



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Health Professions

Perimeter Center
9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300
Henrico, Virginia 23233-1463

www.dhp.virginia.gov
PHONE (804) 367-4400

Arne W. Owens
Director

October 25, 2024

UPS OVERNIGHT MAIL

Paul Mitchell Spector, D.O.
7329 Boulders View Lane
North Chesterfield, VA 23225

RE: Case Number 240840

Dear Dr. Spector:

The Virginia Board of Medicine ("Board") received information indicating that you violated certain laws and/or regulations governing the practice of osteopathic medicine. Based on the information considered, and having determined that your practice poses a substantial danger to the public health and safety, the Board voted to summarily suspend your license to practice osteopathic medicine in the Commonwealth of Virginia pending a hearing. Enclosed is the Order of Summary Suspension. **Effective immediately, it shall be unlawful for you to practice osteopathic medicine or hold yourself out as a licensed physician in the Commonwealth of Virginia.**

Enclosed please find a Notice of Formal Hearing and Statement of Allegations.

Information may be found at https://www.dhp.virginia.gov/medicine/medicine_Hearings.htm regarding the following:

- Frequently Asked Questions about Disciplinary Proceedings;
- Directions to the Department of Health Professions Conference Center;
- Instructions for Requesting Subpoenas;
- The text of the Administrative Process Act; and
- The text of all statutes and regulations cited herein.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- Please allow for additional time when arriving at the building for individual safety screening which will include passing items through an x-ray machine and walking through a magnetometer.

Paul Mitchell Spector, D.O. - NOTICE OF FORMAL HEARING

Case Number 240840

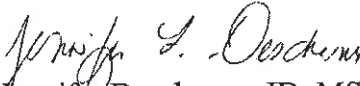
October 25, 2024

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- In the event of inclement weather, please be advised that Board of Medicine hearings will be held unless state offices are closed. For information regarding closings or delays, call (804) 367-4400 or go to dhrm.virginia.gov.

If you have any questions, you may contact Tamika Hines, Discipline Case Manager, at (804) 367-4513 or tamika.hines@dhp.virginia.gov. Please notify the Board office of your intent to attend this proceeding.

Sincerely,


Jennifer Deschenes, JD, MS
Deputy Executive Director
Virginia Board of Medicine

cc: Scott R. Pearl, Esq., Senior Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division
Julia K. Bennett, Esq., Deputy Director, Administrative Proceedings Division
Debra D. Hay-Pierce, Senior Investigator, Division of Enforcement
Matt Novak, Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program Manager

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF MEDICINE

IN RE: PAUL MITCHELL SPECTOR, D.O.
License Number: 0102-023076
Issue Date: December 29, 1972
Suspension Date: October 25, 2024
Case Number: 240840

**NOTICE OF FORMAL ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING
AND STATEMENT OF ALLEGATIONS**

You are hereby notified that a formal hearing has been scheduled before the Board of Medicine (“Board”) regarding your license to practice osteopathic medicine in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

TYPE OF PROCEEDING:	This is a formal administrative hearing before a panel of the Board.
DATE AND TIME:	December 6, 2024 11:00 A.M.
PLACE:	Virginia Department of Health Professions Perimeter Center - 9960 Mayland Drive 2 nd Floor - Virginia Conference Center Henrico, Virginia 23233

LEGAL AUTHORITY AND JURISDICTION:

1. This formal hearing related to Paul Mitchell Spector, D.O. (“Respondent”), is being held pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4020, 2.2-4024(F), and 54.1-2400(11). This proceeding will be convened as a public meeting pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3700.

2. At the conclusion of the proceeding, the Board is authorized to take any of the following actions:

- Dismiss the case and exonerate you;
- Reprimand you;
- Require you to pay a monetary penalty;
- Place you on probation and/or under terms and conditions;
- Continue your license on suspension; or
- Revoke your license.

RESPONDENT’S LEGAL RIGHTS:

You have the following rights:

- The right to the information on which the Board will rely in making its decision;
- The right to be represented by counsel at this proceeding;
- The right to subpoena witnesses and/or documents; and
- The right to present relevant evidence on your behalf.

ABSENCE OF RESPONDENT AND/OR RESPONDENT’S COUNSEL:

If you and/or your legal counsel do not appear at the formal hearing, the Board may proceed to hear this matter in your absence and may take any of the actions outlined above.

COMMONWEALTH’S EXHIBITS:

- The Commonwealth’s exhibits serve as the basis for the allegations against you. The Board will consider these exhibits at the formal hearing.
- **These exhibits have been sent to you via UPS Overnight Mail.**
- **Bring this Notice and the Commonwealth’s exhibits with you to the formal hearing.**

FILING DEADLINES:

- If you want to submit evidence on your behalf or use expert witnesses, deadlines are below.
- Deadlines for filing any motions or objections to exhibits or expert witness lists are listed below.
- Submit all exhibits, motions, or objections to **Tamika Hines, Discipline Case Manager, Board of Medicine, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233.**
- Include the case number in all correspondence.

I. Exhibit Submission	DEADLINE DATE
Respondent’s Submission of Documents for Evidence (Submit 15 copies. Your documents may not be submitted by facsimile or email.)	November 4, 2024
Commonwealth’s Response to Respondent’s Submission	November 8, 2024
Respondent’s Response to Commonwealth’s Objections	November 14, 2024

II. Objections to Commonwealth’s Exhibits	DEADLINE DATE
Respondent’s Objections to Commonwealth’s Exhibits	November 4, 2024
Commonwealth’s Response to Respondent’s Objections	November 8, 2024

NOTE: If no objections have been received by **November 4, 2024**, the exhibits will be distributed to the Board members for their review.

