

IN THE MATTER OF

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BEFORE THE

HAPPINESS NWANYISONDI NWOSU

MARYLAND BOARD

LICENSE NO.: R171878
CRNP-FAMILY

OF NURSING

**ORDER OF REINSTATEMENT OF CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE
PRACTITIONER CERTIFICATION/ORDER OF PROBATION**

I. PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

On July 25, 2019, the Maryland Board of Nursing (the “Board”) issued a “Final Decision and Order of Revocation of Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner Certification/Order of Probation of Registered Nurse License and Certified Nursing Assistant Certificate” to **Happiness Nwanyisondi Nwosu** (the “Respondent”), which revoked her certified registered nurse practitioner (“CRNP”) certification in the State of Maryland for a minimum of two years and placed her registered nurse (“RN”) license (license number R171878) and certified nursing assistant (“CNA”) certificate (certificate number A00027260) in the State of Maryland on probation for a minimum of three (3) years. This disciplinary order was based on the Respondent’s guilty pleas for Conspiracy to Distribute Controlled Dangerous Substances and Medicaid Fraud, which are crimes involving moral turpitude.

II. CONSIDERATION OF REINSTATEMENT REQUEST

On or about September 21, 2021, the Respondent submitted a written request to the Board seeking reinstatement of her CRNP certification in the State of Maryland. In support of her reinstatement request, the Respondent provided a personal statement, letter of reference, training certificates, and documentation of completion of continuing education courses.

The Board has considered the materials submitted by the Respondent in support of her reinstatement request, the Respondent’s file, and the history in this case, and concludes that the

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Respondent is suitable for reinstatement of her certificate to practice as an CRNP, subject to certain terms and conditions. The Board will place the Respondent's reinstated CRNP certification on probation for a minimum of three (3) years, subject to these terms and conditions.

III. ORDER

Based on the foregoing, it is hereby:

ORDERED that the certification of the Respondent, Happiness Nwanyisoni Nwosu, to practice as a certified registered nurse practitioner in the State of Maryland shall be **REINSTATED** to active status, **BUT ONLY** upon submission of written documentation that the Respondent holds a current, active national certification as a nurse practitioner in her area of specialization – Family Nurse Practitioner – from a national certifying body recognized by the Board; and it is further

ORDERED that the certification of the Respondent, Happiness Nwanyisoni Nwosu, to practice as a certified registered nurse practitioner in the State of Maryland shall be placed on **PROBATION** for a minimum of **THREE (3) YEARS** beginning on the date her certification to practice as a certified registered nurse practitioner is reinstated to active status, subject to the terms and conditions outlined below; and it is further

ORDERED that the license of the Respondent, Happiness Nwanyisoni Nwosu, to practice as a registered nurse in the State of Maryland, license number R171878, and the certificate of the Respondent, Happiness Nwanyisoni Nwosu, to practice as a certified nursing assistant in the State of Maryland, certificate number A00027260, shall remain on **PROBATION** for a minimum of **THREE (3) YEARS** retroactive to the effective date of the previous Probation Order (*i.e.*, July 25, 2019), subject to the following modified terms and conditions:

1. The Respondent's license to practice as a registered nurse, certification to practice

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as a certified registered nurse practitioner, and her certificate to practice as a certified nursing assistant will be listed in the Board's computer records and website with the status of "Probation;"

2. The Respondent may seek employment as a certified registered nurse practitioner in her area of specialization (Family Nurse Practitioner), a registered nurse, or a certified nursing assistant, but shall obtain Board approval prior to accepting any new certified registered nurse practitioner, registered nurse, or certified nursing assistant position;

3. The Respondent shall immediately notify all employers of the probationary status of the Respondent's registered nurse license, certification to practice as a certified registered nurse practitioner, and her certified nursing assistant certificate and arrange for all employers to submit, in writing, confirmation that they have reviewed this Order;

4. The Respondent's practice as a certified registered nurse practitioner shall be subject to peer review and supervision by a Board-approved certified registered nurse practitioner who also holds national certification as a Family Nurse Practitioner (the "Peer Reviewer"), subject to the following terms and conditions:

