

IN THE MATTER OF
FOLASHADE OGUNBODEDE

Respondent

License Number: R03801

BEFORE THE
MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF
MASSAGE THERAPY
EXAMINERS

Case Number: 26-06M

DEFAULT FINAL DECISION AND ORDER OF REVOCATION

On May 27, 2026, the Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners (the “Board”) issued a charging document¹ (the “Charges”) to **FOLASHADE OGUNBODEDE** (the “Respondent”), registered massage practitioner (“RMP”), registration number **R03801**, alleging that the Respondent violated the Maryland Massage Therapy Act (the “Act”), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. (“HO”) §§ 6-101 *et seq.*, specifically HO § 6-308(a)(1), (11), (20), and (21) as fully set forth in the Charges.

The Board’s Charges notified the Respondent of the opportunity to request an evidentiary hearing before the Board. The Charges also advised that if the Respondent failed to submit a request for a hearing to the Board within thirty (30) days from the date of the issuance of the Charges, the Respondent would waive the opportunity for an evidentiary hearing. In the event of such a waiver, the Charges notified the Respondent that the Board would issue a final decision and order by default pursuant to the authority of HO § 6-308(a)-(b) and HO § 6-309(f) and Md. Code Ann., State Government (“SG”) § 10-210(4) and SG § 10-221, wherein the allegations of fact in the Charges would become findings of fact, the disciplinary grounds that the Charges alleged to

¹ The Board’s Charging Document consisted of one three-page letter of procedure and a nine-page document entitled, “Charges Under the Maryland Massage Therapy Act.” The Board’s Charging Document is appended to this Order as Exhibit A and is incorporated by reference in its entirety. Addresses have been redacted to ensure confidentiality.

have been violated would become conclusions of law, and a disciplinary sanction and/or monetary penalty would be imposed.

The Board sent its Charges by regular and certified mail to the Respondent's last known addresses on May 27, 2026. The Board finds that the Charges were properly issued and that due and proper notice was given to the Respondent in accordance with HO § 6-309, SG § 10-207, and SG § 10-209(c). *See also, Maryland State Bd. of Nursing v. Sesay*, 224 Md. App. 432 (2015).

The Respondent failed to submit a request for an evidentiary hearing within thirty (30) days from the date of the issuance of the Board's Charges. Thus, the Board finds that the Respondent has waived the right to an evidentiary hearing and that the Board is authorized to issue this final decision and order by default pursuant to the authority of HO § 6-309(f) and SG § 10-210(4).

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Board adopts the allegations of fact set forth in the attached Charges as Findings of Fact.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Accordingly, the Board concludes that the Respondent has violated HO § 6-308(a):

- (1) Fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a license or registration for the applicant or for another;
- (11) Has violated any provision of this title; *specifically*, HO § 6-301(a) and HO § 6-501(a);
- (20) Engages in conduct that violates the professional code of ethics; *specifically*, COMAR 10.65.03.03.C(2) and (9) and COMAR 10.65.03.03.D.(1)-(2); and
- (21) Knowingly does an act that has been determined by the Board to be a violation of the Board's regulations, *specifically* COMAR 10.65.03.03.C(2) and (9) and COMAR 10.65.03.03.D.(1)-(2).

The Board also concludes that these violations of the Act most appropriately fall within category K(7) of the Board's sanctioning guidelines. *See* COMAR 10.65.09.05.K(7). The range of potential sanctions under category K(7) includes a minimum sanction of reprimand to a maximum sanction of revocation. *Id.* In its discretion, the Board finds that the maximum sanction, revocation, is appropriate.

ORDER

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is hereby:

ORDERED that the registration of the Respondent to practice as a registered massage practitioner in the State of Maryland, registration number **R03801**, is hereby **REVOKED**; and it is further

ORDERED that for purposes of public disclosure and as permitted by Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. § 4-333(b)(7), this document consists of the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order, and is reportable to any entity to whom the Board is obligated to report; and it is further

ORDERED that this Default Final Decision and Order is a **PUBLIC RECORD** under Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 *et seq.* (2019 Repl. Vol.).

