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8 **BEFORE THE**
9 **BOARD OF PHARMACY**
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 5784

13 **STROHECKER'S PHARMACY, INC.,**
dba STROHECKER'S PHARMACY
RONALD DULWICK, PRESIDENT

**FIRST AMENDED
ACCUSATION**

14 **2855A SW Patton Road**
Portland, OR 97201

15 **Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit No. NRP 705**
16 **Non-Resident Sterile Compounding Permit No. NSC**
17 **99432**

Respondent.

18
19 **STROHECKER'S PHARMACY, INC.,**
20 **dba STROHECKER'S PHARMACY**
RONALD DULWICK, PRESIDENT/SECRETARY

21 **1286 SE Holgate, Suite C-1**
22 **Portland, OR 97202**

23 **Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit No. NRP 1806**

Affiliated Party.

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1 Complainant alleges:

2 **PARTIES**

3 1. Virginia Herold ("Complainant") brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity
4 as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy ("Board"), Department of Consumer Affairs.

5 2. On or about May 25, 2007, the Board issued Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number
6 NRP 705 to Strohecker's Pharmacy, Inc., doing business as Strohecker's Pharmacy ("Respondent
7 Strohecker's"), with Ronald Dulwick as president. On or about April 4, 2011, T.T. became the
8 pharmacist-in-charge ("PIC"). On or about February 4, 2016, B.S. replaced T.T. as the PIC. The
9 non-resident pharmacy permit expired on May 1, 2016, and was canceled on June 6, 2016.

10 3. On or about May 29, 2007, the Board issued Non-Resident Sterile Compounding
11 Permit Number NSC 99432 to Respondent Strohecker's. The non-resident sterile compounding
12 permit expired on May 01, 2014, but was renewed on or about October 17, 2014. The non-
13 resident sterile compounding permit expired on May 1, 2016, and has not been renewed.

14 4. On or about June 15, 2016, the Board issued Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number
15 NRP 1806 to Respondent Strohecker's with Ronald Dulwick as president and secretary and T.T.
16 as the PIC. The non-resident pharmacy permit will expire on June 1, 2017, unless renewed.

17 **JURISDICTION**

18 5. This Accusation is brought before the Board under the authority of the following
19 laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code ("Code") unless otherwise
20 indicated.

21 6. Code section 4300 states, in pertinent part:

22 (a) Every license issued may be suspended or revoked.

23 (b) The board shall discipline the holder of any license issued by the
24 board, whose default has been entered or whose case has been heard by the board and
found guilty, by any of the following methods:

25 (1) Suspending judgment.

26 (2) Placing him or her upon probation.

27 (3) Suspending his or her right to practice for a period not exceeding one
28 year.

1 (4) Revoking his or her license.

2 (5) Taking any other action in relation to disciplining him or her as the
3 board in its discretion may deem proper . . .

4 7. Code section 4300.1 states:

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

11 **STATUTORY PROVISIONS**

12 8. Code section 4301 states, in pertinent part:

13 The board shall take action against any holder of a license who is guilty
14 of unprofessional conduct . . . Unprofessional conduct shall include, but is not limited
15 to, any of the following:

16

17 (b) Incompetence.

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19 (n) The revocation, suspension, or other discipline by another state of a license
20 to practice pharmacy, operate a pharmacy, or do any other act for which a license is
21 required by this chapter.

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

27 9. Code section 4307 states, in pertinent part:

28 (a) Any person . . . whose license has been revoked or is 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 manager, administrator, owner, member,
officer, director, associate, or partner had knowledge of or knowingly participated in
any conduct for which the license was . . . revoked, suspended, or placed on
probation, shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner,
member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee as follows:

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(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

1 five years.

2 (2) Where the license is denied or revoked, the prohibition shall continue
3 until the license is issued or reinstated.

4 (b) "Manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate,
5 or partner," as used in this section and Section 4308, may refer to a pharmacist or to
6 any other person who serves in that capacity in or for a licensee . . .

7 10. Code section 4127.2 states, in pertinent part:

8 (a) A nonresident pharmacy shall not compound injectable sterile drug products
9 for shipment into the State of California without a license issued by the board pursuant to
10 this section. The license shall be renewed annually and shall not be transferable.

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12 (e) A pharmacy licensed pursuant to this section shall do all of the
13 following:

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15 (3) Provide to the board, within 12 hours, any recall notice issued by the
16 pharmacy for sterile drug products it has compounded that have been shipped into, or
17 dispensed in, California.

18 11. Code section 4127.9 states:

19 (a) A pharmacy licensed pursuant to Section 4127.1 or 4127.2, including a
20 pharmacy that is exempt from licensure pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 4127.1 and
21 subdivision (c) of Section 4127.2, that issues a recall notice regarding a sterile compounded
22 drug shall, in addition to any other duties, contact the recipient pharmacy, prescriber, or
23 patient of the recalled drug and the board as soon as possible within 12 hours of the recall
24 notice if both of the following apply:

25 (1) Use of or exposure to the recalled drug may cause serious adverse health
26 consequences or death.

27 (2) The recalled drug was dispensed, or is intended for use, in this state.

28 (b) A recall notice issued pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be made as follows:

(1) If the recalled drug was dispensed directly to the patient, the notice shall be
made to the patient.

(2) If the recalled drug was dispensed directly to the prescriber, the notice shall
be made to the prescriber, who shall ensure the patient is notified.

1 (3) If the recalled drug was dispensed directly to a pharmacy, the notice shall be
2 made to the pharmacy, who shall notify the prescriber or patient, as appropriate. If the
3 pharmacy notifies the prescriber, the prescriber shall ensure the patient is notified.

4 **REGULATIONS**

5 12. Title 16, California Code of Regulations ("CCR"), section 1716, states, in pertinent
6 part: "Pharmacists shall not deviate from the requirements of a prescription except upon the prior
7 consent of the prescriber or to select the drug product in accordance with Section 4073 of the
8 Business and Professions Code."

9 13. Title 16, CCR, section 1735.1, subdivision (d), states that "[q]uality" means the
10 absence of harmful levels of contaminants, including filth, putrid, or decomposed substances, and
11 absence of active ingredients other than those noted on the label."