- a. Within **THIRTY (30) DAYS** of the date her certification to practice as a certified registered nurse practitioner is reinstated and placed on probation, the Respondent shall submit for Board approval the name of a Peer Reviewer to review her practice. The Peer Reviewer shall have no current business, personal, or financial relationship with the Respondent. The Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board before entering a peer review, supervisory agreement with the Peer Reviewer. As part of the approval process, the Respondent shall provide the Board with the *curriculum vitae* and any other

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information requested by the Board regarding the qualifications of the proposed Peer Reviewer. The Respondent may not begin working as a certified registered nurse practitioner until the Board has approved a Peer Reviewer;

- b. The Respondent shall be responsible for ensuring that the Peer Reviewer submits to the Board written confirmation of his/her acceptance of the peer review-supervisory role and confirmation that the Respondent has provided the Peer Reviewer with a copy of this Order;
- c. The Respondent shall meet with the Peer Reviewer at least once per month throughout the probationary period. During each meeting, the Peer Reviewer shall randomly select two (2) of the Respondent's patient cases, review all relevant patient records, and discuss the two patient cases with the Respondent, with particular focus on compliance with generally accepted standards of practice with respect to prescribing CDS, and provide re-education as needed. The Peer Reviewer shall discuss with the Respondent his/her assessment of the Respondent's practice performance, compliance with the generally accepted standards of nursing practice, and identification of any aspects of the Respondent's practice that require improvement and corrective action;
- d. The Respondent shall be responsible for ensuring that the Peer Reviewer submits to the Board a minimum of 12 written quarterly reports, with each quarterly report being due no later than 10 days after the expiration of each 90-day quarterly period. Each report shall summarize the patient cases that were reviewed during the preceding quarter and shall include a summary of the Peer Reviewer's discussions with the Respondent about each case, discussions with

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the Respondent regarding the Respondent's practice performance, identification of areas of the Respondent's practice that required corrective action and/or improvement, and any progress made during the quarter implementing corrective actions identified during the previous quarter. Any failure by the Respondent to ensure that the quarterly reports due under this provision are submitted timely will constitute a violation of probation and this Order;

- e. After three (3) years have passed from the date the Board approves the Peer Reviewer, the Respondent may submit a written request to the Board seeking termination of the peer review, supervisory agreement with the Peer Reviewer. Unless the Board grants a request to terminate the peer review, supervisory agreement, the Respondent shall continue to be subject to peer review and supervision for an additional period of time or for the entire duration of the probation, as determined by the Board;
- f. If at any time the Board-approved Peer Reviewer resigns or is no longer able to serve as the Respondent's peer reviewer and supervisor, then within thirty (30) days of the date the Board-approved Peer Reviewer terminates his/her participation in the peer review, supervisory relationship, the Respondent shall submit to the Board for approval the name of a new Peer Reviewer who meets the qualifications set forth above in paragraph 4;
- g. The Respondent shall be responsible for all costs associated with complying with the peer review and supervision requirements set forth in sections a.-f. of paragraph 4;

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5. The Respondent shall submit to the Board written monthly self-reports describing the Respondent's progress, even if the Respondent is not working in the nursing field. Failure to provide written self-reports on time shall constitute a violation of probation and this Order;

6. If the Respondent at any time while she is subject to this Order ceases to work as a certified registered nurse practitioner and works only as a registered nurse or certified nursing assistant, the Respondent shall arrange for the Respondent's supervisor at the Respondent's place of employment to submit written quarterly work-site reports to the Board evaluating the Respondent's work performance and nursing practice. If the Respondent's employment terminates at any of the Respondent's place(s) of employment before the due date of a quarterly report, then a final work-site report is due on the last day of employment. It is the Respondent's responsibility to ensure that works-site reports are submitted to the Board and to notify the Respondent's supervisor when these reports are due. An unsatisfactory report will be considered a violation of probation and this Order;

