

IN THE MATTER OF

HUIZHI REN

Applicant

BEFORE THE MARYLAND STATE

BOARD OF MASSAGE

THERAPY EXAMINERS

Case Number: 24-36M

CONSENT ORDER

On March 19, 2026, the Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners (the “Board”) notified **HUIZHI REN** (the “Applicant”) of the Board’s intent to deny her *Application for License or Registration in Massage Therapy*, pursuant to the Maryland Massage Therapy Act (the “Act”) codified at Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 6-101 *et seq.* (2021 Repl. Vol. & 2025 Supp.).

Specifically, the Board based its action on the Applicant’s violation of the following provisions of the Act:

Health Occ. § 6-302. Qualifications.

....

(b) To qualify for a license, an applicant shall be an individual who:

(1) Is of good moral character; [and]

....

(5) Has passed an examination approved by the Board[.]

....

(c) On or before September 30, 2024, to qualify to be registered, an applicant shall be an individual who:

(1) Is of good moral character;

....

- (4) Has passed an examination approved by the Board[.]

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 or for another;

....

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

....

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

Pursuant to Health Occ. § 6-302(b)(5) and/or (c)(4) and/or Health Occ. § 6-308(a)(11) and/or (21), the Board based its action on the Applicant’s violation of the following provisions of the Code of Maryland Regulations (“COMAR”):

COMAR 10.65.01.06 Application for Licensure or Registration.

- A. An applicant for a license to practice massage therapy shall:

....

- (6) Pass the State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners Jurisprudence Examination, which is administered by the Board, with a score of at least 75 percent[.]

....

- B. On or before September 30, 2024, to be a registered massage practitioner, an applicant shall:
- (6) Pass the State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners Jurisprudence Examination, which is administered by the Board, with a score of at least 75 percent[.]

On May 27, 2026, a Case Resolution Conference ("CRC") was held before a committee of the Board. As a resolution of this matter, the Applicant agreed to enter this public Consent Order consisting of Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Board makes the following findings of fact:

I. BACKGROUND

1. On or about March 1, 2024, the Board received an *Application for License or Registration in Massage Therapy* from the Applicant.
2. On June 12, 2024, the Applicant sat for the Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners Jurisprudence Examination (the "June 2024 Examination"), in-person at the Board's offices located at 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215, but did not pass with a score of at least 75 percent.
3. The Applicant, following her exam, left \$50 US currency at or near her chair, and failed to adequately explain her intentions for doing so. The Applicant's conduct at the June 2024 Examination prompted the Board to investigate.

II. BOARD INVESTIGATION

4. On June 13, 2024, the Licensing Coordinator for the Board (the "Licensing

Coordinator”),¹ who served as the proctor for the June 2024 Examination, e-mailed the Applicant, notifying the Applicant that \$50.00 was left in the Examination Room and inquiring when the Applicant would be able to retrieve it. The Applicant replied via e-mail, stating that the money was either for the Licensing Coordinator to “buy water” or to “buy drinks[.]” The Applicant did not make any statement that she intended to retrieve the money. The Applicant asked if she could take the examination “online next time” and also “in half a month.” The Licensing Coordinator replied via e-mail, stating that she was “not allowed to accept money from [the Applicant] for any reason.” The Licensing Coordinator stated that the next examination would need to be in-person and that the Applicant could retrieve the money at that time, or in advance at the Applicant’s preference. The Applicant replied via e-mail, stating that she would “come for the next exam” but asked if she could “come back in half a month earlier.” The Applicant again did not make any statement that she intended to retrieve the money. The Applicant sent another e-mail, stating that she did not “have any intention to let [the Licensing Coordinator] take [the Applicant’s] money” but that “this is only \$50” and that the Applicant thought that it was “OK to buy drinks for our first meeting[.]”

5. On or about November 13, 2024, the Board’s Investigator conducted an under-oath interview with the Applicant. The Applicant stated that, during the June 12, 2024, examination, she “was thirsty” and wanted the Licensing Coordinator “[t]o buy some

¹ For confidentiality purposes, the names of individuals are not disclosed in this document. The Applicant may request the identity of the referenced individuals by making a request to the assigned Administrative Prosecutor.

water for [the Applicant].” However, later in the interview the Applicant stated that she “did not intentionally” leave the “50 dollars in the room.”

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes as a matter of law that the Applicant violated Health Occ. § 6-302(b)(1) and (5) and/or Health Occ. § 6-302(c)(1) and (4); Health Occ. § 6-308(a)(1), (11), and (21); and COMAR 10.65.01.06A(6) and/or B(6).

