

IN THE MATTER OF

\*

BEFORE THE MARYLAND

CHUKWUEMEKA STEVE  
FRANK OBIDIKE

\*

STATE BOARD OF

\*

PHARMACY

LICENSE NO. 16011

\*

\* \* \* \* \*

**ORDER LIFTING SUSPENSION**

On August 16, 2011, Mr. Obidike submitted a petition to the Board of Pharmacy (the "Board") requesting that the Board lift the suspension of his license, License No. 16011, initially set forth in a Final Decision and Order dated March 7, 2008. The Final Decision and Order provides that Mr. Obidike may petition to lift the suspension after two (2) years, provided that he first comply with a number of conditions, including psychotherapy, random urine screens, and participation in a substance abuse support program. During the suspension period, Mr. Obidike failed to renew his license. On September 21, 2011, the Board, satisfied that Mr. Obidike has demonstrated two continuous years of full compliance with the terms of the Final Decision and Order, voted to lift the suspension and, upon reinstatement of Mr. Obidike's license, place Mr. Obidike on immediate probation with terms as set forth below.

**ORDER**

It is this 21<sup>st</sup> day of Sept., 2011, by an affirmative vote of the Maryland Board of Pharmacy, hereby:

**ORDERED** that the suspension of Mr. Obidike's license be lifted, provided that Mr. Obidike first successfully comply with all the conditions of reinstatement listed in COMAR 10.34.14, including application and payment of fees; and be it further

**ORDERED** that, upon reinstatement, Mr. Obidike's license be placed on immediate

PROBATION for FIVE (5) YEARS, during which:

1. As a dispensing pharmacist, Mr. Obidike:
  - a. May not work night shifts;
  - b. May not work as a floater or for a staffing agency; and
  - c. May not own a pharmacy or work for a pharmacy that is owned, in whole or in part, by a family member;
2. Mr. Obidike shall ensure that his pharmacist supervisor submit quarterly performance reports to the Board;
3. Mr. Obidike shall attend weekly meetings of AA, NA, or other similar substance abuse support program; and
4. Mr. Obidike shall submit to random, Board-ordered urines on a monthly basis; and be it further,

**ORDERED** that after one (1) year of probation, Mr. Obidike may petition the Board for modification of the probationary terms herein, provided that he has been fully compliant with the terms of probation and does not have any pending complaints filed against him; and be it further,

**ORDERED** that after five (5) years of probation, Mr. Obidike may petition the Board to terminate probation, provided that he has been fully compliant with the terms of probation and does not have any pending complaints filed against him; and be it further,

**ORDERED** that all urine screens under this Order shall be:

1. Submitted by Mr. Obidike within 24 hours of the Board staff instructing him to submit a urine sample;
2. Submitted at a CLIA-certified laboratory;
3. Observed; and

4. Negative for any controlled dangerous substance, narcotics, cocaine, or other mood-altering substance, except as provided below; and be it further,

**ORDERED** that Mr. Obidike shall abstain from the ingestion of controlled dangerous substances, narcotics, cocaine, or other mood-altering substances, except that Mr. Obidike may ingest prescribed controlled dangerous substances for legitimate medical reasons under the following conditions:

1. Mr. Obidike must be a bona fide patient of a licensed Maryland prescriber who is aware of this order;

2. The medication must be lawfully prescribed by Mr. Obidike's physician or other authorized medical practitioner; and

3. Mr. Obidike must provide the Board, in writing, within seventy-two (72) hours of receiving the medication:

- a. The name and address of the prescriber;
- b. The illness or medical condition diagnosed;
- c. The type, strength, amount, and dosage of the medication; and
- d. A signed statement consenting to the release of all medical information about Mr. Obidike from the prescriber to the Board; and be it further,

**ORDERED** that Mr. Obidike shall at all times cooperate with the Board in the monitoring, supervision, and investigation of Mr. Obidike's compliance with the terms and conditions of this Order; and be it further,

**ORDERED** that Mr. Obidike's failure to fully cooperate with the Board shall be deemed a violation of the probationary terms and a violation of this Order; and be it further,

**ORDERED** that in the event the Board finds in good faith that Mr. Obidike has violated

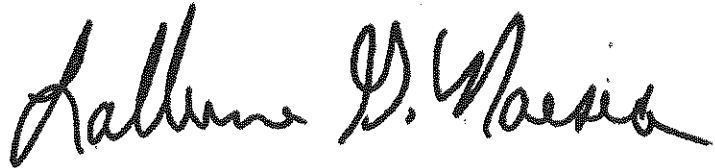
any of the conditions of probation herein, or in the event the Board finds in good faith that Mr. Obidike has committed a violation of Title 12 of the Health Occupations Article or regulations adopted thereunder, the Board may take further disciplinary action against Mr. Obidike's license after notice and the opportunity for hearing; and be it further,

**ORDERED** that Mr. Obidike shall bear the expenses associated with this Order; and be it further,

**ORDERED** that this is a formal order of the Maryland Board of Pharmacy and as such is a public document pursuant to the Maryland Annotated Code, State Government Article, Section 10-617(h).

9/21/11

Date



LaVerne G. Naesea, Executive Director  
For  
Michael Souranis, P.D.  
President, Board of Pharmacy