up to her, pulled her hair and aggressively kissed her lips and groped her breasts. While kissing Staff Member A, the Respondent bit her lips, which left a cut and a bruise. Staff Member

A fought off the Respondent by giving him a hard punch in the arm and telling him to leave her alone.

Staff Member B

10. Staff Member B was an administrative staff member at the Facility's location. As an administrative staff member, Staff Member B only had occasional interactions with the Respondent in the office. On or about April 25, 2024, the Respondent called Staff Member B to his office and gave her a hug. Staff Member B did not take offense to the hug until when the Respondent "proceeded to latch onto my face and beginning[sic] trying to make out with me and that's[sic] when I froze up..." Staff Member B attempted to break away from the Respondent while telling him that she had a boyfriend, but the Respondent simply said, "one more minute." Staff member B attempted to push the Respondent away, but he pushed her against the wall while attempting to unzip his pants. Staff Member B was able to push the Respondent away and quickly leave his office.

11. Later that same day, on or about April 25, 2024, Staff Member B was alone in the telephone room when the Respondent entered and closed the door. Staff Member B initially thought the Respondent was going to apologize to her, when he "jumped onto me and shoved me right into the wall with his hand around my neck and trying to grope my breasts as I looked him dead in the face and told him NO." At that time, someone had knocked on the door, and the Respondent whispered to Staff Member B to "wait and be quiet." Staff Member B waited a moment longer and quickly left the room to go home. Later that day, Staff Member B received a text message from the Respondent asking, "what

are you doing tonight,” and stating, “I would love to have you and please keep things within you, you will feel good too.”

Staff Member C

12. Staff Member C was a clinical staff member at the Facility’s location. Staff Member C worked with the Respondent on one occasion, which occurred on May 2, 2024. On that day, Staff Member C was at her desk when she received a call from the Respondent asking if he could see her in his office. When Staff Member C went to the Respondent’s office, the Respondent told Staff Member C that he had been watching her, thought she was beautiful and offered to take care of her.

13. The Respondent proceeded to hug Staff Member C, at which time Staff Member C pushed him away and told him they were at work. The Respondent then grabbed Staff Member C, pulled her close to him, and started kissing her all over her neck. While doing so, the Respondent exposed his genitals and told her, “come handle some business for him, or take the stress off of him.” Staff Member C was able to leave the Respondent’s office before anything else happened.

Staff Member D

14. Staff Member D was a clinical staff member at the Facility’s location. Staff Member D worked with the Respondent when the Respondent began his employment at the Facility. Initially, Staff Member D had a cordial working relationship with the Respondent and reported receiving two to three hugs from him per week, which Staff Member D thought were innocuous. On or about March 21, 2024, Staff Member D

received a hug from the Respondent that was so tight that she received a bruise on her collarbone from the stethoscope she was wearing.

15. On or about April 26, 2024, at approximately 5:30 p.m., Staff Member D stopped in the Respondent's office to drop off some studies and discuss patient care with him. As Staff Member D was leaving the Respondent's office, he proceeded to hug her. When Staff Member D pushed him away, the Respondent grabbed Staff Member D's face and sucked intently on her lips. Staff Member D shook her head and attempted to leave the Respondent's office when the Respondent grabbed her wrist, pulled her close to him, and shut the door. The Respondent grabbed Staff Member D's face and began kissing her. Staff Member D shook her head and ran out of the Respondent's office to a nearby bathroom.

16. The Respondent again hugged Staff Member D, grabbed her face and began kissing her on or about the late afternoon of May 9, 2024, when Staff Member D went into his office to discuss patient care.

17. On or about May 16, 2024, in the late afternoon, Staff Member D stopped by the Respondent's office to drop off some electrocardiograms when the Respondent grabbed and squeezed Staff Member D's left breast, on which she recently had a medical procedure performed. Staff Member D screamed from the pain and kicked the Respondent in the left hip.

Respondent's Under-Oath Board Interview

18. On or about September 30, 2024, Board compliance analysts conducted an under-oath interview of the Respondent. The Respondent stated that it was in his culture

to hug people and that he was merely trying to be friendly. During the interview, the Respondent disclosed that he had a romantic and sexual relationship with another Facility staff member, not Staff Members A, B, C, or D. When the Board compliance analyst asked the Respondent whether he had any sexual relationship with anyone else at the Facility, the Respondent answered “No.”

19. Later in the interview, when asked whether he ever had a sexual encounter with Staff Member A, the Respondent stated, “Consensual, yes.” The Respondent admitted that Staff Member A had performed oral sex on him in his office at the Facility. The Respondent further admitted that he had on more than one occasion pulled Staff Member A’s hair, including on this occasion.

20. When asked about any incidents involving Staff Member B, the Respondent admitted to kissing her once in his office, during which his genitals were exposed. The Respondent further admitted that he later sent a text message to Staff Member B asking her to keep the incident “a secret.”

21. When asked about any incidents involving Staff Member C, the Respondent admitted to kissing her during which his genitals were exposed. The Respondent further admitted that he and Staff Member C “had a kiss and she had a bruise, and it looks like people made a big deal.”

22. Finally, when the Board compliance analyst asked the Respondent about Staff Member D, the Respondent admitted to kissing her “Maybe a couple of times...”.

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 2023 Supp.) and Md. Code Regs. ("COMAR") 10.32.02.08B(7)(a).

ORDER

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 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 COMAR 10.32.02.05B(7), a post-deprivation hearing on the summary suspension will be held on **Wednesday, November 6, 2024, at 10:15 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 Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. § 4-333(b)(6).

10/23/2024
Date

Signature On File

Christine A. Farrelly
Executive Director
Maryland State Board of Physicians