12 14. Title 16, CCR, section 1735.2 states, in pertinent part:

13

14 (d) A drug product shall not be compounded until the pharmacy has first
15 prepared a written master formula record that includes at least the following elements:

- 16 (1) Active ingredients to be used.
17 (2) Equipment to be used.
18 (3) Expiration dating requirements.
19 (4) Inactive ingredients to be used.
20 (5) Process and/or procedure used to prepare the drug.
21 (6) Quality reviews required at each step in preparation of the drug.
22 (7) Post-compounding process or procedures required, if any.

23

24 (f) The pharmacist performing or supervising compounding is responsible
25 for the integrity, potency, quality, and labeled strength of a compounded drug product
26 until it is dispensed.

27

28 (h) Every compounded drug product shall be given an expiration date
representing the date beyond which, in the professional judgment of the pharmacist
performing or supervising the compounding, it should not be used. This "beyond use
date" of the compounded drug product shall not exceed 180 days from preparation or
the shortest expiration date of any component in the compounded drug product,
unless a longer date is supported by stability studies of finished drugs or compounded

1 drug products using the same components and packaging. Shorter dating than set
2 forth in this subsection may be used if it is deemed appropriate in the professional
3 judgment of the responsible pharmacist.

4 (i) The pharmacist performing or supervising compounding is responsible
5 for the proper preparation, labeling, storage, and delivery of the compounded drug
6 product . . .

7 15. Title 16, CCR, section 1735.5 states, in pertinent part:

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9 (c) The policy and procedure manual shall include the following

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11 (5) Documentation of the methodology used to determine appropriate
12 expiration dates for compounded drug products.

13 16. Title 16, CCR, section 1735.7 states, in pertinent part:

14 (a) Any pharmacy engaged in compounding shall maintain written
15 documentation sufficient to demonstrate that pharmacy personnel have the skills and
16 training required to properly and accurately perform their assigned responsibilities
17 relating to compounding.

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19 (c) Pharmacy personnel assigned to compounding duties shall
20 demonstrate knowledge about processes and procedures used in compounding prior to
21 compounding any drug product.

22 17. Title 16, CCR, section 1751.3 states, in pertinent part:

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24 (d) Pharmacies compounding sterile injectable products from one or more
25 non-sterile ingredients must have written policies and procedures that comply with
26 the following:

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28 (3) Policies and procedures must address at least the following:

(J) Sterilization . . .

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18. Title 16, CCR, section 1751.6 states, in pertinent part:

....

(e) Pharmacies that compound sterile products from one or more non-sterile ingredients must comply with the following training requirements:

(1) The pharmacy must establish and follow a written program of training and performance evaluation designed to ensure that each person working in the designated area has the knowledge and skills necessary to perform their assigned tasks properly. This program of training and performance evaluation must address at least the following:

....

(I) Sterilization techniques . . .

19. Title 16, CCR, section 1751.7 states, in pertinent part:

(a) Any pharmacy engaged in compounding sterile injectable drug products shall maintain, as part of its written policies and procedures, a written quality assurance plan including, in addition to the elements required by section 1735.8, a documented, ongoing quality assurance program that monitors personnel performance, equipment, and facilities. The end product shall be examined on a periodic sampling basis as determined by the pharmacist-in-charge to assure that it meets required specifications. The Quality Assurance Program shall include at least the following:

....

(4) Written justification of the chosen expiration dates for compounded sterile injectable products.

....

(c) Batch-produced sterile injectable drug products compounded from one or more non-sterile ingredients shall be subject to documented end product testing for sterility and pyrogens and shall be quarantined until the end product testing confirms sterility and acceptable levels of pyrogens . . .

COST RECOVERY

20. Code section 125.3 provides, in pertinent part, that a 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.

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1 **DRUG CLASSIFICATIONS**

2 21. Testosterone is a Schedule III controlled substance pursuant to Health and Safety
3 Code section 11056, subdivision (f)(30), and a dangerous drug per Code section 4022.

4 Testosterone is indicated for use as a hormone replacement drug.

5 22. Estradiol is a dangerous drug pursuant to Code section 4022, and is indicated for use
6 as a hormone replacement drug.

7 23. Progesterone is a dangerous drug pursuant to Code section 4022, and is indicated for
8 use as a hormone replacement drug.

9 **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

10 24. On or about October 17, 2014, Board Inspector P. was informed by the Board that
11 Respondent Strohecker's' non-resident sterile compounding permit had expired on May 1, 2014,
12 and that the pharmacy may be engaging in unlicensed activity.

13 25. On or about October 20, 2014, Inspector P. conducted an inspection of the pharmacy
14 and was assisted by Ronald Dulwick ("Dulwick") and pharmacist R. H. PIC T.T. was not present
15 during the inspection.

16 26. Inspector P. asked for a tour of the compounding area and was taken to the buffer
17 area where pharmacy staff compounded high risk compounded products from non-sterile to
18 sterile ingredients. Inspector P. was then taken to the ante room, which contained an incubator,
19 autoclave, and depyrogenator. Inspector P. observed clean glassware on the shelves. R. H. stated
20 that they cleaned the glassware in their oven by depyrogenation. Inspector P. observed gallon-
21 size bottles of deionized water on the shelves and asked R. H. what they used to rinse the
22 glassware. R. H. showed Inspector P. the deionized water. Inspector P. told R. H. that according
23 to the pharmacy's policies and procedures, they were supposed to use purified water during the
24 cleaning process.

25 27. Inspector P. told Dulwick that the pharmacy's non-resident sterile compounding
26 permit had expired on May 1, 2014, and asked him if they were still shipping compounded drug
27 products into California. Dulwick said yes.

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1 28. R. H. provided Inspector P. with documentation for compounded products sent to
2 California, including progesterone in ethyl oleate, testosterone cyprionate in oil, and estradiol
3 valerate in oil. Inspector P. requested and obtained a recent compounding worksheet and
4 certificate of analysis for each product. Inspector P. also requested the master formula and
5 reference used to compound each product. R. H. left the room and returned with the references.
6 Inspector P. asked R. H. if these were the specific formulas that were used to make each of the
7 compounded products identified on the worksheets, and he said yes. R. H. stated that the
8 reference was their “recipe” and justification for the BUD (beyond use date or expiration date)
9 used on products that were shipped to California.

10 29. Inspector P. compared the ingredients listed on the references with the ingredients
11 listed on the compounding worksheets, and found that the testosterone and estradiol were not
12 compounded in compliance with the references. The worksheet for testosterone showed that it
13 was compounded in sesame oil and had a BUD of 180 days; the formula reference for
14 testosterone showed that it was to be compounded in *cottonseed oil and had a BUD of 90 days*.
15 The worksheet for estradiol showed that it was compounded in cottonseed oil and had a BUD of
16 180 days; the formula reference for estradiol showed that it was to be compounded in *sesame oil*
17 *and had a BUD of 90 days*.

18 30. Inspector P. requested that Dulwick send her documentation showing the
19 compounded drug products that were shipped to California from May 1, 2014 through October
20 20, 2014, as well as testosterone and estradiol products that were shipped to California from
21 October 1, 2014 through October 20, 2014.

22 31. At the conclusion of the inspection, Inspector P. requested that Dulwick provide her
23 with written justifications of the BUD’s that were chosen for the compounded products and
24 master formulas for all routinely compounded products shipped to California.

25 32. Later that same day (October 20, 2014), Dulwick emailed Inspector P. a list of all
26 sterile compounded drug products the pharmacy had shipped to California from May 1, 2014 to
27 October 20, 2014, a list showing the product name, quantity, and date dispensed, and a list of the
28 patients’ names, street addresses, and prescribers’ names. Inspector P. found that the pharmacy

1 had dispensed approximately 1,108 prescriptions to California while its non-resident sterile
2 compounding permit was expired.

3 33. On or about February 17, 2016, Inspector P. sent T.T. an email requesting the master
4 formulas for the compounded drug products and justification of the BUD's (Dulwick had not
5 provided the BUD justifications or master formulas as previously requested).

6 34. On or about February 18, 2016, Inspector P. received an email from T.T. with
7 attachments. Each of the attachments contained a report from ARL with a microbiology report
8 and certificate of analysis. Inspector P. found that Strohecker's failed to provide samples which
9 met the minimum standards required by United States Pharmacopeia Chapter 71 (USP <71>) in
10 that they sent ARL sample sizes of two vials for sterility testing instead of the required minimum
11 of ten vials.¹

12 35. On or about February 23, 2016, Inspector P. called T.T. to discuss the documentation
13 provided on February 18, 2016. T.T. stated that the ARL reports were used to justify the
14 extended BUD's for testosterone and estradiol. Inspector P. asked T.T. if he had ARL conduct
15 stability testing, and explained that larger samples would have to have been provided to ARL and
16 tested against multiple organisms in order to establish a control for stability of the products. T.T.
17 stated that the pharmacy did not do stability testing and that he relied on the tests shown in the
18 microbiology reports as proof that their products could have a 180 day BUD. Inspector P. told
19 T.T. that the tests in those reports did not comply with USP <71>.

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26 ¹ The failure to provide a USP <71> required sample would not result in a reliable or
27 credible level of sterility assurance for the end product. Sterility assurance level (SAL) is defined
28 as the probability of a non-sterile ingredient making it through the validated sterilization process.
A lack of SAL would render the outcome of the sterility test to be invalid due to the inadequate
sample size. A pharmacy must provide a USP <71> compliant sample to have assurance that
their end product is sterile.

1 **FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

2 **(Unlicensed Activity)**

3 36. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
4 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
5 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in that Respondent
6 violated Code section 4127.2, as follows: On and between May 1, 2014 and October 20, 2014,
7 Respondent shipped approximately 1,108 high-risk sterile compounded products to California
8 without a valid non-resident sterile compounding permit; the permit had expired on May 1, 2014,
9 as set forth in paragraph 2 above.

10 **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

11 **(Assignment of Beyond-Use-Dates without Written Justification for the BUD)**

12 37. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
13 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
14 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in that Respondent
15 violated Title 16, CCR, sections 1735.2, subdivision (h), 1751.7, subdivision (a)(4), and 1735.5,
16 subdivision (c)(5), as follows: On and between May 1, 2014 and October 20, 2014, Respondent
17 assigned a BUD of 180 days to approximately 786 prescriptions for testosterone cypionate 200
18 ml/ml in sesame oil and approximately 72 prescriptions for estradiol valerate 40 mg/ml in
19 cottonseed oil without any documentation or written justification for the BUD chosen.

20 **THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

21 **(Failure to Prepare Master Formulas Prior to Compounding)**

22 38. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
23 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
24 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in that Respondent
25 violated Title 16, CCR, section 1735.2, subdivision (d), as follows: On and between May 1, 2014
26 and October 20, 2014, Respondent shipped approximately 786 prescriptions for testosterone
27 cypionate 200 ml/ml in sesame oil and approximately 72 prescriptions for estradiol valerate 40

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1 mg/ml in cottonseed oil to California when, in fact, a written master formula had not been
2 prepared prior to compounding each drug product.

3 **FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

4 **(Incomplete Training of Compounding Staff)**

5 39. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
6 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
7 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in that Respondent
8 violated Title 16, CCR, sections 1735.7, subdivisions (a) and (c), and 1751.6, subdivision (e)(1),
9 as follows: On or about October 20, 2014, pharmacist R. H., while supervising non-sterile to
10 sterile compounding, failed to demonstrate knowledge of the pharmacy's policies and procedures
11 regarding sterilization techniques. Specifically, R. H. allowed the use of deionized water for the
12 rinsing of glassware to be used in non-sterile to sterile compounding when, in fact, the
13 pharmacy's policy and procedure required the use of purified water during that sterilization
14 technique.

15 **FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

16 **(Failure to Perform Valid End Product Sterility Testing)**

17 40. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
18 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
19 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in that Respondent
20 violated Title 16, CCR, section 1751.7, subdivision (c), as follows: Respondent failed to perform
21 valid end product sterility testing on Lot T-2016S13 and Lot T-0725S14 for testosterone
22 cyprionate 200 ml/ml, Lot E-0826S14 for estradiol valerate 40 mg/ml in cottonseed oil, and Lot
23 EO-0716E14 for progesterone 50 mg/ml in ethyl oleate.