09/24/2026
Date

Signature on File
Sharon J. Oliver, MBA
Executive Director
Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners

NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS

Any person aggrieved by a final decision of the Board under HO § 6-308 may take a direct judicial appeal within thirty (30) days of the date this Order is mailed, as provided by HO § 6-310, SG § 10-222, and Title 7, Chapter 200 of the Maryland Rules, including Md. Rule 7-203 ("Time for Filing Action").

DATE MAILED: September 24, 2026



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Meena Seshamani, M.D., Ph.D., Secretary

Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners
4201 Patterson Avenue, Suite 301
Baltimore, MD 21215

May 27, 2026

BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

AND

CERTIFIED MAIL, RESTRICTED DELIVERY, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Folashade Ogunbodede
[REDACTED]

RE: Notice of Charges
Registration Number: R03801
Case Number: 26-06M

Dear Ms. Ogunbodede,

The Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners (the “Board”) is the state agency responsible for the regulation of the practice of massage therapy in the State of Maryland pursuant to the authority of the Maryland Massage Therapy Act (the “Act”), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 6-101 *et seq.* Pursuant to Health Occ. § 6-308(a) and (b), the Board may reprimand any licensee or registration, place any license or registration on probation, suspend or revoke any license or registration, and/or impose a monetary penalty if the Board finds that the licensee or registrant has violated any of the disciplinary grounds set forth in Health Occ. § 6-308(a)(1)-(22).

Based on the allegations of fact and violation(s) of the disciplinary ground(s) cited in the enclosed document entitled *Charges Under the Maryland Massage Therapy Act* (the “Charges”), the Board intends to take disciplinary action against your registration, which may include reprimand, probation, suspension, revocation, and/or monetary penalty. This letter and the Charges constitute the notice of agency action that is required by the Maryland Administrative Procedure Act, Md. Code Ann., State Gov’t (“SG”) § 10-207.

Pursuant to Health Occ. § 6-309 and SG §§ 10-201 *et seq.*, before the Board may take disciplinary action against your registration, the Board must give you an opportunity for a hearing before the Board. In order to receive a hearing before the Board takes disciplinary

action against your registration, you **must, within thirty (30) calendar days of service of these Charges, submit a written request for a hearing to:**

Sharon J. Oliver, Executive Director
Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners
4201 Patterson Avenue, Suite 301
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

with copies mailed to:

Mohamad Cheikhali, Assistant Attorney General, Administrative Prosecutor
Maryland Office of the Attorney General
Health Occupations Prosecution & Litigation Division
300 West Preston Street, Suite 201
Baltimore, Maryland 21201
mohamad.cheikhali@maryland.gov

and

Tony DeFranco, Assistant Attorney General, Board Counsel
Maryland Office of the Attorney General
Maryland Department of Health
300 West Preston Street, Suite 302
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Because your registration to practice massage therapy in the State of Maryland is at issue, **you are strongly urged to retain and be represented by an attorney at all stages of this proceeding.** If you choose to retain counsel, please be advised that in order to represent you at any proceedings in this case, your attorney must be either admitted to the Maryland bar or specially admitted to practice law in Maryland under Maryland Rule 19-217. If you are represented by an attorney, please direct your attorney to send a written letter of appearance to the Board if they have not already done so.

If you do not request a hearing within 30 days of service of this letter, the Board will find that you have waived your opportunity for a hearing, and may, in its discretion, issue a **public** Final Decision and Order by default pursuant to Health Occ. § 6-309(f), SG § 10-210(4), and SG § 10-221, in which: (1) the allegations of fact in the Charges become findings of fact; (2) the Board will make conclusions of law that your conduct, as set forth in the findings of fact, constitutes grounds for disciplinary action under Health Occ. § 6-308; and (3) the Board will impose a disciplinary sanction against your registration, which may include reprimand, probation, suspension, revocation, and/or a monetary penalty.

