

**BEFORE THE REVIEW COMMITTEE
OF THE AMERICAN MIDWIFERY CERTIFICATION BOARD**

In the Disciplinary Matter of

Mychal Lynn Pilia, CNM
Respondent

DECISION

On September 2, 2025, the American Midwifery Certification Board (AMCB) received notice of a Consent Order of Probation of Registered Nurse License and Certified Nurse Midwife Certificate (License No.: R213201) from the Maryland Board of Nursing. The Consent Order dated January 26, 2022, included a 3-year probation period (minimum) with conditions including, but not limited to, continuing education, chart review, and supervised practice.

In accordance with AMCB procedures, the notice was reviewed by Bridget Howard, DNP, MSN, CNM, FACNM, the President of the AMCB Board, who determined that the matters outlined in the settlement agreement could constitute grounds for disciplinary action.

Accordingly, by letter dated January 15, 2026, AMCB notified Respondent that it had initiated a disciplinary proceeding to determine whether good grounds existed for discipline under the provisions of Sections A.7 and A.9 of the Disciplinary Policy:

A.7. Limitation or sanction by a federal, state or private licensing board, administrative agency, association or health care organization relating to public health or safety, or midwifery practice.

A.9. Engaging in conduct which is inconsistent with professional standards, including but not limited to (i) any practice that creates unnecessary danger to a patient's life, health or safety; and (ii) any practice that is contrary to the ethical conduct appropriate to the profession that results in termination or suspension from practice. Actual injury to a patient or the public need not be shown under this provision.

The notice requested that Respondent submit a written answer to these charges within 30 days of receipt of the January 15, 2026 notice. A detailed response and supportive documents were received on February 1, 2026, from Ms. Pilia. Supportive documents included the following:

- Ms. Pilia's resume
- A detailed response to the charges (1+ pages)

On February 11, 2026, the AMCB sent a request for additional information to Respondent, requesting the following documents:

- Any and all redacted medical records pertaining to your patient identified as "A, B, C, D, E, and Baby A" in the State of Maryland Consent Order (R213201/CRNM).
- Any and all certificates of completion of the continuing education courses outlined in the State of Maryland Consent Order.
- Any and all work reports submitted to the Maryland Board of Nursing.
- Any and all self-evaluation reports submitted to the Maryland Board of Nursing.

On February 15, 2026, the Respondent submitted redacted medical records for Patient A, Patient E, and Baby; certificates of completion for continuing education courses required under the Maryland Consent Order; monthly self-evaluation reports. Respondent acknowledged that some of the medical records were unavailable due to closure of her birth center practice. Further, the requested work site reports were submitted directly by Respondent's supervisor to the Maryland Board of Nursing without copies to the Respondent.

A Review Committee, comprised of the Chair of the Discipline Committee and two additional members, was duly convened.

The Review Committee has now considered the charges against Respondent and the above-described matters of record. On the basis of the factual findings and reasons set forth below, the Committee unanimously concludes that grounds for formal discipline against Respondent exist under section A.7 and A.9. The imposition of sanctions is warranted.

FINDINGS

The Review Committee finds the following facts:

1. AMCB (formerly known as ACC) was formed in 1991 by the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) as an independent entity to carry on the existing program of ACNM for certifying the competency of individuals as entry-level nurse-midwives.
2. AMCB has assumed responsibility for the discipline of ACNM/ACC/AMCB certificants through the Disciplinary Policy, the most recent version of which AMCB adopted in April 2018.
3. Respondent was certified by AMCB on 6/26/2014.
4. AMCB received notification from the Maryland State Board of Nursing that the Respondent had entered a Consent Order of Probation of Registered Nurse License & Certified Registered Nurse Midwife Certificate related to Charges under the Maryland Nurse Practice Act, alleging that the Respondent, across the care of multiple patients, had engaged in a pattern of care inconsistent with generally accepted certified nurse-midwifery standards across multiple patients, including:
 - a. Failed to provide adequate, science-based counseling on gestational diabetes screening and VBAC/TOLAC risks, including a lack of documented counseling on fetal growth and macrosomia risk.
 - b. Repeatedly failed to order or document required standard screenings (50-g glucose challenge for GDM, prenatal syphilis testing) and failed to appropriately evaluate abnormal findings (e.g., thyroid dysfunction, lagging fundal height, severe hypertension).
 - c. Maintained disorganized, non-sequential, and incomplete records, including missing or inconsistent vital signs and labor documentation, undermining continuity and safety of care.
 - d. Failed to meet standards for neonatal resuscitation and intrapartum monitoring, including inadequate use of SpO₂ monitoring, incomplete differentiation between maternal and fetal heart rates during decelerations, and inability to fully manage severely depressed newborns.
 - e. Delayed or failed to urgently refer high-risk patients to hospital care, and repeatedly failed to transfer prenatal and intrapartum records with patients or provide advance communication to receiving facilities.
5. AMCB received a response from the Respondent indicating that she:

- a. Accepts responsibility for the Maryland Board of Nursing findings and acknowledges serious lapses in care and professionalism.
- b. Recognizes that the issues reflected systemic problems in independent midwifery practice, not isolated errors.
- c. Completed all Board-mandated remediation and probation requirements.
- d. Was unable to secure supervised CNM employment during probation and therefore exited independent midwifery practice.
- e. Transitioned permanently to regulated, institution-based nursing roles with oversight and safety systems.

DISCUSSION

In this matter, we are called upon to decide whether and what discipline is warranted against a CNM who has had a Consent Order of Probation against her RN and CNM license, regarding charges of engaging in a pattern of care inconsistent with generally accepted certified nurse-midwifery standards across multiple patients, citing systemic failures in education, screening, documentation, emergency response, and care coordination. These allegations included care that resulted in birth injuries and low 10-minute Apgar scores.

The committee agrees that the Respondent violated provisions of Sections A.7 and A.9 of the AMCB Disciplinary Policy.

Accordingly, we conclude that there is a basis for formal sanction under section A.7., that the Respondent had been sanctioned by a state licensing board, relating to public health or safety, or midwifery practice. Further, we conclude that there is a basis for formal sanction under section A.9., that the Respondent has engaged in conduct which is inconsistent with professional standards, including but not limited to (i) any practice that creates unnecessary danger to a patient's life, health or safety; and (ii) any practice that is contrary to the ethical conduct appropriate to the profession that results in termination or suspension from practice. The Review Committee agrees with the sanctions imposed by the Maryland Board of Nursing and recommends that Respondent receive a letter of reprimand. The Review Committee further recommends the following:

1. Respondent notifies AMCB at such time as she becomes licensed as a CNM and resumes nurse-midwifery practice.
2. Once the Respondent re-enters practice as a CNM, her nurse-midwifery practice will be subject to peer review monitoring every 3 months for a period of one year. Supervisory reports will be submitted to AMCB for review and approval by Ira Kantrowitz-Gordon, CNM, PhD, FACNM, FAAN
3. Respondent must submit the name of the peer reviewer for approval by Ira Kantrowitz-Gordon, CNM, PhD, FACNM, FAAN
4. Respondent must work in a midwifery group or physician led practice and her practice is to be supervised for a period of 1 year.

Effective: 5-1-2026

REVIEW COMMITTEE

Ira Kantrowitz-Gordon, CNM, PhD, FACNM, FAAN Chair
Cindy Williams, CNM
Kimberly Jones-Beatty, CNM, DNP

Bridget Howard, DNP, MSN, CNM, FACNM
AMCB President, Board of Directors