



STATE OF MARYLAND

**DHMH**

Board of Physicians

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Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
4201 Patterson Ave • Baltimore, Maryland 21215

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D., Secretary

October 16, 2013

Tricia Nay, M.D., Director  
DHMH, Office of Health Care Quality  
55 Wade Avenue  
Catonsville, Maryland 21228-4663

Re: MOLST Form – Unlicensed Medical Professionals (UMP)

Dear Dr. Nay,

This letter is a follow up to our meeting on October 10, 2013 where we discussed the Maryland Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (MOLST) form. Board staff recently discovered that unlicensed medical professionals (UMPs) have not been authorized to sign the MOLST form.

The laws related to exceptions from licensing for physicians, Health Occupations Article, §14-302 allow certain individuals to practice medicine without a license. Specific to this situation, a medical student or an individual in a postgraduate medical training program that is approved by the Board, while doing the assigned duties at any office of a licensed physician, hospital, clinic, or similar facility is an exception to licensure.

While we understand that each facility may have its own limitations, we wanted to clarify that the law allows, and the Board approves of interns and residents signing MOLST forms.

Please contact me if you have any questions related to this issue.

Sincerely,

  
Christine A. Farrelly  
Acting Executive Director

Cc: Andrea Mathias, M.D.  
Tom Keech, Esq.  
Paul Ballard, Esq.