If you request a hearing in writing within thirty (30) days of service of the Charges, an evidentiary hearing and a case resolution conference ("CRC") will be scheduled. The purpose

of the CRC is to determine whether a reasonable opportunity exists for a resolution of your case prior to a contested evidentiary hearing. The CRC would be held without prejudice to either party, which means that the Board representatives who attend the CRC would not be permitted to consider or discuss what was said at the CRC as evidence at a subsequent evidentiary hearing in the matter (unless independent evidence of such information is produced). **Please note that the CRC will only be scheduled if you request a hearing as described above.**

If you request a hearing and this matter is not resolved on terms and conditions approved by the Board following the CRC, an evidentiary hearing will be scheduled. An evidentiary hearing would be conducted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, Md. Code Ann., State Gov't., §§ 10-201 *et seq.* At an evidentiary hearing, you would have the following rights: to be represented by counsel, to present evidence, to testify, to call witnesses to testify, to cross-examine witnesses, and to present summation and argument. To request witness subpoenas, you would need to file a written request with the Board in advance of the hearing. If you need any accommodations at a hearing, please notify the Board at least five days prior to the hearing. You may contact the Board at (410) 764-4755.

Please be advised that if a hearing is scheduled and you do not attend or participate, the Board may consider the case and issue a decision despite your absence.

Production of the Board's documents related to a charged case is governed by the Board's discovery regulations found at COMAR 10.65.02.04. Additionally, you or your attorney may contact the Administrative Prosecutor to discuss review of the Board's investigative file. The Administrative Prosecutor in this case is Mohamad Cheikhali, Assistant Attorney General. If you have questions about the Charges, please contact Mr. Cheikhali at mohamad.cheikhali@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

Signature on File

Sharon J. Oliver, MBA, Executive Director
Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners

Enclosures

cc: Tony DeFranco, Assistant Attorney General, Board Counsel, MDH
Nicholas Johansson, Principal Counsel, HOPL
Mohamad Cheikhali, Assistant Attorney General, HOPL
Abby Wyatt, Administrative Officer, HOPL
Kim Crawford, Board Investigator

IN THE MATTER OF

FOLASHADE OGUNBODEDE, RMP

Respondent

Registration Number: R03801

BEFORE THE

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF

MASSAGE THERAPY EXAMINERS

Case Number: 26-06M

CHARGES UNDER THE MARYLAND MASSAGE THERAPY ACT

The Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners (the “Board”) hereby charges FOLASHADE OGUNBODEDE, RMP (Registered Massage Practitioner) (the “Respondent”), Registration Number R03801, with violating the Maryland Massage Therapy Act (the “Act”), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. (“Health Occ.”) §§ 6-101, et seq., and Md. Code Regs. (“COMAR”) 10.65.03.

Specifically, the Board charges the Respondent with violating the following provisions of the Act under Health Occ. § 6-308:

Health Occ. § 6-308. Denials, reprimands, suspensions, and revocations — Grounds.

- (a) Subject to the hearing provisions of § 6-309 of this subtitle, the Board may deny a license or registration to an applicant, reprimand a licensee or registration holder, place any licensee or registration holder on probation, or suspend or revoke the license of a licensee or the registration of a registration holder if the applicant, licensee, or registration holder:

...

- (1) Fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a license or registration for the applicant, licensee or registration holder or for another;

...

- (11) Has violated any provision of this title;

...

(20) Violates the code of ethics adopted by the Board under § 6-206 of this title; [and]

(21) Knowingly does an act that has been determined by the Board to be a violation of the Board's regulations[.]

Health Occ. § 6-301. License and registration requirements.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this title, before an individual may practice massage therapy in the State, the individual shall be:

(1) On or before October 31, 2026:

(i) Licensed by the Board; or

(ii) Registered by the Board to practice massage therapy in a setting that is not a health care setting[.]

Health Occ. § 6-501. Practicing without license.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this title, an individual may not practice, attempt to practice, or offer to practice massage therapy, massage, myotherapy, or any synonym or derivation of these terms in the State unless licensed or registered by the Board.

COMAR 10.65.03.03. Standards of Practice.

...

(C) A licensee or registrant shall:

...

(2) Engage in professional conduct at all times, with honesty, integrity, self-respect, and fairness;

...

