

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
HEALTH REGULATION AND LICENSING ADMINISTRATION**



IN THE MATTER OF:

HAILELEOUL DESTA, PA,

Respondent.

NOTICE OF SUMMARY ACTION TO SUSPEND LICENSE

To: Haileleoul Desta, PA
8118 Gorman Ave., #104
Laurel, MD 20707

In accordance with the provisions of the District of Columbia Administrative Procedure Act, D.C. Code § 2-509(a), and the District of Columbia Health Occupations Revision Act of 1985, D.C. Code § 3-1205.15(b), the Health Regulation and Licensing Administration (HLRA) gives you notice of the summary suspension of your license to practice as a certified physician assistant in the District of Columbia, License No. PA030586, under D.C. Code § 3-1205.15(a)(1)(D).

Your license is **summarily suspended** effective **immediately** upon receipt of this notice. If you wish to appeal this summary suspension of your license, you must file a written request for a hearing within 72 hours after service of this notice. Should you request a hearing, one will be held within 72 hours of receipt of a timely request, and a decision will be rendered within 72 hours after the close of the hearing. The request for a hearing must be submitted in writing to Suzanne Fenzel, Counsel to the Board of Medicine, Department of Health, Health Licensing Regulation Administration. The request may be submitted by email to Suzanne.Fenzel3@dc.gov or by mail to 899 North Capitol Street, N.E., Sixth Floor, Washington, D.C. 20002. Ms. Fenzel can be reached at (202) 724-8915.

The District of Columbia is represented by the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia in these proceedings. A copy of your hearing request and any pleading or other written communication addressed to the HLRA should also be delivered to Anthony P. Celo*, Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia, Civil Enforcement Section, 400 Sixth Street, N.W., Suite 10100, Washington, D.C. 20001. Mr. Celo can be reached at (202) 735-7559 or by email at Anthony.Celo@dc.gov.

* Admitted to practice only in Pennsylvania and Ohio. Practicing in the District of Columbia under the direct supervision of Kimberly M. Johnson, a member of the D.C. Bar under D.C. Court of Appeals Rule 49 (c)(4).

You may appear personally at such a hearing and you may be represented by legal counsel. You have the right to produce witnesses and evidence on your behalf, to cross-examine witnesses against you, to examine evidence produced, and to have subpoenas issued on your behalf to require the production of witnesses and evidence.

All hearings are conducted before an administrative judge in the English language. If you or any witnesses to be called are deaf, have a hearing impediment, or cannot readily understand or communicate the spoken English language, an application may be made to the administrative law judge for the appointment of a qualified interpreter.

The basis of the contemplated action is certain information received by the agency which, if proven to be true, justifies taking the proposed action under D.C. Code § 3-1205.15(a).

The charge upon which the summary suspension is based is set forth below.

Charge I: **You were arrested and charged with two counts of Second-Degree Sexual Abuse of a Patient or Client, in Criminal Case Number 2021 CF1 006121, filed in the District of Columbia Superior Court. Your conduct therefore presents an imminent danger to the health and safety of the public. Thus, your license may be summarily suspended under D.C. Code § 3-1205.15(a)(1)(D).**

On October 27, 2021, AUSA Angela Buckner contacted Suzanne Fenzel, counsel for the District of Columbia Department of Health (DC Health) and reported that you had been arrested on two charges of Second-Degree Sexual Abuse arising from your examination of two patients. DC Health received a copy of the Affidavit in Support of the Arrest Warrant and supporting documents, which revealed the following allegations.

On or about August 20, 2019, Patient "M.P." went to your clinic, Metro Lab, for a physical examination. During the examination, you told M.P. not to worry about her weight because she was beautiful; stated that she had "big breasts" or words to that effect while you grabbed her breasts; and picked M.P. up with her breasts touching your chest. Further, you went behind M.P. and again lifted her off the ground while groping her and pressing your genitals against her buttocks. While taking her vital signs, you pressed your genitals against her arm on the armrest of the chair and asked about her sexual preference. When she stated that she dates men, you responded, "Oh, you like penis," or words to that effect.

On or about April 10, 2021, Patient "T.W." went to your clinic, Metro Lab, for an employment related medical examination and drug screening. During the examination, you bent T.W. over in front of you and pressed your genitals on her buttocks. You told T.W. that she was "very flexible" or words to that effect. You then pulled her to a standing position and reached

around to grab her breasts over her clothes. You also grabbed T.W.'s buttocks, stating that she had, "A lot back here," or words to that effect, and slapped her buttocks. When T.W. confronted you about the incident, you threatened to call the police on T.W. During the examination, you failed to ask any of the questions on the medical examination checklist, aside from noting her weight and whether she wore glasses.

Additionally, in 2012, a former employee of Metro Lab filed a report with MPD accusing you of sexual assault.

On or about October 27, 2021, you were arrested, and criminal charges were filed against you in Case No. 2021 CF1 006121 for two counts of Second Degree Sexual Abuse, stemming from the above allegations.

A request for a hearing will not stay this summary suspension. Please note that under 17 DCMR § 4103.2, your failure to appear at the time and place set for the hearing, either in person or through counsel, or both, will not preclude the administrative law judge from proceeding in this matter.

October 29, 2021
DATE

Sharon Williams Lewis
Sharon Williams Lewis, DHA, RN-BC, CPM
Senior Deputy Director
Department of Health
Health Regulation and Licensing Administration