

Middlesex, SS.

Adjudicatory Case No. 2023-007

TRINH THI TRAN, M.D.

The Board of Registration in Medicine (Board) has determined that good cause exists to believe the following acts occurred and constitute a violation for which a licensee may be sanctioned by the Board. The Board therefore alleges that Trinh Thi Tran, M.D. (Respondent) has practiced medicine in violation of law, regulations, or good and accepted medical practice as set forth herein. The investigative docket number associated with this order to show cause is Docket No. 21-548.

1. The Respondent graduated from the University of Massachusetts Medical School in 2008. She has been licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts under certificate number 246947 since 2011. She is Board-certified in Emergency Medicine. She had privileges at Sturdy Memorial Hospital (Sturdy) and Morton Hospital and Medical Center.

2. On October 30, 2021, the Respondent agreed to work the first half of a shift, from 4:30pm to approximately 9:00pm, at Sturdy to assist a colleague.

3. The Respondent drove herself to Sturdy and arrived at approximately 4:00pm.

4. During the shift, the Respondent learned that she would not have coverage for the second half of the shift, and she would likely be working until approximately 1:00am on October 31, 2021.

5. Though she had already discharged most of her patients, she picked up two new patients, evaluated them, and placed their orders.

6. Approximately fifteen minutes later, the emergency department had slowed down and the Respondent was between patients. The Respondent went out to her car in the hospital parking lot and drank a box and a half of wine.

7. The Respondent then returned to the emergency department. She paced around the hallway, went into the breakroom, and sat in her cubicle.

8. The Chief of the Emergency Department (the Chief) approached the Respondent and instructed her to sign out her patients because the department was slow.

9. During sign out, the Chief noticed that something was wrong and escorted the Respondent to a private area.

10. The Respondent admitted to the Chief that she had consumed alcohol in her vehicle.

11. The Respondent submitted to a drug and alcohol test; the alcohol test yielded a positive result.

12. The Chief arranged for the Respondent to be transported home safely.

13. On October 31, 2021, the Respondent was placed on a leave of absence from Sturdy.

Legal Basis for Proposed Relief

A. Pursuant to G.L. c. 112, §5, eighth par. (d) and 243 CMR 1.03(5)(a)4, the Board may discipline a physician upon proof satisfactory to a majority of the Board, that said physician practiced medicine while her ability to do so was impaired by alcohol, drugs, physical disability or mental instability.

B. Pursuant to *Levy v. Board of Registration in Medicine*, 378 Mass. 519 (1979); *Raymond v. Board of Registration in Medicine*, 387 Mass. 708 (1982), the Board may discipline a physician upon proof satisfactory to a majority of the Board, that said physician has engaged in conduct that undermines the public confidence in the integrity of the medical profession.

The Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to G.L. c. 112, §§ 5, 61 and 62. This adjudicatory proceeding will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 30A and 801 CMR 1.01.

Nature of Relief Sought

The Board is authorized and empowered to order appropriate disciplinary action, which may include revocation or suspension of the Respondent's license to practice medicine. The Board may also order, in addition to or instead of revocation or suspension, one or more of the following: admonishment, censure, reprimand, fine, the performance of uncompensated public service, a course of education or training or other restrictions upon the Respondent's practice of medicine.

Order

Wherefore, it is hereby **ORDERED** that the Respondent show cause why the Board should not discipline the Respondent for the conduct described herein.

By the Board of Registration in Medicine,



Julian N. Robinson, M.D.
Board Chair

Date: 1/19/2023