(9) Attempt to correct others who misrepresent the licensee's or registrant's credentials, qualifications, education, or affiliations.

- (D) A licensee or registrant may not:
- (1) Misrepresent professional credentials, qualifications, education, or affiliations;
 - (2) Knowingly engage in or condone behavior that:
 - (a) Is fraudulent;
 - (b) Is dishonest;
 - (c) Is deceitful[.]

ALLEGATIONS OF FACT

The Board bases its charges on the following facts that the Board has reason to believe are true:

BACKGROUND

1. On or about September 13, 2024, the Board initially issued the Respondent Registration Number R03801, authorizing the Respondent to practice as a registered massage practitioner in the State of Maryland.
2. The Respondent's registration is current through October 31, 2026, subject to renewal.
3. Before September 13, 2024, the Respondent was not licensed or registered by the Board to practice massage therapy in the State of Maryland.
4. On or about February 3, 2025, the Respondent submitted an application to the Board to convert her Maryland registration from Registered Massage Practitioner status to Licensed Massage Therapist status.

5. In support of her conversion application, materials submitted to the Board represented that the Respondent had accumulated hands-on massage therapy experience at a spa in Washington, D.C. and at a spa in Bethesda, Maryland.

6. On or about August 27, 2025, the Board initiated a complaint against the Respondent after receiving information that the Respondent had attempted to convert her registration to Licensed Massage Therapist status by claiming massage therapy work experience obtained in Washington, D.C., where the Respondent was not licensed or registered to practice massage therapy.

7. The Board further received information that the Respondent practiced massage therapy in Maryland before she was licensed or registered by the Board.

BOARD'S INVESTIGATION

8. During the Board's investigation, Board staff reviewed the Respondent's licensure and registration history and confirmed that the Respondent was first issued a Maryland massage therapy registration on or about September 13, 2024.

9. Board staff reviewed information submitted in support of the Respondent's application to convert from Registered Massage Practitioner status to Licensed Massage Therapist status.

10. The Respondent's conversion application represented that the Respondent sought conversion based on hands-on massage therapy experience.

11. In support of the Respondent's conversion application, the Board received information representing that the Respondent had accumulated hands-on massage therapy experience at a spa ("DC Spa") in Washington, D.C.

12. The Board's investigation revealed that, during the relevant period, the Respondent was not licensed or registered to practice massage therapy in Washington, D.C.

13. On or about April 29, 2025, the Board notified the Respondent that her Washington, D.C. hands-on massage therapy experience did not qualify for conversion because the Respondent was not licensed or registered to practice massage therapy in Washington, D.C.

14. Thereafter, the Board received employment and/or work-experience information from a spa in Bethesda, Maryland ("Bethesda Spa") representing that the Respondent had worked as a massage therapist at the Bethesda Spa beginning in or about May 2024 and had accumulated more than 1,000 hours of hands-on massage therapy experience.

15. The Board's investigation revealed that the Respondent was not licensed or registered by the Board to practice massage therapy in Maryland until September 13, 2024.

16. During the Board's investigation, the Board obtained client records and appointment records from the Bethesda Spa.

17. The records obtained from the Bethesda Spa identified the Respondent as the provider and/or therapist for massage therapy services rendered in Maryland before September 13, 2024.

18. Specifically, the records obtained from the Bethesda Spa identified the Respondent as the provider and/or therapist for massage therapy services rendered on or about August 5, 2024, August 20, 2024, August 28, 2024, September 2, 2024, and September 3, 2024.

19. During an interview with a Board investigator on or about December 29, 2025, the Respondent acknowledged that she worked as a massage therapist in Washington, D.C. and that she was not licensed or registered to practice massage therapy in Washington, D.C. during that work.

20. During the Board's investigation, the Board also obtained information indicating that the Respondent publicly represented, advertised, and/or failed to correct representations that she possessed massage therapy credentials, qualifications, or experience that were inaccurate, false, deceptive, and/or misleading.

21. Specifically, the Board obtained information indicating that, on or about March 28, 2025, the Respondent was publicly represented as having been licensed in Maryland for approximately four years, although the Respondent was not issued a Maryland massage therapy registration until September 13, 2024.

