

IN THE MATTER OF	*	BEFORE THE
SHERRI L. PASSARELL, M.D.	*	MARYLAND STATE
Respondent	*	BOARD OF PHYSICIANS
License Number: D66341	*	Case Number: 2218-0266A
* * * * *	*	* * * * *

**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 medical license of **SHERRI L. PASSARELL, M.D.** (the “Respondent”), License Number D66341. Panel A takes such action pursuant to its authority under the Administrative Procedure Act (the “APA”), Md. Code Ann., State Gov’t § 10-226(c)(2)(i) (2014 Repl. Vol. & 2017 Supp.), concluding that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action.

**INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS<sup>1</sup>**

Based on information received by, and made known to Panel A of the Board, and the investigatory information obtained by, received by, and made known to and available to Panel A and the Office of the Attorney General, including the instances described below, Panel A has reason to believe that the following facts are true:

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<sup>1</sup> The statements regarding the Respondent’s conduct 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.

1. At all times relevant, the Respondent was and is a physician licensed to practice medicine in the State of Maryland. The Respondent was initially licensed on June 26, 2007. Her license is current through September 30, 2019.
2. The Respondent is board certified in Psychiatry and Neurology.
3. At all times relevant, the Respondent practiced medicine in a mental health facility (“Facility A”)<sup>2</sup> in Cumberland, Maryland.
4. On May 17, 2018, the Board received a complaint from the Clinical Director at Facility A alleging that the Respondent had been forgetful over the past few months and her productivity had been faltering. As a result, on April 6, 2018, Facility A referred the Respondent to the State Medical Director’s office for a “Workability Evaluation” to determine whether she was able to perform the essential duties of her position.
5. The State Medical Director’s office subsequently referred the Respondent for a neuropsychological evaluation to determine if she had a cognitive disorder that was affecting her ability to perform her job duties. The Respondent then returned to the State Medical Director’s office for a workability follow-up evaluation on or about May 4, 2018. The follow-up evaluation was included with the complaint.
6. The workability follow-up evaluation concluded: “Based on the Independent Neuropsychological Evaluation, history provided by Dr. Passarell and on physical examination today, Dr. Passarell is unable to safely, consistently, and reliably perform her essential duties with or without reasonable accommodations at this time.”

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<sup>2</sup> In order to maintain confidentiality, names of facilities, patients and employees will not be used in this document, but will be provided to the Respondent on request.

7. According to the complaint, the Respondent resigned from Facility A on May 16, 2018 and prior to her resignation, she told the Clinical Director of Facility A that the Office of the State Medical Director had “told her she could continue to work.” The Clinical Director reviewed the May 4, 2018 Evaluation outlined in ¶ 6, which refuted the Respondent’s statement.

8. The Board’s investigation confirmed the details contained in the complaint.

### CONCLUSION OF LAW

Based on the foregoing facts, Panel A concludes that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively require emergency action in this case, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Gov’t. § 10-226 (c)(2)(i).

### ORDER

Based on the foregoing, it is, by a majority of the quorum of Panel A,

**ORDERED** that pursuant to the authority vested by Md. Code Ann., State Gov’t § 10-226(c)(2), the Respondent’s license to practice medicine in the State of Maryland be and is hereby **SUMMARILY SUSPENDED**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that a post-deprivation hearing in accordance with Md. Code Regs. 10.32.02.08B(7)(c), D and E on the Summary Suspension, in which Panel A will determine whether the summary suspension will continue, has been scheduled for **July 11, 2018, at 11:15 a.m.** at the Maryland State Board of Physicians, 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215-0095; and be it further

**ORDERED** that after the **SUMMARY SUSPENSION** hearing held 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 held 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 be it further

**ORDERED** that a copy of this Order of Summary Suspension shall be filed with the Board in accordance with Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 14-407 (2014 Repl. Vol. & 2015 Supp.); and it is further

**ORDERED** that this Order for Summary Suspension of License to Practice Medicine is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 *et seq.* and § 4-333 (2014 & 2016 Supp.).

June 26, 2018  
Date

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