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9	BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA			
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11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 5565		
12 13	FAIRFAX DISCOUNT PHARMACY INC. dba FAIRFAX DISCOUNT PHARMACY, BORIS GOROKHOVSKY, OWNER 7771 Beverly Blvd	ACCUSATION		
14	Los Angeles, CA 90036			
15	Permit No. PHY 50390			
16	AND			
17	STANLEY POTASH 10373 Tennessee Avenue			
18	Los Angeles, CA 90064			
19	Pharmacist License No. RPH 19744			
20	Respondents.			
21				
22	Complainant alleges:			
23	<u>PARTIES</u>			
24	1. Virginia Herold (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity			
25	as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs.			
26	2. On or about September 22, 2010, the Board of Pharmacy issued Permit Number PHY			
27	50390 to Fairfax Discount Pharmacy Inc. dba Fairfax Discount Pharmacy, a corporation, with			
28	Boris Gorokhovsky as president and 100% owner (Respondent Pharmacy). The Permit was in			
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	-	/ INC. dba FAIRFAX DISCOUNT PHARMACY, BORIS		
II		GOROKHOVSKY) ACCUSATION		

institution, or establishment holding a currently valid and unrevoked certificate, license, permit, registration, or exemption under Division 2 (commencing with Section 1200) of the Health and Safety Code or under Part 4 (commencing with Section 16000) of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code who maintains a stock of dangerous drugs or dangerous devices.

- "(b) The owner, officer, and partner of a pharmacy, wholesaler, or veterinary food-animal drug retailer shall be jointly responsible, with the pharmacist-in-charge or designated representative-in-charge, for maintaining the records and inventory described in this section.
- "(c) The pharmacist-in-charge or designated representative-in-charge shall not be criminally responsible for acts of the owner, officer, partner, or employee that violate this section and of which the pharmacist-in-charge or designated representative-in-charge had no knowledge, or in which he or she did not knowingly participate."
 - 8. 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.
- "(c) The board may refuse a license to any applicant guilty of unprofessional conduct. The board may, in its sole discretion, issue a probationary license to any applicant for a license who is guilty of unprofessional conduct and who has met all other requirements for licensure. The board may issue the license subject to any terms or conditions not contrary to public policy, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - "(1) Medical or psychiatric evaluation.

- "(2) Continuing medical or psychiatric treatment.
- "(3) Restriction of type or circumstances of practice.
- "(4) Continuing participation in a board-approved rehabilitation program.
- "(5) Abstention from the use of alcohol or drugs.
- "(6) Random fluid testing for alcohol or drugs.
- "(7) Compliance with laws and regulations governing the practice of pharmacy.
- "(d) The board may initiate disciplinary proceedings to revoke or suspend any probationary certificate of licensure for any violation of the terms and conditions of probation. Upon satisfactory completion of probation, the board shall convert the probationary certificate to a regular certificate, free of conditions.
- "(e) The proceedings under this article shall be conducted in accordance with Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of the Government Code, and the board shall have all the powers granted therein. The action shall be final, except that the propriety of the action is subject to review by the superior court pursuant to Section 1094.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure."

9. 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."

10. Section **4301** of the Code states:

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

. . .

- "(f) The commission of any act involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption, whether the act is committed in the course of relations as a licensee or otherwise, and whether the act is a felony or misdemeanor or not.
- "(g) Knowingly making or signing any certificate or other document that falsely represents the existence or nonexistence of a state of facts.
- "(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.
 - "(p) Actions or conduct that would have warranted denial of a license.
- "(q) Engaging in any conduct that subverts or attempts to subvert an investigation of the board.

11. Section 4105 of the Code states:

- "(a) All records or other documentation of the acquisition and disposition of dangerous drugs and dangerous devices by any entity licensed by the board shall be retained on the licensed premises in a readily retrievable form.
- "(b) The licensee may remove the original records or documentation from the licensed premises on a temporary basis for license-related purposes. However, a duplicate set of those records or other documentation shall be retained on the licensed premises.
- "(c) The records required by this section shall be retained on the licensed premises for a period of three years from the date of making.
- "(d) Any records that are maintained electronically shall be maintained so that the pharmacist-in-charge, the pharmacist on duty if the pharmacist-in-charge is not on duty, or, in the

case of a veterinary food-animal drug retailer or wholesaler, the designated representative on duty, shall, at all times during which the licensed premises are open for business, be able to produce a hard copy and electronic copy of all records of acquisition or disposition or other drug or dispensing-related records maintained electronically.