24 **SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

25 **(Improper Method of Sterilization)**

26 41. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
27 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
28 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in that Respondent

1 violated Title 16, CCR, sections 1735.1, subdivision (d), 1735.2, subdivisions (f) and (i), 1751.3,
2 subdivision (d)(3)(J), and 1751.6, subdivision (e)(1)(I), as follows: Respondent used autoclaving
3 as the method of sterilization on Lot T-0926S14 for testosterone cypionate 200 ml/ml in sesame
4 oil and Lot E-0810S14 for estradiol valerate 40 mg/ml in cottonseed oil when, in fact, autoclaving
5 is not an acceptable or valid means of sterilization for an oil based product.

6 **SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

7 **(Incompetence)**

8 42. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
9 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
10 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (b), in that Respondent
11 committed acts or omissions constituting incompetence, as set forth in paragraph 41 above.

12 **EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

13 **(Out-of-State Discipline)**

14 43. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
15 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
16 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (n), in that Respondent was
17 disciplined by another state as follows: On or about November 6, 2015, Respondent, through its
18 authorized representative, signed a Consent Order in Case No. 2015-0211, *In the Matter of the*
19 *Drug Outlet Registration of Strohecker's Pharmacy, Inc.*, Before the Board of Pharmacy, State of
20 Oregon, requiring payment of a civil penalty in the amount of \$10,000, with \$10,000 stayed
21 pending no further similar violation for three years and compliance with the terms of the order.
22 The terms of the Consent Order were to 1) develop and implement a Quality Assurance Plan to
23 address compounding procedures, documentation of compounding, batch lot sizes, ingredient
24 testing of every lot, excursion, and recalls; 2) the pharmacist-in-charge shall directly supervise all
25 compounding practices; 3) provide a list of all patients or representatives that have been contacted
26 regarding the recall, or post a notice to their website; and 4) comply with all laws and rules
27 regarding pharmacy practice. The circumstances are as follows:

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1 44. On or about December 1, 2014, Respondent compounded testosterone cypionate lot #
2 T-1201S14 and inadvertently added estradiol valerate to the compound. Respondent dispensed
3 this lot of testosterone cypionate to 351 patients in 35 states, including 90 patients in California.
4 Respondent did not follow procedure when compounding lot # T-1201S14 and in documenting
5 the compounding of lot # T-1201S14. Respondent did not following procedure or take
6 appropriate action after receiving the potency test result for lot # T-1201S14 and identifying the
7 product was not in the customary range. Respondent did not take appropriate action after being
8 notified of the error. Respondent was alerted to the error on or about April 6, 2015, and a recall
9 was issued on April 9, 2015. Patients were not contacted in a timely manner and, in the course of
10 the recall, Respondent did not contact every patient, did not contact every practitioner, and did
11 not ask every patient if they had experienced any adverse events.

12 **NINTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

13 **(Failure to Report Recall to Board)**

14 45. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
15 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
16 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in that Respondent
17 violated Code section 4127.2, subdivision (e)(3), in that Respondent failed to provide to the
18 board, within 12 hours, with the recall notice for sterile drugs it compounded and shipped into
19 California, referenced in paragraph 44 above.

20 **TENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

21 **(Medication Error)**

22 46. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
23 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
24 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in that Respondent
25 violated Title 16, CCR, section 1716 as follows: Respondent dispensed an incorrectly
26 compounded drug product to patients in California, as set forth in paragraph 44 above.

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1 **ELEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

2 **(Failure to Notify Patients of Recall)**

3 47. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
4 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
5 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in that Respondent
6 violated Code section 4127.9, in that Respondent failed to contact patients, as soon as possible
7 within 12 hours of the recall notice, that the use or exposure to the recalled drug shipped into
8 California may cause serious adverse health consequences, as referenced in paragraph 44 above.

9 **TWELFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

10 **(Out-of-State Discipline)**

11 48. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
12 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
13 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (n), in that Respondent was
14 disciplined by another state as follows: On or about February 24, 2016, in Case No. 15 PHM
15 193, *In the Matter of Disciplinary Proceedings Against Stroheckers Pharmacy, Respondent*,
16 Before the Pharmacy Examining Board, State of Wisconsin, Respondent was reprimanded and
17 ordered to pay a forfeiture of \$500.00 and costs of \$100.00. The case was based on the discipline
18 entered by the Board of Pharmacy of the State of Oregon, which is set forth in paragraphs 43 and
19 44 above.

20 **OTHER MATTERS**

21 49. Ronald Dulwick had knowledge of and/or knowingly participated in the acts or
22 omissions alleged above constituting grounds for discipline against Respondent Strohecker's.

23 50. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Non-Resident Pharmacy
24 Permit Number NRP 705, issued to Strohecker's Pharmacy, Inc., doing business as Strohecker's
25 Pharmacy, Ronald Dulwick shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner,
26 member, officer, director, associate, or partner for any licensee, including, but not limited to,
27 Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number NRP 1806, issued to Strohecker's Pharmacy, Inc., doing
28 business as Strohecker's Pharmacy, during the time the discipline is imposed.

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PRAYER

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 Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number NRP 705, issued to Strohecker's Pharmacy, Inc., doing business as Strohecker's Pharmacy;

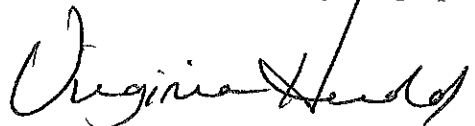
2. Revoking or suspending Non-Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432, issued to Strohecker's Pharmacy, Inc., doing business as Strohecker's Pharmacy;

3. Prohibiting Ronald Dulwick from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner for any licensee including, but not limited to, Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number NRP 1806, issued to Strohecker's Pharmacy, Inc., doing business as Strohecker's Pharmacy, during the time the discipline is imposed on Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number NRP 705, issued to Strohecker's Pharmacy, Inc., doing business as Strohecker's Pharmacy;

4. Ordering Strohecker's Pharmacy, Inc., doing business as Strohecker's Pharmacy, to pay the Board of Pharmacy the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3; and

5. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: 5/26/17



VIRGINIA HEROLD
Executive Officer
Board of Pharmacy
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California
Complainant

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7 *Attorneys for Complainant*

8 **BEFORE THE**
9 **BOARD OF PHARMACY**
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

11 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:
12 **STROHECKER'S PHARMACY, INC.,**
13 **dba STROHECKER'S PHARMACY**
14 **RONALD DULWICK, PRESIDENT**
15 **BRETT SUMMERS, PHARMACIST-IN-CHARGE**
16 **2855A SW Patton Road**
17 **Portland, OR 97201**

18 **Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit No. NRP 705**
Non-Resident Sterile Compounding Permit No. NSC
99432

19 **Respondent.**

Case No. 5784

ACCUSATION

19 **STROHECKER'S PHARMACY, INC.,**
20 **dba STROHECKER'S PHARMACY**
21 **RONALD DULWICK, PRESIDENT/SECRETARY**
22 **TYLER MATTHEW TREHARNE,**
PHARMACIST-IN-CHARGE
1286 SE Holgate, Suite C-1
Portland, OR 97202

23 **Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit No. NRP 1806**

24 **Affiliated Party.**

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1 Complainant alleges:

2 **PARTIES**

3 1. Virginia Herold ("Complainant") brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity
4 as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy ("Board"), Department of Consumer Affairs.

5 2. On or about May 25, 2007, the Board issued Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number
6 NRP 705 to Strohecker's Pharmacy, Inc., doing business as Strohecker's Pharmacy ("Respondent
7 Strohecker's"), with Ronald Dulwick as president. On or about April 4, 2011, Tyler Matthew
8 Treharne ("Treharne") became the pharmacist-in-charge ("PIC"). On or about February 4, 2016,
9 Brett Summers replaced Treharne as the PIC. The non-resident pharmacy permit expired on May
10 1, 2016, and was canceled on June 6, 2016.

11 3. On or about May 29, 2007, the Board issued Non-Resident Sterile Compounding
12 Permit Number NSC 99432 to Respondent Strohecker's. The non-resident sterile compounding
13 permit expired on May 01, 2014, but was renewed on or about October 17, 2014. The non-
14 resident sterile compounding permit expired on May 1, 2016, and has not been renewed.

15 4. On or about June 15, 2016, the Board issued Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number
16 NRP 1806 to Respondent Strohecker's with Ronald Dulwick as president and secretary and
17 Treharne as the PIC. The non-resident pharmacy permit will expire on June 1, 2017, unless
18 renewed.

19 **JURISDICTION**

20 5. This Accusation is brought before the Board under the authority of the following
21 laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code ("Code") unless otherwise
22 indicated.

23 6. Code section 4300 states, in pertinent part:

24 (a) Every license issued may be suspended or revoked.

25 (b) The board shall discipline the holder of any license issued by the
26 board, whose default has been entered or whose case has been heard by the board and
found guilty, by any of the following methods:

27 (1) Suspending judgment.

28 (2) Placing him or her upon probation.

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(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. Code section 4300.1 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.

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

8. Code section 4301 states, in pertinent part:

The board shall take action against any holder of a license who is guilty of unprofessional conduct . . . Unprofessional conduct shall include, but is not limited to, any of the following:

....

(b) Incompetence.

....

(n) The revocation, suspension, or other discipline by another state of a license to practice pharmacy, operate a pharmacy, or do any other act for which a license is required by this chapter.

(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 . . .

9. Code section 4307 states, in pertinent part:

(a) Any person . . . whose license has been revoked or is 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 manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner had knowledge of or knowingly participated in any conduct for which the license was . . . revoked, suspended, or placed on probation, shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee as follows:

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

4 (2) Where the license is denied or revoked, the prohibition shall continue
5 until the license is issued or reinstated.

6 (b) "Manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate,
7 or partner," as used in this section and Section 4308, may refer to a pharmacist or to
8 any other person who serves in that capacity in or for a licensee . . .

9 10. Code section 4127.2 states, in pertinent part:

11 (a) A nonresident pharmacy shall not compound injectable sterile drug products
12 for shipment into the State of California without a license issued by the board pursuant to
13 this section. The license shall be renewed annually and shall not be transferable.

14

15 (e) A pharmacy licensed pursuant to this section shall do all of the
16 following:

17

18 (3) Provide to the board, within 12 hours, any recall notice issued by the
19 pharmacy for sterile drug products it has compounded that have been shipped into, or
20 dispensed in, California.

21 11. Code section 4127.9 states:

22 (a) A pharmacy licensed pursuant to Section 4127.1 or 4127.2, including a
23 pharmacy that is exempt from licensure pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 4127.1 and
24 subdivision (c) of Section 4127.2, that issues a recall notice regarding a sterile compounded
25 drug shall, in addition to any other duties, contact the recipient pharmacy, prescriber, or
26 patient of the recalled drug and the board as soon as possible within 12 hours of the recall
27 notice if both of the following apply:

28 (1) Use of or exposure to the recalled drug may cause serious adverse health
consequences or death.

(2) The recalled drug was dispensed, or is intended for use, in this state.

(b) A recall notice issued pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be made as follows:

(1) If the recalled drug was dispensed directly to the patient, the notice shall be
made to the patient.

(2) If the recalled drug was dispensed directly to the prescriber, the notice shall
be made to the prescriber, who shall ensure the patient is notified.

1 (3) If the recalled drug was dispensed directly to a pharmacy, the notice shall be
2 made to the pharmacy, who shall notify the prescriber or patient, as appropriate. If the
3 pharmacy notifies the prescriber, the prescriber shall ensure the patient is notified.

4 REGULATIONS

5 12. Title 16, California Code of Regulations ("CCR"), section 1716, states, in pertinent
6 part: "Pharmacists shall not deviate from the requirements of a prescription except upon the prior
7 consent of the prescriber or to select the drug product in accordance with Section 4073 of the
8 Business and Professions Code."

9 13. Title 16, CCR, section 1735.1, subdivision (d), states that "[q]uality" means the
10 absence of harmful levels of contaminants, including filth, putrid, or decomposed substances, and
11 absence of active ingredients other than those noted on the label."

12 14. Title 16, CCR, section 1735.2 states, in pertinent part:

13

14 (d) A drug product shall not be compounded until the pharmacy has first
15 prepared a written master formula record that includes at least the following elements:

- 16 (1) Active ingredients to be used.
- 17 (2) Equipment to be used.
- 18 (3) Expiration dating requirements.
- 19 (4) Inactive ingredients to be used.
- 20 (5) Process and/or procedure used to prepare the drug.
- 21 (6) Quality reviews required at each step in preparation of the drug.
- 22 (7) Post-compounding process or procedures required, if any.

23

24 (f) The pharmacist performing or supervising compounding is responsible
25 for the integrity, potency, quality, and labeled strength of a compounded drug product
26 until it is dispensed.

27

28 (h) Every compounded drug product shall be given an expiration date
representing the date beyond which, in the professional judgment of the pharmacist
performing or supervising the compounding, it should not be used. This "beyond use
date" of the compounded drug product shall not exceed 180 days from preparation or
the shortest expiration date of any component in the compounded drug product,
unless a longer date is supported by stability studies of finished drugs or compounded

1 drug products using the same components and packaging. Shorter dating than set
2 forth in this subsection may be used if it is deemed appropriate in the professional
3 judgment of the responsible pharmacist.

4 (i) The pharmacist performing or supervising compounding is responsible
5 for the proper preparation, labeling, storage, and delivery of the compounded drug
6 product . . .

7 15. Title 16, CCR, section 1735.5 states, in pertinent part:

8

9 (c) The policy and procedure manual shall include the following

10

11 (5) Documentation of the methodology used to determine appropriate
12 expiration dates for compounded drug products.

13 16. Title 16, CCR, section 1735.7 states, in pertinent part:

14 (a) Any pharmacy engaged in compounding shall maintain written
15 documentation sufficient to demonstrate that pharmacy personnel have the skills and
16 training required to properly and accurately perform their assigned responsibilities
17 relating to compounding.

18

19 (c) Pharmacy personnel assigned to compounding duties shall
20 demonstrate knowledge about processes and procedures used in compounding prior to
21 compounding any drug product.

22 17. Title 16, CCR, section 1751.3 states, in pertinent part:

23

24 (d) Pharmacies compounding sterile injectable products from one or more
25 non-sterile ingredients must have written policies and procedures that comply with
26 the following:

27

28 (3) Policies and procedures must address at least the following:

(J) Sterilization . . .

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18. Title 16, CCR, section 1751.6 states, in pertinent part:

....

(e) Pharmacies that compound sterile products from one or more non-sterile ingredients must comply with the following training requirements:

(1) The pharmacy must establish and follow a written program of training and performance evaluation designed to ensure that each person working in the designated area has the knowledge and skills necessary to perform their assigned tasks properly. This program of training and performance evaluation must address at least the following:

....

(I) Sterilization techniques . . .

19. Title 16, CCR, section 1751.7 states, in pertinent part:

(a) Any pharmacy engaged in compounding sterile injectable drug products shall maintain, as part of its written policies and procedures, a written quality assurance plan including, in addition to the elements required by section 1735.8, a documented, ongoing quality assurance program that monitors personnel performance, equipment, and facilities. The end product shall be examined on a periodic sampling basis as determined by the pharmacist-in-charge to assure that it meets required specifications. The Quality Assurance Program shall include at least the following:

....

(4) Written justification of the chosen expiration dates for compounded sterile injectable products.

....

(c) Batch-produced sterile injectable drug products compounded from one or more non-sterile ingredients shall be subject to documented end product testing for sterility and pyrogens and shall be quarantined until the end product testing confirms sterility and acceptable levels of pyrogens . . .

COST RECOVERY

20. Code section 125.3 provides, in pertinent part, that a 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.

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1 **DRUG CLASSIFICATIONS**

2 21. Testosterone is a Schedule III controlled substance pursuant to Health and Safety
3 Code section 11056, subdivision (f)(30), and a dangerous drug per Code section 4022.

4 Testosterone is indicated for use as a hormone replacement drug.

5 22. Estradiol is a dangerous drug pursuant to Code section 4022, and is indicated for use
6 as a hormone replacement drug.

7 23. Progesterone is a dangerous drug pursuant to Code section 4022, and is indicated for
8 use as a hormone replacement drug.

9 **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

10 24. On or about October 17, 2014, Board Inspector P. was informed by the Board that
11 Respondent Strohecker's non-resident sterile compounding permit had expired on May 1, 2014,
12 and that the pharmacy may be engaging in unlicensed activity.

13 25. On or about October 20, 2014, Inspector P. conducted an inspection of the pharmacy
14 and was assisted by Ronald Dulwick ("Dulwick") and pharmacist R. H. PIC Treharne was not
15 present during the inspection.

16 26. Inspector P. asked for a tour of the compounding area and was taken to the buffer
17 area where pharmacy staff compounded high risk compounded products from non-sterile to
18 sterile ingredients. Inspector P. was then taken to the ante room, which contained an incubator,
19 autoclave, and depyrogenator. Inspector P. observed clean glassware on the shelves. R. H. stated
20 that they cleaned the glassware in their oven by depyrogenation. Inspector P. observed gallon-
21 size bottles of deionized water on the shelves and asked R. H. what they used to rinse the
22 glassware. R. H. showed Inspector P. the deionized water. Inspector P. told R. H. that according
23 to the pharmacy's policies and procedures, they were supposed to use purified water during the
24 cleaning process.

25 27. Inspector P. told Dulwick that the pharmacy's non-resident sterile compounding
26 permit had expired on May 1, 2014, and asked him if they were still shipping compounded drug
27 products into California. Dulwick said yes.

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1 28. R. H. provided Inspector P. with documentation for compounded products sent to
2 California, including progesterone in ethyl oleate, testosterone cypionate in oil, and estradiol
3 valerate in oil. Inspector P. requested and obtained a recent compounding worksheet and
4 certificate of analysis for each product. Inspector P. also requested the master formula and
5 reference used to compound each product. R. H. left the room and returned with the references.
6 Inspector P. asked R. H. if these were the specific formulas that were used to make each of the
7 compounded products identified on the worksheets, and he said yes. R. H. stated that the
8 reference was their "recipe" and justification for the BUD (beyond use date or expiration date)
9 used on products that were shipped to California.

10 29. Inspector P. compared the ingredients listed on the references with the ingredients
11 listed on the compounding worksheets, and found that the testosterone and estradiol were not
12 compounded in compliance with the references. The worksheet for testosterone showed that it
13 was compounded in sesame oil and had a BUD of 180 days; the formula reference for
14 testosterone showed that it was to be compounded in *cottonseed oil and had a BUD of 90 days*.
15 The worksheet for estradiol showed that it was compounded in cottonseed oil and had a BUD of
16 180 days; the formula reference for estradiol showed that it was to be compounded in *sesame oil*
17 *and had a BUD of 90 days*.

18 30. Inspector P. requested that Dulwick send her documentation showing the
19 compounded drug products that were shipped to California from May 1, 2014 through October
20 20, 2014, as well as testosterone and estradiol products that were shipped to California from
21 October 1, 2014 through October 20, 2014.

22 31. At the conclusion of the inspection, Inspector P. requested that Dulwick provide her
23 with written justifications of the BUD's that were chosen for the compounded products and
24 master formulas for all routinely compounded products shipped to California.

25 32. Later that same day (October 20, 2014), Dulwick emailed Inspector P. a list of all
26 sterile compounded drug products the pharmacy had shipped to California from May 1, 2014 to
27 October 20, 2014, a list showing the product name, quantity, and date dispensed, and a list of the
28 patients' names, street addresses, and prescribers' names. Inspector P. found that the pharmacy

1 had dispensed approximately 1,108 prescriptions to California while its non-resident sterile
2 compounding permit was expired.

3 33. On or about February 17, 2016, Inspector P. sent Treharne an email requesting the
4 master formulas for the compounded drug products and justification of the BUD's (Dulwick had
5 not provided the BUD justifications or master formulas as previously requested).

6 34. On or about February 18, 2016, Inspector P. received an email from Treharne with
7 attachments. Each of the attachments contained a report from ARL with a microbiology report
8 and certificate of analysis. Inspector P. found that Strohecker's failed to provide samples which
9 met the minimum standards required by United States Pharmacopeia Chapter 71 (USP <71>) in
10 that they sent ARL sample sizes of two vials for sterility testing instead of the required minimum
11 of ten vials.¹

12 35. On or about February 23, 2016, Inspector P. called Treharne to discuss the
13 documentation provided on February 18, 2016. Treharne stated that the ARL reports were used
14 to justify the extended BUD's for testosterone and estradiol. Inspector P. asked Treharne if he
15 had ARL conduct stability testing, and explained that larger samples would have to have been
16 provided to ARL and tested against multiple organisms in order to establish a control for stability
17 of the products. Treharne stated that the pharmacy did not do stability testing and that he relied
18 on the tests shown in the microbiology reports as proof that their products could have a 180 day
19 BUD. Inspector P. told Treharne that the tests in those reports did not comply with USP <71>.

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¹ The failure to provide a USP <71> required sample would not result in a reliable or credible level of sterility assurance for the end product. Sterility assurance level (SAL) is defined as the probability of a non-sterile ingredient making it through the validated sterilization process. A lack of SAL would render the outcome of the sterility test to be invalid due to the inadequate sample size. A pharmacy must provide a USP <71> compliant sample to have assurance that their end product is sterile.

1 **FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

2 **(Unlicensed Activity)**

3 36. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
4 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
5 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in that Respondent
6 violated Code section 4127.2, as follows: On and between May 1, 2014 and October 20, 2014,
7 Respondent shipped approximately 1,108 high-risk sterile compounded products to California
8 without a valid non-resident sterile compounding permit; the permit had expired on May 1, 2014,
9 as set forth in paragraph 2 above.

10 **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

11 **(Assignment of Beyond-Use-Dates without Written Justification for the BUD)**

12 37. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
13 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
14 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in that Respondent
15 violated Title 16, CCR, sections 1735.2, subdivision (h), 1751.7, subdivision (a)(4), and 1735.5,
16 subdivision (c)(5), as follows: On and between May 1, 2014 and October 20, 2014, Respondent
17 assigned a BUD of 180 days to approximately 786 prescriptions for testosterone cypionate 200
18 ml/ml in sesame oil and approximately 72 prescriptions for estradiol valerate 40 mg/ml in
19 cottonseed oil without any documentation or written justification for the BUD chosen.

20 **THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

21 **(Failure to Prepare Master Formulas Prior to Compounding)**

22 38. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
23 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
24 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in that Respondent
25 violated Title 16, CCR, section 1735.2, subdivision (d), as follows: On and between May 1, 2014
26 and October 20, 2014, Respondent shipped approximately 786 prescriptions for testosterone
27 cypionate 200 ml/ml in sesame oil and approximately 72 prescriptions for estradiol valerate 40

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1 mg/ml in cottonseed oil to California when, in fact, a written master formula had not been
2 prepared prior to compounding each drug product.

3 **FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

4 **(Incomplete Training of Compounding Staff)**

5 39. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
6 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
7 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in that Respondent
8 violated Title 16, CCR, sections 1735.7, subdivisions (a) and (c), and 1751.6, subdivision (e)(1),
9 as follows: On or about October 20, 2014, pharmacist R. H., while supervising non-sterile to
10 sterile compounding, failed to demonstrate knowledge of the pharmacy's policies and procedures
11 regarding sterilization techniques. Specifically, R. H. allowed the use of deionized water for the
12 rinsing of glassware to be used in non-sterile to sterile compounding when, in fact, the
13 pharmacy's policy and procedure required the use of purified water during that sterilization
14 technique.

15 **FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

16 **(Failure to Perform Valid End Product Sterility Testing)**

17 40. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
18 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
19 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in that Respondent
20 violated Title 16, CCR, section 1751.7, subdivision (c), as follows: Respondent failed to perform
21 valid end product sterility testing on Lot T-2016S13 and Lot T-0725S14 for testosterone
22 cypionate 200 mg/ml, Lot E-0826S14 for estradiol valerate 40 mg/ml in cottonseed oil, and Lot
23 EO-0716E14 for progesterone 50 mg/ml in ethyl oleate.

24 **SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

25 **(Improper Method of Sterilization)**

26 41. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
27 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
28 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in that Respondent

1 violated Title 16, CCR, sections 1735.1, subdivision (d), 1735.2, subdivisions (f) and (i), 1751.3,
2 subdivision (d)(3)(J), and 1751.6, subdivision (e)(1)(I), as follows: Respondent used autoclaving
3 as the method of sterilization on Lot T-0926S14 for testosterone cyprionate 200 ml/ml in sesame
4 oil and Lot E-0810S14 for estradiol valerate 40 mg/ml in cottonseed oil when, in fact, autoclaving
5 is not an acceptable or valid means of sterilization for an oil based product.

