

# **Board of Physicians**

Wes Moore, Governor • Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor • Harbhajan Ajrawat, M.D., Chair

March 13, 2025

Paul Beals, M.D.

JoAnna Miller, Assistant Attorney General Health Occupations & Prosecutions Division Office of the Attorney General Maryland Department of Health 300 West Preston Street, Suite 207 Baltimore, Maryland 2120 I

> Re: Paul Beals, M.D. Case No.: 2225-0116 License No.: 00025922

Dear Dr. Beals and Ms. Miller:

On February 26, 2025, Disciplinary Panel A of the Maryland State Board of Physicians issued an **ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF LICENSE TO PRACTICE MEDICINE** in this case, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Gov't, § 10-226(c)(2)(i). On March 12, 2025, Dr. Beals was given an opportunity to attend a post-deprivation hearing before Disciplinary Panel A to show cause why that suspension should not be continued. Dr. Beals did not attend the hearing on that date. The State was represented by JoAnna Miller, Assistant Attorney General, Administrative Prosecutor. Ms. Miller presented oral arguments arguing that the summary suspension should be upheld.

After considering the State's arguments at the hearing and the documents in the investigative file, Disciplinary Panel A determined, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the health, safety, and welfare of the public imperatively required the disciplinary panel to summarily suspend Dr. Beals's license and there exists a substantial risk of serious harm to the public health, safety, and welfare in Dr. Beals's continued practice. *See* State Gov't, § 10-226(c)(2)(i). Disciplinary Panel A thus will not lift the summary suspension order, and the summary suspension imposed on February 26, 2025 is reaffirmed and continues in effect. *See* COMAR 10.32.02.08H(1).

4201 Patterson Avenue - Baltimore, Maryland 21215 410-764-4777 - Toll Free 1-800-492-6836 - Deaf and Hard of Hearing Use Relay Web Site: www.mbp.state.md.us Paul Beals, M.D. Case No.: 2225-0116 License No.: D0025922 Page 2

#### NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

Under the Board regulations, Dr. Beals has the right to request a full evidentiary hearing before an Administrative Law Judge of the Office of Administrative Hearings. This request will be granted if the Board receives a written request for the hearing within **TEN** (10) days of the date of this letter. Any request for a hearing should be sent to Christine A. Farrelly, Executive Director, Maryland Board of Physicians, 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215. If Dr. Beals requests such a hearing, the regulations require that an Administrative Law Judge set the hearing to begin within 30 days of the request, *see* COMAR 10.32.02.08I, though Dr. Beals may waive that 30-day requirement.

This letter constitutes an order of the Board through Disciplinary Panel A resulting from formal disciplinary action and is therefore a public document.

Sincerely yours,

Signature on file

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

IN THE MATTER OF						*	BI	<b>BEFORE THE MARYLAND</b>					
PAUL BEALS, M.D.						*	ST	STATE BOARD OF					
Respondent						*	PI	IYSIC	IANS				
License Number: D25922						*	Case Number: 2225-0116						
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
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 **PAUL BEALS**, **M.D.** (the "Respondent"), License Number D25922, to practice medicine in the State of Maryland.

Panel A takes such action pursuant to its authority under Md. Code Ann., State Gov't ("State Gov't") §10-266(c)(2) (2021 Repl. Vol. & 2024 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<sup>1</sup>:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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.

Panel A is summarily suspending the Respondent's license to practice medicine after a Board investigation determined that he has health conditions that affects his ability to practice medicine safely.

#### **Background/Licensing Information**

1. The Respondent was initially licensed to practice medicine in Maryland on December 19, 1980 under license number D25922. His license is currently active through September 30, 2026, subject to renewal.

2. The Respondent is board-certified in Family Medicine.

 The Respondent maintains a family medicine practice in Stevensville, Maryland.

#### The Board Investigation

4. On December 16, 2024, the Board received a complaint from a patient of the Respondent alleging that the Respondent may have a health condition that affects his ability to practice medicine safely.

5. On January 17, 2025, Board staff conducted an on-site visit at the Respondent's medical office. Board staff noted significant concerns regarding the Respondent's ability to understand the reason for their visit and his current state of mind.

6. Furthermore, family members of the Respondent were present and provided conflicting information regarding the Respondent's current practice. They also shared concerns regarding the Respondent's ability to practice.

7. Based on the information contained in the complaint and information gathered during the on-site visit, on January 22, 2025, the Board sent the Respondent a

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letter and an email directing the Respondent to appear at the office of the Maryland Professional Rehabilitation Program ("MPRP") on Wednesday, January 29, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. for an intake evaluation for purposes of scheduling an examination.<sup>2</sup>

8. The letter and email also advised the Respondent that pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occupations § 14-402(c), the unreasonable failure or refusal to submit to an examination is *prima facie* evidence of a licensed medical practitioner's inability to practice medicine, unless the Board finds that the failure or refusal was beyond the control of the individual.

9. On January 22, 2025, the Respondent replied to the email notification acknowledging receipt of the communication and asking who to contact at MPRP.

10. On January 27, 2025, the Board again advised the Respondent via email of the requirement to present himself for the intake appointment with MPRP on January 29, 2025.

11. On January 29, 2025, the Respondent informed the Board that he was unable to attend the intake appointment with the Program due to a recent injury. The intake appointment was rescheduled to February 3, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

12. On February 3, 2025, the Board sent the Respondent an email advising him that he was still required to attend the intake appointment with MPRP at 10:00 a.m.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Maryland Medical Practice Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occupations § 14-402(a), authorizes the Board to direct any licensed physician regulated by the Board...to submit to an appropriate evaluation.

13. On February 3, 2025, the Respondent failed to appear for the rescheduled appointment.

14. On February 21, 2025, the Board notified the Respondent via email and letter sent by overnight delivery that he had one final opportunity to appear for an appointment with MPRP, which was scheduled for February 26, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

15. The letter and email, again, notified the Respondent that pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occupations § 14-402(c), the unreasonable failure or refusal to submit to an examination is *prima facie* evidence of a licensed medical practitioner's inability to practice medicine, unless the Board finds that the failure or refusal was beyond the control of the individual.

16. The Respondent did not appear for the appointment on February 26, 2025, and Dr. Beals did not notify the Board or MPRP of any reason that he was unable to appear.

## CONCLUSION OF LAW

Based upon the foregoing Investigative Findings, Panel A 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.

#### **ORDER**

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

**ORDERED** that pursuant to the authority vested in Panel A by State Gov't. §10-226(c)(2)(2021 Repl. Vol. & 2024 Supp.) and COMAR 10.32.02.08B(7), the Respondent's

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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 initial hearing on the summary suspension will be held on Wednesday, March 12, 2025, at 10:15 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, is 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(a)(2021 Repl. Vol. & 2024 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).

02/26/2025

Signature On File

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