

IN THE MATTER OF	*	BEFORE THE MARYLAND STATE
TIN TUAN LU, R.M.P.	*	BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC AND
Respondent	*	MESSAGE THERAPY EXAMINERS
Registration Number: R02234	*	Case Number: 16-23M

* * * * *

ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION
OF REGISTRATION TO PRACTICE MESSAGE THERAPY

The Maryland State Board of Chiropractic and Massage Therapy Examiners (the "Board") hereby SUMMARILY SUSPENDS the registration of TIN TUAN LU, Registered Massage Practitioner ("R.M.P.") (the "Respondent"), Registration Number R02234, to practice massage therapy in the State of Maryland. The Board takes such action pursuant to its authority under Md. Code Ann., State Gov't II ("State Gov't II") § 10-226(c)(2014 Repl. Vol.), concluding that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action.

INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS

Based on information received by, and made known to the Board, and the investigatory information obtained by, received by and made known to and available to the Board, including the instances described below, the Board has reason to believe that the following facts are true.

1

I. BACKGROUND

1. At all times relevant, the Respondent was and is registered to practice massage therapy in the State of Maryland. The Respondent was originally registered to

¹ The statements regarding the Board's investigative findings are intended to provide the Respondent with notice of the basis of the summary 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.

practice massage therapy in Maryland on May 6, 2015, under Registration Number R02234.

2. At all times relevant, the Respondent co-owned two massage establishments, Star Foot Spa and Sun Foot Spa (collectively, the "Foot Spas"), with another registered massage practitioner ("Practitioner A").² Both spas were located at 966 Hungerford Drive, Rockville Maryland 20850, one in Suite 1'1A and the other in 178.

3. On or about April 27, 2016, the Board received information that on or about March 18, 2016, the Montgomery County Police Department ("MCPD"), Vice and Intelligence Section, charged the Respondent in the District Court of Maryland for Montgomery County, Case Number 2P00345480, with four counts of Human Trafficking, in violation of Md. Code Ann., Crim, Law § 11-303(a)(1).

4. Based on the information received, the Board initiated an investigation of the Respondent.

II BOARD INVESTIGATION

5. As part of its investigation, the Board obtained the Statement of Charges and the Application for Statement of Charges in the Respondent's human trafficking case.

6. These documents revealed that in or around November 2015, a detective ("Detective A") from MCPD received information about possible prostitution and human trafficking that were occurring at a residence (the "Residence") in Rockville, Maryland.

²To ensure confidentiality, the names of individuals and facilities involved in this case are not disclosed in this document. The Respondent may obtain the names of all individuals and facilities referenced in this document by contacting the administrative prosecutor.

Specifically, a high volume of Asian females were observed being transported to and from the Residence on a regular basis.

7. Subsequently, Detective A and members of MCPD began conducting surveillance of the Residence. During their surveillance, they discovered that the Rockville City Police Department ("RCPD"), Street Crimes Unit, was also conducting its own investigation of complaints of possible prostitution at the Foot Spas.

B. From in or around October 2015 to in or around March 2016, members of MCPD and RCPD conducted regular surveillance of the Residence and the Foot Spas.

On multiple dates in November and December 2015, and February 2016, MCPD officers observed the Respondent leaving the Residence and driving six-to-eight Asian females in a white van from the Residence to the Foot Spas in the morning.

L Similarly, on multiple dates in October and November 2015, and January 2016, RCPD officers observed the Respondent picking up several Asian females from the Foot Spas at the end of the day and driving them back to the Residence.

'10. In or around September 2015, and January, February and March 2016, MCPD and RCPD officers observed several adult males entering the Foot Spas. The officers interviewed these men after they left the Foot Spas. Several of the men who were interviewed stated that the females at the Foot Spas performed sexual acts on them in exchange for money.

11. On or about March 10, 2016, MCPD officers entered the Foot Spas. Upon entry, they found a total of seven Asian females, all of whom were Chinese nationals, and none of whom spoke English. Officers determined that all of the females were from New York.

12. In his investigation, Detective A further determined that the Respondent was the president of the Foot Spas and Practitioner A the vice president.

13. Pursuant to the Statement of Charges and the Application for Statement of Charges, on or about March 23, 2016, MCPD officers executed an arrest warrant on the Respondent.

~~CONCLUSIONS OF LAW~~

Based upon the foregoing Investigative Findings, the Board 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. II S 10-226(c)(2)(2Ya Repl. Vol.).

~~ORDER~~

It is this 14th day of July, 2016, by a majority of the Board considering this case:

ORDERED that pursuant to the authority vested in the Board by Md. Code Ann., State Gov't. II S 10-226(c)(2), the Respondent's registration to practice massage therapy in the State of Maryland is hereby SUMMARILY SUSPENDED; and it is further


ORDERED that the Respondent must request a post-deprivation show cause hearing in writing WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS of service of this Order. The written request should be made to: Laurie Sheffield-James, Executive Director, Maryland State Board of Chiropractic and Massage Therapy Examiners, 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215, with copies mailed to: K. F. Michael Kao, Assistant Attorney General, Health Occupations Prosecution and Litigation Division, Office of the Attorney General, 300 West Preston Street, Suite 201, Baltimore, Maryland 21201, and Grant Gerber, Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General, 300 West Preston

Street, Suite 302, Baltimore, Maryland 21201, and it is further

ORDERED that if the Respondent fails to request a post-deprivation show cause hearing in writing, the Respondent's registration will remain suspended; and it is further

ORDERED that on presentation of this Order, the Respondent SHAI-L SURRENDER to the Board his original massage practitioner registration R02234, any wallet card and wall certificate; and it is further

ORDERED that this is an Order of the Board, and as such, is a PUBLIC DOCUMENT pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Provisions SS 4-101 et seq. (2014).



Jonathan N. O'Dell, D.C.
President
Maryland State Board of Chiropractic
and Massage Therapy Examiners