7. The Respondent shall notify the Board in writing if she terminates her practice as a certified registered nurse practitioner or is terminated or voluntarily resigns from any other nursing position within **THREE (3) DAYS** of the date of termination/resignation. The Respondent shall include in writing the reasons for the termination of her practice as a certified registered nurse practitioner or for her resignation or termination of any other nursing position. Failure to provide written notification to the Board of any termination or resignation as required by this paragraph shall constitute a violation of probation and this Order; and it is further

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ORDERED that the Respondent shall have contacted, and scheduled an appointment with, the Board of Nursing's Discipline/Compliance unit **no later than (10) business days from the effective date of this Order**, for the purpose of beginning compliance with its terms and conditions. Failure to contact the Board as required by this paragraph shall constitute a violation of probation and of this Order; and it is further

ORDERED that pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact¹, the multistate status of the Respondent's registered nurse license shall be **deactivated** and her registered nurse license shall be designated as **single-state only**. The Respondent shall not have a multistate licensure privilege to practice as a registered nursing in any party state to the Nurse Licensure Compact; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent shall disclose a copy of this Order to the nursing board in any other State where she is employed as a certified registered nurse practitioner, a registered nurse, or a certified nursing assistant and submit to this Board written acknowledgement from the out-of-state nursing board that the Respondent has disclosed a copy of this Order; and it is further

ORDERED that if the Respondent moves permanently or temporarily, the Respondent shall notify the Board of the new address and phone number within **THREE (3) DAYS** of the move; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent shall obey all state and federal laws. If the Respondent is convicted of, or pleads guilty to, any crime(s), whether any appeal or other proceeding is

¹ The Nurse Licensure Compact is an agreement among boards of nursing of party states to the Compact under which registered nurses and licensed practical nurses may have one "multistate" nursing license in their primary state of residence that allows them to practice in any other party state pursuant to a "multistate licensure privilege." *See generally* Health Occ. §§ 8-7A-01 *et seq.* Maryland is a party state to the Compact.

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pending to have the conviction or plea set aside, the Respondent shall notify the Board, in writing, of any conviction(s) or guilty plea(s) within **TEN (10) DAYS** of the conviction or guilty plea. Failure to report a conviction or guilty plea to the Board in writing within **TEN (10) DAYS** is a violation of probation and this Order; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent shall be responsible for paying all costs required to comply with all the terms and conditions of this Order; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent shall submit to an in-person, face-to-face annual meeting with Board staff throughout the entire duration of the probation if requested to do so by the Board; and it is further

ORDERED that there shall be no early termination of the probation imposed in this Order; and it is further

ORDERED that after **THREE (3) YEARS** from the effective date of the previous probation order (*i.e.*, July 25, 2019) have passed, the Board will consider a petition for termination of the probationary status of the Respondent's registered nurse license and/or certified nursing assistant certificate, provided that the Respondent has been compliant with all of the probationary terms and conditions in this Order and safely employed as a registered nurse or certified registered nurse practitioner for at least **NINE (9) MONTHS** immediately preceding the petition for termination of probation; and it is further

ORDERED that after **THREE (3) YEARS** from the effective date of this Order have passed, the Board will consider a petition for termination of the probationary status of the Respondent's certified registered nurse practitioner certificate, provided that the Respondent has been compliant with all of the probationary terms and conditions in this Order and safely employed as a certified registered nurse practitioner for at least **NINE (9) MONTHS** immediately

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preceding the petition for termination of probation; and it is further

ORDERED that if the Respondent violates any of the terms and conditions of this Order, the Board, in its discretion, after notice and an opportunity for an evidentiary hearing, may impose, by further order of the Board, any sanction(s) authorized by Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 8-316 or § 8-6A-10 and COMAR 10.27.26, including reprimand, additional probation, suspension, revocation, and/or monetary penalty; and it is further

ORDERED that this Order is a **PUBLIC RECORD** pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 *et seq.* (2019 Repl. Vol.).

4/6/2022
Date

Karen E. B. Evans MSN, RN-BC
The Executive Director's Signature
Appears on the Original Document