- "(e)(1) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a), (b), and (c), the board, may upon written request, grant to a licensee a waiver of the requirements that the records described in subdivisions (a), (b), and (c) be kept on the licensed premises.
- (2) A waiver granted pursuant to this subdivision shall not affect the board's authority under this section or any other provision of this chapter."
- 3. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1715. (Self-Assessment of a Pharmacy by the Pharmacist-in-Charge) states:
- (a) The pharmacist-in-charge of each pharmacy as defined under section 4029 or section 4037 of the Business and Professions Code shall complete a self-assessment of the pharmacy's compliance with federal and state pharmacy law. The assessment shall be performed before July 1 of every odd-numbered year. The primary purpose of the self-assessment is to promote compliance through self-examination and education.
- (b) In addition to the self-assessment required in subdivision (a) of this section, the pharmacist-in-charge shall complete a self-assessment within 30 days whenever:
 - (1) A new pharmacy permit has been issued, or
- (2) There is a change in the pharmacist-in-charge, and he or she becomes the new pharmacist-in-charge of a pharmacy.
 - (3) There is a change in the licensed location of a pharmacy to a new address.
- (c) The components of this assessment shall be on Form 17M-13 (Rev. 01/11) entitled "Community Pharmacy Self-Assessment Hospital Outpatient Pharmacy Self-Assessment" and on Form 17M-14 (Rev. 01/11) entitled "Hospital Pharmacy Self-Assessment" which are hereby incorporated by reference to evaluate compliance with federal and state laws and regulations.
- (d) Each self-assessment shall be kept on file in the pharmacy for three years after it is performed.

12. Section 4307(a) of the Code states that:

Any person who has been denied a license or whose license has been revoked or is under suspension, or who has failed to renew his or her license while it was under suspension, or who has been a manager, administrator, owner member, officer, director, associate, or partner of any partnership, corporation, firm, or association whose application for a license has been denied or revoked, is under suspension or has been placed on probation, and while acting as the manger, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner had knowledge or knowingly participated in any conduct for which the license was denied, revoked, suspended, or placed on probation, shall be prohibited from serving as a manger, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee as follows:

- (1) Where a probationary license is issued or where an existing license is placed on probation, this prohibition shall remain in effect for a period not to exceed five years.
- (2) Where the license is denied or revoked, the prohibition shall continue until the license is issued or reinstated.

COST RECOVERY

13. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case, with failure of the licentiate to comply subjecting the license to not being renewed or reinstated. If a case settles, recovery of investigation and enforcement costs may be included in a stipulated settlement.

14.

DRUG CLASSIFICATIONS

BRAND NAME	GENERIC NAME	DANGEROUS DRUG PER B&PC 4022	CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PER H & SC	INDICATIONS FOR USE
Effient 10mg	Prasugrel	Yes	No	Thrombosis
Nitrolingual Pumpspray	Nitroglycerine	Yes	No	Angina, Coronary Artery Disease
Ranexa 500mg	Ranolazine	Yes	No	Angina
Victoza 2-Pak	Liraglutide	Yes	No	Diabetes

FACTS COMMON TO ALL CAUSES FOR DISCIPLINE

- 15. The following allegations are common to all causes for discipline in this matter:
- a. At all times relevant herein, Fairfax Discount Pharmacy was an independent retail pharmacy located in the City of Los Angeles, with Respondent Stanley Potash serving as the registered pharmacist-in-charge.
- b. On or about September 24, 2014, the Board received notification from Catamaran National Network ("Catamaran"), that Catamaran had removed Fairfax Discount Pharmacy from its network. Catamaran is a pharmacy benefit management company (a third party administrator of prescription drug programs), primarily responsible for processing and paying prescription drug claims.
- c. Follow up investigation, including additional communications with Catamaran and an inspection of Respondent Pharmacy on October 14, 2014, resulted in the determination by Board Inspectors that Respondents had violated pharmacy law, as detailed below.
- d. Drugs identified by Catamaran as unaccounted for in Respondent Pharmacy's inventory were: Efficient 10mg, Nitrolingual Pumpspray, Ranexa 500mg, Victoza 2-pack and Voltaran Gel 1% from dates 1/1/2013 to 3/15/2014.

Self Assessment

e. At the time of the Board inspection on October 14, 2014, the pharmacy did not have a current self-assessment completed. The last one completed was dated 6/23/2011. Respondents then submitted what was represented as a current self-assessment. However Board Inspectors discovered that Respondents had merely substituted a new date (6/23/2013) on a **previous** self-assessment, rather than complete a new self-assessment as required. (Respondents also altered the front page of the self-assessment to reflect as current – but the second page had license expiration information which had not been updated since 2012.)