III. Motions/Continuance Requests	DEADLINE DATE
Respondent's Motions & Continuance Requests	November 4, 2024
Commonwealth's Response to Motions	November 8, 2024

IV. Expert Witness Identification	DEADLINE DATE
Respondent's Expert Witnesses*	November 4, 2024
Commonwealth's Objections to Expert Witnesses	November 8, 2024

* If you have engaged the services of an expert and intend to have the expert testify or introduce the expert's report, you must provide the name of the expert and the expert's curriculum vitae or other description of qualifications by the deadline date set forth above. If you intend to introduce into evidence any written report prepared by the expert, the report must also be provided by the deadline date set forth above. If you intend to have the expert testify without the introduction into evidence of a written report, you must provide a statement of the subject matter of the expert's testimony and the expert's opinions and the basis for such opinions by the deadline date set forth above.

NOTE: If supplementation of expert witness lists is necessary, parties should transmit such supplement to the Board at least five (5) days in advance of the scheduled administrative proceeding. Objections to expert witnesses submitted on a supplemental list may be made prior to or at the hearing for consideration by the Panel Chair.

STATEMENT OF ALLEGATIONS

The Board alleges that:

1. Dr. Spector is in violation of Virginia Code § 54.1-2915(A)(4), (13), and (14) in that he is unsafe to practice medicine due to illness, as detailed below.

a. Based on ongoing concerns that Dr. Spector, age 77, was experiencing cognitive difficulties; on July 27, 2024, Physician 1 accompanied Dr. Spector for blood work and magnetic resonance imaging (“MRI”) of his brain.

b.-e. *See Confidential Exhibit.*

f. Physician 1 stated that Dr. Spector specializes in chronic pain management and psychopharmacology. Individual 1, Dr. Spector’s office manager,¹ indicated that Dr. Spector sees an average of 6 patients a day; however, recently it “has slowed down to three or four patients” a day. Individual 1 estimated that Dr. Spector has one hundred (100) active patients. Some patients are seen monthly or quarterly and long-term psychiatric patients are seen for yearly follow-ups.

g. Individual 1 told the investigator that she has had concerns related to Dr. Spector’s patient care and behavior for about 1 ½ years, although she has grown increasingly worried over the last 8 months. Moreover, Individual 1 reported that Dr. Spector is incapable of properly providing prescriptions in that he provides only “paper” prescriptions when they must be sent electronically, and that Dr. Spector provided prescriptions and early refills for “abusable” drugs to several patients with known substance abuse issues, some of whom had also failed drug screens. According to Individual 1, these “drug seeking” patients know that Dr. Spector is vulnerable and manipulate him to get prescriptions.

For example:

¹ Individual 1 has been employed as Dr. Spector’s office manager for 3 years and has been the only employee of the practice since April 2024.

i. Patient A was being treated by Dr. Spector for pain associated with Lupus. According to Individual 1, Patient A “talks circles around Dr. Spector and he gets confused.” Historically, Patient A was prescribed 240 tablets of 15mg oxycodone (C-II) over a 30-day period (to be taken up to 120mg/day). However, on August 9, 2024, Dr. Spector increased the prescription to 360 tablets of 15mg oxycodone over a 30-day period (to be taken up to 180mg/day). According to Pharmacist 1, the prescription for 360 tablets was received on a weekend. Pharmacist 1 was unable to reach Dr. Spector until the following week. Pharmacist 1 asked why the oxycodone was increased to 360 tablets and Dr. Spector denied sending it. While still on the phone with Dr. Spector, Pharmacist 1 faxed him a copy of the prescription and Dr. Spector abruptly hung up. Dr. Spector called back and again denied writing the prescription. According to Pharmacist 1, Dr. Spector accessed Patient A’s PMP and stated that he had not provided the previous prescriptions for oxycodone either. Pharmacist 1 communicated to Dr. Spector that the pharmacy would not fill Patient A’s prescription² nor any other prescriptions for oxycodone written by him. Pharmacist 1 stated Dr. Spector replied that is a “good idea.” Pharmacist 1 later told the investigator that “I am very concerned that [Dr. Spector] is a danger to the public if he doesn’t remember writing prescriptions.”

ii. On August 19, 2024, Dr. Spector prescribed Patient B, 30 tablets of 30mg Adderall (C-II) over a 30-day period. According to Individual 1, Dr. Spector was aware that Patient B was a known drug seeker and has tested positive for multiple substances on her routine drug tests. Patient B reached Dr. Spector on his cell phone and manipulated him into prescribing 30 tablets of 30mg Vyvanse (C-II) over a 30-day period, on August 23, 2024, 4 days later. Records indicate that both prescriptions were filled.

² Records indicate that Patient A was able to have the prescription filled at a different pharmacy.

h. Individual 1 told the investigator that recently Dr. Spector indicated that he saw someone in their waiting room that was not actually there. Further, Dr. Spector stated that an ex-employee was working from home when in fact this employee had resigned 4 months prior. Lastly, Individual 1 added that Dr. Spector makes “an effort to seem like everything is fine” and that if “you didn’t know him, you might think he is perfectly fine.”

i. Dr. Spector’s diagnoses of neurodegenerative disorder, not otherwise specified, unilateral; adjustment reaction with paranoia 2/2 neurodegenerative disorder; fatigue; impaired insight/anosognosia; and aprosodia, and his lack of insight regarding his ability to safely practice medicine are a danger to patients and the public.

Pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2400.2(K), the Board considered whether to disclose or not disclose Dr. Spector’s health records or health services.

See Confidential Attachment for the names of the individuals and patients referenced above.



Jennifer Deschenes, JD, MS
Deputy Executive Director
Virginia Board of Medicine

10/25/2024
Date