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> KATHLEEN E. WALSH Secretary ROBERT GOLDSTEIN, MD, PhD Commissioner

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To: All licensees

FROM: David Johnson, Director, Drug Control Program

DATE: December 3, 2024

RE: BHPL Warns of Increase in Fraudulent Communications to Licensees

The Bureau of Health Professions Licensure (BHPL) is warning all licensed professionals about an ongoing extortion scheme perpetrated by individuals impersonating Massachusetts BHPL investigators, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agents, DEA investigators, Massachusetts Drug Control Unit investigators, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) investigators, and other law enforcement personnel.

Licensees have reported receiving fraudulent phone calls, text messages, and letters. The communication will falsely state that the licensee is under investigation and that their license is in jeopardy or has been suspended. Furthermore, licensees have been asked for additional information including NPI, DEA registration number, and financial information, with the caller indicating that the conversation is being recorded on a secure line. The scam calls may also show up as your licensing board's main number. If you receive a communication, please consider the following:

No BHPL employee will ever contact you by email, text or phone and demand money. We will not request confidential personal information, account information, or force you to respond immediately.

If you receive a communication from an individual claiming to be from the Bureau of Health Professions Licensure, please call our office at 617-973-0800 to confirm that a member of the BHPL team is attempting to contact you.

If you receive a suspected fraudulent call, please contact the FBI's Boston Field Office at 857-386-2000 or the DEA (Drug Enforcement Administration) Duty Line at 571-362-8487. You may also report the threat to the FBI online at https://ic3.gov.