22. The Respondent knew or should have known that she was not licensed or registered to practice massage therapy in Maryland before September 13, 2024.

23. The Respondent knew or should have known that she was not licensed or registered to practice massage therapy in Washington, D.C. during the relevant period.

24. The Respondent knew or should have known that hands-on massage therapy experience obtained while she was not authorized to practice massage therapy in the jurisdiction where the services were performed was not valid qualifying experience for purposes of conversion from Registered Massage Practitioner status to Licensed Massage Therapist status.

25. After the Board notified the Respondent that her Washington, D.C. hands-on massage therapy experience did not qualify for conversion, the Respondent failed to correct false, deceptive, misleading, and/or incomplete information, including information submitted on her behalf by the Bethesda Spa, concerning her credentials, qualifications, licensure or registration status, and/or qualifying hands-on massage therapy experience.

GROUND FOR DISCIPLINE

26. The Respondent violated Health Occ. § 6-301 and/or Health Occ. § 6-501(a), and thereby violated Health Occ. § 6-308(a)(11), when she practiced, attempted to practice, and/or offered to practice massage therapy in Maryland before she was licensed or registered by the Board.

27. The Respondent fraudulently or deceptively attempted to obtain licensure as a Licensed Massage Therapist, in violation of Health Occ. § 6-308(a)(1), when she submitted, caused to be submitted, and/or relied upon work-experience information submitted on her behalf that falsely, deceptively, and/or misleadingly represented that she had obtained qualifying hands-on massage therapy experience.

28. The Respondent violated Health Occ. § 6-308(a)(20) and/or (21), and COMAR 10.65.03.03C(2), when she failed to engage in professional conduct at all times with honesty, integrity, self-respect, and fairness.

29. The Respondent violated Health Occ. § 6-308(a)(20) and/or (21), and COMAR 10.65.03.03C(9), when she failed to attempt to correct false, deceptive, misleading, and/or incomplete information submitted on her behalf concerning her

credentials, qualifications, licensure or registration status, and/or qualifying hands-on massage therapy experience.

30. The Respondent violated Health Occ. § 6-308(a)(20) and/or (21), and COMAR 10.65.03.03D(1), when she misrepresented her professional credentials, qualifications, education, and/or affiliations.

31. The Respondent violated Health Occ. § 6-308(a)(20) and/or (21), and COMAR 10.65.03.03D(2)(a)–(c), when she knowingly engaged in or condoned behavior that was fraudulent, dishonest, and/or deceitful.

NOTICE OF POSSIBLE SANCTIONS

If, after a hearing, the Board finds that there are grounds for disciplinary action under Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 6-308(a)(1), (11), (20), and/or (21), the Board may impose disciplinary sanctions authorized by the Maryland Massage Therapy Act and applicable Board regulations, including, but not limited to, reprimanding the Respondent, placing the Respondent on probation, suspending or revoking the Respondent's registration, denying the Respondent's application to convert from Registered Massage Practitioner status to Licensed Massage Therapist status, and/or imposing a monetary penalty.

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

In accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, Md. Code Ann., State Gov't §§ 10-201 *et seq.*, the Board hereby notifies the Respondent of the opportunity for a hearing before the Board makes a final decision in this case. In order to receive a hearing before

the Board takes disciplinary action in this matter, the Respondent must, **within thirty (30) calendar days** of service of this Notice, submit a written request for a hearing to:

Sharon J. Oliver, Executive Director
Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners
4201 Patterson Avenue, Suite 301
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

If a request for a hearing is made, an evidentiary hearing before the Board will be scheduled. If the Board does not receive a written request for a hearing **within thirty (30) days** from service of this Notice, the Board will find that the Respondent waived the opportunity for a hearing, and may, in its discretion, issue a **public** Final Decision and Order by default pursuant to Health Occ. § 6-309(f), SG § 10-210(4), and SG § 10-221, as described in the letter to the Respondent enclosed with this document..

05/27/2026
Date

Signature of File
Sharon J. Oliver, MBA, Executive Director
Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners