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	RE THE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS	
	CALIFORNIA
In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 5730
PASCAL A. BUI 947 Burman Drive	
San Jose, CA 95111	ACCUSATION
Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 124958	
Respondent.	
Complainant alleges:	-
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PARTIES	
1. Virginia Herold (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity	
as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharma	
	d of Pharmacy issued Pharmacy Technician
Registration No. TCH 124958 to Pascal A. Bui	
Registration was in full force and effect at all tin	
Accusation and will expire on January 31, 2018	, unless renewed.
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1	JURISDICTION
2	3. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Pharmacy (Board), Department of
3	Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the
4	Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.
5	4. Section 4011 of the Code provides that the Board shall administer and enforce both
6	the Pharmacy Law [Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4000 et seq.] and the Uniform Controlled Substances
7	Act [Health & Safety Code, § 11000 et seq.].
8	5. Section 4300 of the Code states, in relevant part:
: · · · 9 ;	"(a) Every license issued may be suspended or revoked.
10	"(b) The board shall discipline the holder of any license issued by the board, whose default
11	has been entered or whose case has been heard by the board and found guilty, by any of the
12	following methods:
13	"(1) Suspending judgment.
14	"(2) Placing him or her upon probation.
15	"(3) Suspending his or her right to practice for a period not exceeding one year.
16	"(4) Revoking his or her license.
17	"(5) Taking any other action in relation to disciplining him or her as the board in its
18	discretion may deem proper.
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20	"(e) The proceedings under this article shall be conducted in accordance with Chapter 5
21	(commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of the Government Code, and the board
22	shall have all the powers granted therein. The action shall be final, except that the propriety of
23	the action is subject to review by the superior court pursuant to Section 1094.5 of the Code of
24	Civil Procedure."
25	6. Section 4300.1 of the Code states:
26	"The expiration, cancellation, forfeiture, or suspension of a board-issued license by
27	operation of law or by order or decision of the board or a court of law, the placement of a license
28	on a retired status, or the voluntary surrender of a license by a licensee shall not deprive the board
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e E N 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."

## STATUTES

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7. Section 4301 of the Code states, in relevant part:

"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:

"(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.

"(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."

8. Section 4059 of the Code states, in relevant part, that a "person may not furnish any dangerous drug except upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, veterinarian, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.7. A person may not furnish any dangerous device, except upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, veterinarian, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.7."

9. Section 4060 of the Code states:

"No person shall possess any controlled substance, except that furnished to a person upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, veterinarian, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.7, or 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, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.5, or a pharmacist pursuant to either subparagraph (D) of paragraph (4) of, or clause (iv) of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (5) of, subdivision (a) of Section 4052. This section shall not apply to the possession of any controlled substance by a manufacturer, wholesaler, pharmacy,

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pharmacist, physician, podiatrist, dentist, optometrist, veterinarian, naturopathic doctor, certified nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, when in stock in containers correctly labeled with the name and address of the supplier or producer.

- "This section does not authorize a certified nurse-midwife, a nurse practitioner, a physician assistant, or a naturopathic doctor, to order his or her own stock of dangerous drugs and devices."
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California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1770, states: 10.

"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."

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11. Health and Safety Code section 11350, subdivision (a), states:

"Except as otherwise provided in this division, every person who possesses (1) any 14 controlled substance specified in subdivision (b) or (c), or paragraph (1) of subdivision (f) of 15 Section 11054, specified in paragraph (14), (15), or (20) of subdivision (d) of Section 11054, or 16 specified in subdivision (b) or (c) of Section 11055, or specified in subdivision (h) of Section 17 11056, or (2) any controlled substance classified in Schedule III, IV, or V which is a narcotic 18 drug, unless upon the written prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, or veterinarian 19 licensed to practice in this state, shall be punished by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of 2021

Section 1170 of the Penal Code."

12. Section 4022 of the Code states:

"Dangerous drug' or 'dangerous device' means any drug or device unsafe for self-use in humans or animals, and includes the following:

"(a) Any drug that bears the legend: 'Caution: federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription,' 'Rx only,' or words of similar import.

"(b) Any device that bears the statement: 'Caution: federal law restricts this device to sale
by or on the order of a \_\_\_\_\_\_,' 'Rx only,' or words of similar import, the blank to be filled
in with the designation of the practitioner licensed to use or order use of the device.

"(c) Any other drug or device that by federal or state law can be lawfully dispensed only on prescription or furnished pursuant to Section 4006."

## <u>DRUGS</u>

13. Code section 4021 states:

"Controlled substance' means any substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code."

14. Promethazine with codeine is a Schedule V controlled substance as designated by
 Health and Safety Code section 11058, and a dangerous drug as designated by Business and
 Professions Code section 4022.

