

IN THE MATTER OF
DEMETRIS GRANT, PHARM TECH
Respondent
Registration Number: T05870

* **BEFORE THE**
* **STATE BOARD**
* **OF**
* **PHARMACY**
* **Case Number: PT-17-016**

* * * * *

ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Government II ("SG II") §10-226 (c)(2) (2014 Repl. Vol.), the State Board of Pharmacy (the "Board") hereby suspends the registration to practice as a Pharmacy Technician ("Pharm Tech") in Maryland issued to **DEMETRIS GRANT** (the "Respondent"), under the Maryland Pharmacy Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occupations II (Health Occ. II) §§ 12-101 *et seq.* (2014 Repl. Vol.). This Order is based on the following investigative findings, which the Board has reason to believe are true:

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

¹The statements regarding the Respondent's conduct 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.

1. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was registered to practice as a Pharm Tech in the State of Maryland. The Respondent was first registered on June 18, 2009. The Respondent's registration expires on December 31, 2018.

2. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was employed as a Pharm Tech at a pharmacy (the "Pharmacy") within a grocery store chain in Pikesville, Baltimore County, Maryland.²

3. On or about December 9, 2016, the Pharmacy sent the Board a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) "Report of Theft or Loss of Controlled Substances" form, which indicated that employee pilferage caused the loss of 1,856 Alprazolam³, 2mg, tablets valued at \$115.

4. Upon the Board's request, the Pharmacy sent to the Board its Investigative Report which contained the following disclosures:

- A. On October 31, 2016, personnel at the Pharmacy notified Asset Protection in reference to large negative adjustments being made over the last few months of the prescription drug Alprazolam, 2 mg;
- B. An investigation was begun and the Respondent became the focus of the investigation;
- C. The Respondent was observed on multiple dates selecting the drug and adjusting the count;
- D. It was then determined that additional cameras would be needed to cover more angles;

²For confidentially purposes, the names of pharmacies and all individuals referenced herein will not be identified by name in this document, but may be revealed to the Respondent by contacting the Administrative Prosecutor.

³ Alprazolam is used to treat anxiety disorders, panic disorders, and anxiety.

E. On November 27, 2016, at approximately 9:30AM, the Respondent selected four bottles of Alprazolam, 2 mg. Approximately 35 minutes later, the Respondent returned three bottles of the medication back to their display. The Respondent then entered a prescription bay where the Closed Circuit TV showed her concealing two small prescription bottles into her white lab coat. No prescriptions of Alprazolam, 2 mg. tablets were filled that day;

F. On December 7, 2016 at 5:00PM, personnel from the Pharmacy interviewed the Respondent, who admitted to the theft of Alprazolam, stating that she had stolen it over the course of six months. She further admitted that she would sell it for \$8 a pill to help with her bills. The Respondent estimated that she had stolen about 1620 pills;

G. The Respondent provided a written statement to that effect;

H. As a result of that admission, the Respondent was suspended and later terminated from employment with the Pharmacy.

5. The Baltimore County Police were called and the Respondent was charged in District Court of Maryland for Baltimore County (Towson) with the following:

Count 1 Theft: \$1,000 to under \$10,000;

Count 2 CDS Poss w/Int to Dist.

6. The case was later transferred to the Circuit Court for Baltimore County where the charges were as follows:

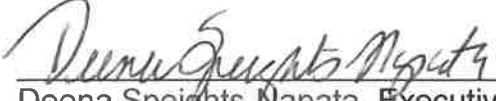
Count 1 CDS Poss w/Int to Distrib;

Count 2 CDS: Possess—not marijuana;

ORDERED that, upon the Board's receipt of a written request from the Respondent, a Show Cause Hearing shall be scheduled within a reasonable time of said request, at which the Respondent will be given an opportunity to be heard as to whether the Summary Suspension should be continued.

ORDERED that the Respondent shall immediately turn over to the Board her wall certificate and wallet-sized registration to practice as a Pharm Tech issued by the Board; and it is further

ORDERED that this document constitutes an Order of the Board and is a public document for purposes of public disclosure, as required by Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 *et seq.* (2014 Vol.).



Deena Speights-Napata, Executive Director
Board of Pharmacy

NOTICE OF HEARING

A Show Cause hearing to determine whether the Summary Suspension shall be continued will be held before the Board at 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, 21215, following a written request by the Respondent for same.