Audit of Identified Drugs

- f. A Board audit of sales and purchase records for drugs identified by Catamaran was conducted for audit dates 1/1/2013 through 10/14/2014.
 - g. The results of the Board audit are summarized as follows:

Drug	Purchased	Dispensed	Difference
Effient 10mg	1,440	1,920	480
Nitrolingual Pumpspray ¹	1,692	3,144	1,452
Ranexa 500mg	6,960	9,330	2,370
Victoza	168	348	180

The Inspector noted that, since there were over 1,800 prescriptions dispensed for Voltaren Gel and the pharmacy software was unable to calculate the total quantities dispensed, an audit of Voltaren Gel was not conducted.

h. In a letter dated 12/12/14, Respondent Gorokhovsky stated he was unable to explain the cause of the short fall, but that he believed the cause was negligence and not any intentional act.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failed to Comply With Self Assessment Form Requirements)

16. Respondents are subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4300 for unprofessional conduct as defined in section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, Title 16, section 1715, subdivision (a) (which requires that a pharmacy must complete a new self-assessment form before July 1 or every odd numbered year) in that during a Board inspection on or about October 14, 2014, Respondents were unable to produce a current, properly completed self assessment form.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Falsification of Document)

17. Respondents are subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4300 for unprofessional conduct as defined in section 4301, subdivisions (g) in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, Title 16, section 1715, subdivision (a) (which requires that a pharmacy must complete a new self-assessment form before July 1 or every odd numbered year) in that following a Board inspection on or about October 14, 2014, Respondents faxed a document indicating to the

¹ Only "brand name" (vs. generic) Nitrolingual Pumpspray was included in the audit.

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1	Board that they had completed a self-assessment. In fact, no actual self-assessment had been				
2	completed. Rather - the document faxed was an earlier assessment with the date altered to sugges				
3	timely compliance.				
4	THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE				
5	(Acts Involving Dishonesty, Fraud, or Deceit)				
6	18. Respondents are subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision				
7	(f), in that Respondents committed acts involving dishonesty, fraud, or deceit with the intent to				
8	substantially benefit himself, or substantially injure another, as follows: Following a Board				
9	inspection on or about October 14, 2014, Respondents faxed a document indicating to the Board				
10	that they had completed a self-assessment. In fact no actual self-assessment had been completed.				
11	Rather - the document faxed was a page from an earlier assessment with the date altered to				
12	suggest timely compliance.				
13	FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE				
14	(Failure to Maintain Records of Acquisition and Disposition)				
15	19. Respondents are subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4300 for				
16	unprofessional conduct as defined in section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in conjunction with				
17	section 4081, subdivisions (a) and (b), in that per Board audit for dates between January 1, 2013				
18	and October 14, 2014, Respondents had overages of each of the following drugs - with no				
19	records to account for the source of the excess drug stock:				
20	a. Efficient 10mg 480 tablets				
21	b. Nitrolingual Pump Spray 1,452 pump sprays				
22	c. Ranexa 500mg 2,370 tablets				
23	d. Victoza 2paks 180 2 packs				
24	FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE				
25	(Subverting an Investigation)				
26	20. Respondent Potash is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4300 for				
27	unprofessional conduct as defined in section 4301, subdivision (q) in that he subverted or				
28	attempted to subvert a Board investigation when, following a Board inspection on or about				
13	10				

October 14, 2014 in which inspectors inquired about Respondents' current self-assessment, Respondent Potash falsified documents and/or submitted falsified documents to Board staff, and otherwise falsely attempted to show compliance with self-assessment requirements.

OTHER MATTERS

- 21. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit Number Permit Number PHY 50390 issued to Fairfax Discount Pharmacy Inc. dba Fairfax Discount Pharmacy, Fairfax Discount Pharmacy Inc. shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 50390 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 50390 is reinstated if it is revoked.
- 22. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Permit Number PHY 50390 issued to Fairfax Discount Pharmacy Inc. while Boris Gorokhovsky has been an officer and owner and had knowledge of or knowingly participated in any conduct for which the licensee was disciplined, Boris Gorokhovsky shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 50390 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 50390 is reinstated if it is revoked.

<u>PRAYER</u>

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Pharmacy issue a decision:

- 1. Revoking or suspending Permit Number PHY 50390, issued to Fairfax Discount Pharmacy Inc. dba Fairfax Discount Pharmacy, Boris Gorokhovsky (owner);
- 2. Prohibiting Fairfax Discount Pharmacy Inc. from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 50390 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 50390 is reinstated if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 50390 issued to Fairfax Discount Pharmacy Inc. is revoked;