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board considering this case:

ORDERED that, within **THREE (3) MONTHS** of the effective date of this Order, the Applicant may sit for the Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners Jurisprudence Examination; and it is further

ORDERED that, if the Applicant successfully passes the Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners Jurisprudence Examination with a score of at least 75 percent within **THREE (3) MONTHS** of the effective date of this Order, the Board shall grant the Applicant a registration to practice massage therapy in the State of Maryland; and it is further

ORDERED that, if the Board grants the Applicant a registration to practice massage therapy in the State of Maryland, the Applicant’s registration shall be placed on **PROBATION** for a minimum period of **ONE (1) YEAR** subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Within **SIX (6) MONTHS** of the beginning of the period of probation, the Applicant shall take and successfully complete one (1) Board-approved course in **ETHICS**. The following terms apply:
 - a. It is the Applicant's responsibility to locate, enroll in, and obtain the Board's approval of the courses before the courses begin;
 - b. The Board may accept courses taken in person or online;
 - c. The Applicant must provide documentation to the Board that the Applicant has successfully completed the courses;
 - d. The courses may not be used to fulfill the continuing education credits required for license renewal; and
 - e. The Applicant is responsible for the costs of the courses.
2. The Applicant shall comply with the Maryland Massage Therapy Act and all laws, statutes and regulations pertaining thereof.

ORDERED that after conclusion of the **ONE (1) YEAR** probationary period imposed by this Order, the Applicant may submit a written petition to the Board requesting termination of probation. After consideration of the petition, the probation may be terminated through an order of the Board. The Board at its discretion may grant termination if the Applicant has fully and satisfactorily complied with all the terms and conditions of the Order, and there are no pending investigations or complaints against the Applicant, and the Board deems termination of probation appropriate. If the Applicant fails to make any such petition, then the probationary period status may continue indefinitely, subject to the conditions set forth in this Order; and it is further

ORDERED that if the Applicant allegedly fails to comply with any of the terms and conditions of this Order, Applicant shall be given notice and opportunity for a hearing. If, in its sole discretion, the Board determines that there is a genuine dispute as to a material

fact, the hearing shall be evidentiary hearing before the Board. If there is no genuine dispute as to a material fact, the Applicant shall be given a show cause hearing before the Board; and it is further

ORDERED that, after the appropriate hearing, if the Board determines that the Applicant has failed to comply with any term or condition of probation or this Order, the Board may reprimand the Applicant, place the Applicant on probation with appropriate terms and conditions, or suspend or revoke the Applicant's registration to practice massage therapy in Maryland. The Board may, in addition to one or more of the sanctions set forth above, impose a civil monetary fine upon the Applicant; and it is further

ORDERED that, if, within **THREE (3) MONTHS** of the effective date of this Order, the Applicant fails to sit for the Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners Jurisprudence Examination or the Applicant fails to successfully pass the Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners Jurisprudence Examination with a score of at least 75 percent, the Board shall close the Applicant's *Application for License or Registration in Massage Therapy*. If the Board closes the Applicant's *Application for License or Registration in Massage Therapy*, the Applicant may apply for a license to practice as a licensed massage therapist in the State of Maryland by meeting the licensing requirements in effect at the time of the new license application; and it is further

ORDERED that the Applicant is responsible for all costs incurred in fulfilling the terms and conditions of this Order, and it is further

ORDERED that the effective date of this Order is the date it is signed by the Board; and it is further

ORDERED that this Order is reportable to the National Practitioner Bank; and it is further

ORDERED that this Order constitutes a formal disciplinary action of the Board, and this Order is final and is a public document for the purposes of public disclosure, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 *et seq.* (2021 Repl. Vol. & 2025 Supp.).

6/24/2026
Date

Signature on File
Charlene Faison, MFA
Licensing Director
Maryland State Board of
Massage Therapy Examiners

CONSENT

I, Huizhi Ren, acknowledge that I have had the opportunity to consult with legal counsel before signing this document. By this Consent and for the purpose of resolving the issues raised by the Board, I agree and accept to be bound by the foregoing Consent Order and its conditions.

I acknowledge the validity of this Consent Order as if entered into after the conclusion of a formal evidentiary hearing in which I would have had the right to counsel, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to call witnesses on my own behalf, and to all other substantive and procedural protections provided by the law. I agree to forego my opportunity to challenge these allegations. I acknowledge the legal authority and jurisdiction of the Board to initiate these proceedings and to issue and enforce this Consent Order. I affirm that I am waiving my right to appeal any adverse ruling of the Board that might have followed after any such hearing.

I sign this Consent Order, voluntarily and without reservation, and I fully understand and comprehend the language, meaning and terms of this Consent Order.

6/17/2026
Date

Signature on File
Huizhi Ren
Applicant

NOTARY

STATE OF MARYLAND
CITY/COUNTY OF Montgomery

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 17th day of June, 2026, before me, a Notary Public of the foregoing State and City/County personally appear Huizhi Ren, and made oath in due form of law that signing the foregoing Consent Order was her voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESSETH my hand and notary seal.

Signature on File
Notary Public

My commission expires: June 20, 2027