1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California JOSHUA A. ROOM Supervising Deputy Attorney General MARETTA WARD Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 176470 455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000 San Francisco, CA 94102-7004 Telephone: (415) 703-1384 Facsimile: (415) 703-5480 Attorneys for Complainant  BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA
10	In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 5428
11	KATHERINE MAI TRAM BLANZY
12	722 Gregory Drive Lapeer, MI 48446 ACCUSATION
13	Pharmacist License No. RPH 68317
14	Respondent.
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18	Complainant alleges:
19	<u>PARTIES</u>
20	1. Virginia Herold (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity
21	as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs.
22	2. On or about October 15, 2012, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacist License
23	Number RPH68317 to Katherine Mai Tram Blanzy (Respondent). The Pharmacist License was
24	in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on
25	March 31, 2016 unless renewed.
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#### **JURISDICTION**

- 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Pharmacy (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.
  - 4. Section 4300.1 of the Code states:

"The expiration, cancellation, forfeiture, or suspension of a board-issued license by operation of law or by order or decision of the board or a court of law, the placement of a license on a retired status, or the voluntary surrender of a license by a licensee shall not deprive the board of jurisdiction to commence or proceed with any investigation of, or action or disciplinary proceeding against, the licensee or to render a decision suspending or revoking the license."

5. Section 118, subdivision (b), of the Code provides that the suspension, expiration, surrender, cancellation of a license shall not deprive the Board/Registrar/Director of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued or reinstated.

# STATUTORY PROVISIONS

- 6. Section 4300 of the Code states:
- "(a) Every license issued may be suspended or revoked.
- "(b) The board shall discipline the holder of any license issued by the board, whose default has been entered or whose case has been heard by the board and found guilty, by any of the following methods:
  - "(1) Suspending judgment.
  - "(2) Placing him or her upon probation.
  - "(3) Suspending his or her right to practice for a period not exceeding one year.
  - "(4) Revoking his or her license.
- "(5) Taking any other action in relation to disciplining him or her as the board in its discretion may deem proper."
  - 7. Section 4301 of the Code states:

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"The board shall take action against any holder of a license who is guilty of unprofessional conduct or whose license has been procured by fraud or misrepresentation or issued by mistake. Unprofessional conduct shall include, but is not limited to, any of the following:

"(h) The administering to oneself, of any controlled substance, or the use of any dangerous drug or of alcoholic beverages to the extent or in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to oneself, to a person holding a license under this chapter, or to any other person or to the public, or to the extent that the use impairs the ability of the person to conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by the license.

"(j) The violation of any of the statutes of this state, or any other state, or of the United States regulating controlled substances and dangerous drugs.

"(o) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of or conspiring to violate any provision or term of this chapter or of the applicable federal and state laws and regulations governing pharmacy, including regulations established by the board or by any other state or federal regulatory agency.

8. Section 4059 of the Code states in pertinent part that:

A person may not furnish any dangerous drug, except upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, or veterinarian. A person may not furnish any dangerous device, except upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist or veterinarian.

9. Section 4060 of the Code provides in pertinent part that:

"No person shall possess any controlled substance, except that furnished to a person upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, or veterinarian, furnished pursuant to a drug order issued by a certified nurse-midwife pursuant to Section 2746.51, a nurse practitioner pursuant to Section 2836.1, or a physician assistant pursuant to Section 3502.1."

10. Health and Safety Code Section 11170 provides:

"No person shall prescribe, administer, or furnish a controlled substance for himself."

## 11. Section 490 of the Code states in pertinent part that:

A board may suspend or revoke a license on the ground that the licensee has been convicted of a crime, if the crime is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which the license was issued. A conviction within the meaning of this section means a plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea of nolo contendere. Any action that a board is permitted to take following the establishment of a conviction may be taken when the time for appeal has elapsed, or the judgment of conviction has been affirmed on appeal, or when an order granting probation is made suspending the imposition of sentence, irrespective of a subsequent order under the provisions of Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code.

# 12. Section 493 of the Code states in pertinent part that:

"Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in a proceeding conducted by a board within the department pursuant to law to deny an application for a license or to suspend or revoke a license or otherwise take disciplinary action against a person who holds a license, upon the ground that the applicant or the licensee has been convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of the licensee in question, the record of conviction of the crime shall be conclusive evidence of the fact that the conviction occurred, but only of that fact, and the board may inquire into the circumstances surrounding the commission of the crime in order to fix the degree of discipline or to determine if the conviction is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of the licensee in question.

"As used in this section, 'license' includes 'certificate,' 'permit,' 'authority,' and 'registration.'"

## 13. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1770, states:

"For the purpose of denial, suspension, or revocation of a personal or facility license pursuant to Division 1.5 (commencing with Section 475) of the Business and Professions Code, a crime or act shall be considered substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a licensee or registrant if to a substantial degree it evidences present or potential unfitness of a licensee or registrant to perform the functions authorized by his license or registration in a manner consistent with the public health, safety, or welfare."

1	14. Section 125.3 of the Code states, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the
2	administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of
3	the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and
4	enforcement of the case.
5	CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES AND DANGEROUS DRUGS
6	15. Business and Professions Code section 4021 defines the term "Controlled Substance"
7	as "any substance listed in Chapter 2 (commenting with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the
8	Health and Safety Code."
9	16. Section 4022 of the Code states
10	"Dangerous drug" or "dangerous device" means any drug or device unsafe for self-use in
11	humans or animals, and includes the following:
12.	"(a) Any drug that bears the legend: "Caution: federal law prohibits dispensing without
13	prescription," "Rx only," or words of similar import.
14	"(b) Any device that bears the statement: "Caution: federal law restricts this device to sale
15	by or on the order of a," "Rx only," or words of similar import, the blank to be filled
16	in with the designation of the practitioner licensed to use or order use of the device.
17	"(c) Any other drug or device that by federal or state law can be lawfully dispensed only on
18	prescription or furnished pursuant to Section 4006."
19	17. Marijuana, is a Scheduled I controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety
20	Code section 11054(d)(20) and is a dangerous drug as defined by Business and Professions Code
21	section 4022, and is used for recreational activities.
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## **FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

#### (Unlawful Possession)

18. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Business and Professions Code section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o) and section 4060 in that Respondent violated statutes regulating controlled substances and dangerous drugs. Specifically, on or about October 1, 2014. Respondent, who was then employed at Walgreen's Pharmacy, located at 151 E. Third Avenue in San Mateo, California, tested positive on a random drug test at her place of employment for marijuana.

#### **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

#### (Unlawful Self-Administration)

19. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Business and Professions Code section 4301, subdivisions (h) and Health and Safety Code section 11170 in that she furnished and/or administered to herself controlled substances. Specifically, on or about October 1, 2014. Respondent, who was then employed at Walgreen's Pharmacy, located at 151 E. Third Avenue in San Mateo, California, tested positive on a random drug test at her place of employment for marijuana.