6 **SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

7 **(Incompetence)**

8 42. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
9 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
10 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (b), in that Respondent
11 committed acts or omissions constituting incompetence, as set forth in paragraph 41 above.

12 **EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

13 **(Out-of-State Discipline)**

14 43. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
15 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
16 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (n), in that Respondent was
17 disciplined by another state as follows: On or about November 6, 2015, Respondent, through its
18 authorized representative, signed a Consent Order in Case No. 2015-0211, *In the Matter of the*
19 *Drug Outlet Registration of Strohecker's Pharmacy, Inc.*, Before the Board of Pharmacy, State of
20 Oregon, requiring payment of a civil penalty in the amount of \$10,000, with \$10,000 stayed
21 pending no further similar violation for three years and compliance with the terms of the order.
22 The terms of the Consent Order were to 1) develop and implement a Quality Assurance Plan to
23 address compounding procedures, documentation of compounding, batch lot sizes, ingredient
24 testing of every lot, excursion, and recalls; 2) the pharmacist-in-charge shall directly supervise all
25 compounding practices; 3) provide a list of all patients or representatives that have been contacted
26 regarding the recall, or post a notice to their website; and 4) comply with all laws and rules
27 regarding pharmacy practice. The circumstances are as follows:

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1 44. On or about December 1, 2014, Respondent compounded testosterone cypionate lot #
2 T-1201S14 and inadvertently added estradiol valerate to the compound. Respondent dispensed
3 this lot of testosterone cypionate to 351 patients in 35 states, including 90 patients in California.
4 Respondent did not follow procedure when compounding lot # T-1201S14 and in documenting
5 the compounding of lot # T-1201S14. Respondent did not following procedure or take
6 appropriate action after receiving the potency test result for lot # T-1201S14 and identifying the
7 product was not in the customary range. Respondent did not take appropriate action after being
8 notified of the error. Respondent was alerted to the error on or about April 6, 2015, and a recall
9 was issued on April 9, 2015. Patients were not contacted in a timely manner and, in the course of
10 the recall, Respondent did not contact every patient, did not contact every practitioner, and did
11 not ask every patient if they had experienced any adverse events.

12 **NINTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

13 **(Failure to Report Recall to Board)**

14 45. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
15 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
16 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in that Respondent
17 violated Code section 4127.2, subdivision (e)(3), in that Respondent failed to provide to the
18 board, within 12 hours, with the recall notice for sterile drugs it compounded and shipped into
19 California, referenced in paragraph 44 above.

20 **TENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

21 **(Medication Error)**

22 46. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
23 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
24 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in that Respondent
25 violated Title 16, CCR, section 1716 as follows: Respondent dispensed an incorrectly
26 compounded drug product to patients in California, as set forth in paragraph 44 above.

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2 **ELEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

3 **(Failure to Notify Patients of Recall)**

4 47. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
5 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
6 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in that Respondent
7 violated Code section 4127.9, in that Respondent failed to contact patients, as soon as possible
8 within 12 hours of the recall notice, that the use or exposure to the recalled drug shipped into
9 California may cause serious adverse health consequences, as referenced in paragraph 44 above.

10 **TWELFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

11 **(Out-of-State Discipline)**

12 48. Respondent Strohecker's Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number 705 and Non-
13 Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC 99432 are subject to disciplinary action for
14 unprofessional conduct pursuant to Code section 4301, subdivision (n), in that Respondent was
15 disciplined by another state as follows: On or about February 24, 2016, in Case No. 15 PHM
16 193, *In the Matter of Disciplinary Proceedings Against Stroheckers Pharmacy, Respondent,*
17 Before the Pharmacy Examining Board, State of Wisconsin, Respondent was reprimanded and
18 ordered to pay a forfeiture of \$500.00 and costs of \$100.00. The case was based on the discipline
19 entered by the Board of Pharmacy of the State of Oregon, which is set forth in paragraphs 43 and
20 44 above.

21 **OTHER MATTERS**

22 49. Ronald Dulwick had knowledge of and/or knowingly participated in the acts or
23 omissions alleged above constituting grounds for discipline against Respondent Strohecker's.

24 50. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Non-Resident Pharmacy
25 Permit Number NRP 705, issued to Strohecker's Pharmacy, Inc., doing business as Strohecker's
26 Pharmacy, Ronald Dulwick shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner,
27 member, officer, director, associate, or partner for any licensee, including, but not limited to,
28 Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number NRP 1806, issued to Strohecker's Pharmacy, Inc., doing
business as Strohecker's Pharmacy, during the time the discipline is imposed.

1 PRAYER

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

4 1. Revoking or suspending Non-Resident Pharmacy Permit Number NRP 705, issued to
5 Strohecker's Pharmacy, Inc., doing business as Strohecker's Pharmacy;

6 2. Revoking or suspending Non-Resident Sterile Compounding Permit Number NSC
7 99432, issued to Strohecker's Pharmacy, Inc., doing business as Strohecker's Pharmacy;

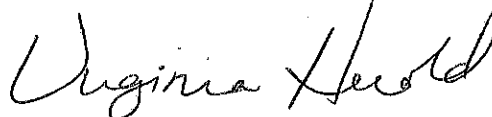
8 3. Prohibiting Ronald Dulwick from serving as a manager, administrator, owner,
9 member, officer, director, associate, or partner for any licensee including, but not limited to, Non-
10 Resident Pharmacy Permit Number NRP 1806, issued to Strohecker's Pharmacy, Inc., doing
11 business as Strohecker's Pharmacy, during the time the discipline is imposed on Non-Resident
12 Pharmacy Permit Number NRP 705, issued to Strohecker's Pharmacy, Inc., doing business as
13 Strohecker's Pharmacy;

14 4. Ordering Strohecker's Pharmacy, Inc., doing business as Strohecker's Pharmacy, to
15 pay the Board of Pharmacy the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case,
16 pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3; and

17 5. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

18
19 DATED: _____

12/2/16



20 VIRGINIA HEROLD
21 Executive Officer
22 Board of Pharmacy
23 Department of Consumer Affairs
24 State of California
25 Complainant

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