

IN THE MATTER OF  
SUSAN D. RICH, M.D.

Respondent

License Number: D62027

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BEFORE THE

MARYLAND STATE

BOARD OF PHYSICIANS

Case Number: 2014-0881

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### CONSENT ORDER

On or about April 11, 2014, the Maryland State Board of Physicians (the "Board") received an *Application Form for Reinstatement of Medical Licensure* (the "Reinstatement Application") from **SUSAN D. RICH, M.D.**, License Number D62027 (the "Respondent"). Based on its ensuing investigation of the Reinstatement Application, Disciplinary Panel B of the Board determined that it had grounds to charge the Respondent under the Maryland Medical Practice Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. ("Health Occ.") §§ 14-101 *et seq.* (2014 Repl. Vol.).

Specifically, Disciplinary Panel B determined that it had grounds to charge the Respondent with violating the following provision of the Act:

#### **§ 14-601 Practicing without a license.**

Except as otherwise provided in this title, a person may not practice, attempt to practice, or offer to practice medicine in this State unless licensed by the Board.

Prior to the Board's issuance of charges, the Respondent agreed to enter into this public Consent Order consisting of Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

Disciplinary Panel B of the Board makes the following Findings of Fact:

1. The Respondent was originally licensed to practice medicine in the State of Maryland on or about June 29, 2004, under License Number D62027.

2. The Respondent allowed her Maryland medical license to expire on September 30, 2013, without applying for a renewal with the Board.

3. On or about April 11, 2014, the Board received the Reinstatement Application from the Respondent. In a letter attached to the Reinstatement Application, the Respondent stated, in pertinent part, "It is with much regret that I inadvertently failed to send in my renewal fee and application last September. It was an unfortunate administrative error and I had [every] intention to have mailed the renewal fee and application prior to the September 2013 due date."<sup>1</sup>

4. In an electronic-mail to the Board, dated April 6, 2014, the Respondent further stated, "I am going to cancel all my patients in my clinical practice until I hear from your office."<sup>2</sup>

5. In an interview with Board staff, on or about September 12, 2014, the Respondent stated that she was treating approximately 20-to-25 patients per week, from the time after her license expired, *i.e.* September 30, 2013, to approximately April 5, 2014, when she voluntarily stopped treating patients.

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<sup>1</sup> On May 6, 2014, the Respondent entered into a Consent Order with the Board in which it found that the Respondent certified in her Reinstatement Application that she had obtained 50 CME credits when she had obtained only 37.25 CME credits. The Board concluded as a matter of law that the Respondent engaged in unprofessional conduct in the practice of medicine, in violation of Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(3)(ii), and willfully made a false representation when seeking or making application for licensure, in violation of § 14-404(a)(36). The Board imposed a fine of \$1,275, and certain terms and conditions with respect to her future CME requirements.

<sup>2</sup> The Board reinstated the Respondent's medical license on or about May 7, 2014.

6. The Respondent practiced medicine without being licensed by the Board from approximately September 30, 2013, to April 5, 2014.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, Disciplinary Panel B of the Board concludes as a matter of law that the Respondent practiced medicine in this State without being licensed by the Board, in violation of Health Occ. § 14-601.

### **ORDER**

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is, by a majority of the quorum of Disciplinary Panel B of the Board considering this case:

**ORDERED** that the Respondent is fined in the amount of **THREE THOUSAND FIVE-HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$3,500)**. The fine shall be made by bank certified check or money order, payable to the Maryland Board of Physicians, P.O. Box 37217, Baltimore, Maryland 21297; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall be responsible for all costs incurred in fulfilling the terms and conditions of this Consent Order; and it is further

**ORDERED** that this Consent Order is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 *et seq.* (2014).

5/13/2015  
Date

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


## CONSENT

I, Susan D. Rich, M.D., acknowledge that I am represented by counsel and have consulted with counsel before entering into this Consent Order. By this Consent and for the purpose of resolving the issues raised by Disciplinary Panel B of the Board, I agree and accept to be bound by the foregoing Consent Order and its conditions.

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 own behalf, and to all other substantive and procedural protections provided by the law. I agree to forego my opportunity to challenge these allegations. I acknowledge the legal authority and jurisdiction of Disciplinary Panel B of the Board to initiate these proceedings and to issue and enforce this Consent Order. I affirm that I am waiving my right to appeal any adverse ruling of a disciplinary panel of the Board that might have followed after any such hearing.

I sign this Consent Order, voluntarily and without reservation, and I fully understand and comprehend the language, meaning and terms of this Consent Order.

5-6-2015  
Date


  
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Susan D. Rich, M.D.  
*The Respondent*



STATE OF MARYLAND  
CITY/COUNTY OF Montgomery

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2015,  
before me, a Notary Public of the foregoing State and City/County personally appear  
Susan D. Rich, M.D., License Number D62027, and made oath in due form of law that  
signing the foregoing Consent Order was her voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESSETH my hand and notary seal.

  
Notary Public

My commission expires:

12/27/16