## COST RECOVERY

15. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in relevant 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.

## BACKGROUND

16. On or about June 9, 2015, the Board received an e-mail and DEA 106 Form drug loss report from Pharmerica, a pharmacy located in Mountain View, California. The report indicated a loss of one pint of promethazine with codeine syrup (PCS), a schedule V controlled substance. The e-mail and the DEA 106 Form also indicated that Pharmerica suspected that Respondent had stolen the PCS.

17. An inspector for the Board (Board Inspector) conducted an investigation into the loss of the PCS at Pharmerica. The Board Inspector obtained documents and other evidence from

Pharmerica, including surveillance video which captured the activities of Respondent when he was working at the pharmacy on various dates.

18. As part of her investigation, the Board Inspector interviewed Respondent on September 29, 2015. Respondent's attorney was present. During the interview, Respondent admitted to the Board Inspector that from the middle of January of 2015 until the end of May of 2015, he stole on average 1 to 3 bottles of PCS a shift. Respondent admitted that he stole about 32 to 34 pints of PCS from Pharmerica and that he started "stocking up" because he was thinking of leaving Pharmerica because of the stress.

19. During the interview by the Board Inspector, Respondent explained his process by which he took the PCS out of the Pharmerica. He explained that when he was working in the narcotics room of the pharmacy, he would put a bottle of the PCS under the bubble cards in a basket. When he left the room, he would take the basket with the PCS bottle and put it in an unfrequented drug aisle of Pharmerica. Respondent further explained that he would return to the aisle and place the bottles into a brown bag and take them out of the pharmacy. He also indicated that sometimes he would just take an empty bag out with him so in case he was stopped by anyone, it would look like a normal routine for him.

20. Respondent told the Board Inspector that he used the PCS when he went to bed and before or after his shifts. He further explained that he would mix about 2 ounces of the PCS with a coke about 3-4 times a day. Respondent told the Board Inspector that he did not have a prescription for PCS. Respondent told the Board Inspector that he was not currently taking PCS because he decided to stop after getting into two car accidents.

21. On October 14, 2015, the Board received a six-page statement from Respondent as requested by the Board Inspector. The statement was signed under the penalty of perjury and documented what was said during the interview on September 29, 2015.

22. Following an inspection at Pharmerica, the Board Inspector received and reviewed purchase records and dispensing records from Pharmerica from May 1, 2014 to May 31, 2015. The Board's audit and investigation confirmed a loss of 74.5 pints of PCS from Pharmerica.

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1 2	FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE (Committed Act Involving Dishonesty, Fraud, or Deceit) (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4301, subd. (f))
3	23. Respondent has subjected his Pharmacy Technician Registration to disciplinary
: 4	action under Code section 4301, subdivision (f), in that he stole PCS from his employer,
5	Pharmerica. The circumstances are explained in paragraphs 16 through 22, above.
6 7	SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE (Violation of Laws Relating to Controlled Substance) (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4301, subd. (j))
8	24. Respondent has subjected his Pharmacy Technician Registration to disciplinary
9	action under Code section 4031, subdivision (j), in that he violated state laws relating to
10	controlled substances, including Health and Safety Code, section 11350, subdivision (a)
11	(possessing controlled substances), when he stole PCS from his employer. The circumstances are
12	more fully explained in paragraphs 16 through 22, above.
13 14	THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE (Furnishing Dangerous Drugs without a Prescription) (Bus.& Prof. Code, § 4059)
15	25. Respondent has subjected his Pharmacy Technician Registration to disciplinary
16	action under Code section 4059, in that he furnished and used PCS, a controlled substance,
17	without a prescription on numerous occasions from January 2015 to May 2015. The
18	circumstances are more fully explained in paragraphs 16 through 22, above.
19 20	FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE (Possession of Controlled Substance without a Prescription) (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4060)
21	26. Respondent has subjected his Pharmacy Technician Registration to disciplinary
22	action under Code section 4060, in that he illegally possessed PCS, a controlled substance,
23	without a prescription, on numerous occasions from January 2015 to May 2015. The
24	circumstances are more fully explained in paragraphs 16 through 22, above.
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	ACCUSATION

1	PRAYER
2	WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters alleged in this
3.	Accusation, and that following the hearing, the Board of Pharmacy issue a decision:
4	1. Revoking or suspending Pharmacy Technician Registration Number TCH 124958,
5	issued to Pascal A. Bui;
6	2. Ordering Pascal A. Bui to pay the Board of Pharmacy the reasonable costs of the
7	investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section
8	125.3;
9	3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.
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12	DATED: 5/6/16 Unginia Headd
13	VIRGINIA HEROLD Executive Officer
14	Board of Pharmacy Department of Consumer Affairs
15	State of California Complainant
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