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

11 In the Matter of the Statement of Issues
12 Against:

Case No. 6249

13 **MANIFEST PHARMACY, LLC**
14 **JON PAUL LETKO, PRESIDENT**

STATEMENT OF ISSUES

15 **Nonresident Pharmacy Permit Applicant**

16 Respondent.

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18 Complainant alleges:

19 **PARTIES**

20 1. Virginia Herold (Complainant) brings this Statement of Issues solely in her official
21 capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs.

22 2. On or about February 27, 2017, the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer
23 Affairs, received an application for a Nonresident Pharmacy Permit from Manifest Pharmacy,
24 LLC, Jon Paul Letko, President (Respondent). On or about February 7, 2017, Respondent's sole
25 owner, Jon Paul Letko, certified under penalty of perjury to the truthfulness of all statements,
26 answers, and representations in the application. The Board denied the application on August 25,
27 2017.

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JURISDICTION

3. This Statement of Issues is brought before the Board of Pharmacy (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

4. Section 480 of the Business and Professions Code ("Code") provides, in pertinent part:

(a) A board may deny a license regulated by this code on the grounds that the applicant has one of the following:

...

(3)(A) Done any act that if done by a licentiate of the business or profession in question, would be grounds for suspension or revocation of license.

(B) The board may deny a license pursuant to this subdivision only if the crime or act is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which application is made. . . .

5. Section 4081 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

(a) All records of manufacture and of sale, acquisition, receipt, shipment, or disposition of dangerous drugs or dangerous devices shall be at all times during business hours open to inspection by authorized officers of the law, and shall be preserved for at least three years from the date of making. A current inventory shall be kept by every manufacturer, wholesaler, third-party logistics provider, pharmacy, veterinary food-animal drug retailer, outsourcing facility, physician, dentist, podiatrist, veterinarian, laboratory, clinic, hospital, 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, third-party logistics provider, or veterinary food-animal drug retailer shall be jointly responsible, with the pharmacist-in-charge, responsible manager, or designated representative-in-charge, for maintaining the records and inventory described in this section. . . .

6. Section 4300 of the Code states, in pertinent part that the board may refuse a license to any applicant guilty of unprofessional conduct.

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

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.

...

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

8. Section 4332 of the Code states:

“Any person who fails, neglects, or refuses to maintain the records required by Section 4081 or who, when called upon by an authorized officer or a member of the board, fails, neglects, or refuses to produce or provide the records within a reasonable time, or who willfully produces or furnishes records that are false, is guilty of a misdemeanor.”

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

9. Health and Safety Code section 11164 states, in pertinent part:

Except as provided in Section 11167, no person shall prescribe a controlled substance, nor shall any person fill, compound, or dispense a prescription for a controlled substance, unless it complies with the requirements of this section.

(a) Each prescription for a controlled substance classified in Schedule II, III, IV, or V, except as authorized by subdivision (b), shall be made on a controlled substance prescription form as specified in Section 11162.1 and shall meet the following requirements:

(1) The prescription shall be signed and dated by the prescriber in ink and shall contain the prescriber’s address and telephone number; the name of the ultimate user or research subject, or contact information as determined by the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services; refill information, such as the number of refills ordered and whether the prescription is a first-time request or a refill; and the name, quantity, strength, and directions for use of the controlled substance prescribed.

(2) The prescription shall also contain the address of the person for whom the controlled substance is prescribed. If the prescriber does not specify this address on the prescription, the pharmacist filling the prescription or an employee acting under the direction of the pharmacist shall write or type the address on the

1 prescription or maintain this information in a readily retrievable form in the
2 pharmacy. . . .

3 REGULATORY PROVISIONS

4 10. Code of Federal Regulations, title 16, section 1701.1 states, in pertinent part:

5 (a) In order to assist manufacturers of prescription drugs in discharging
6 their responsibilities under the act concerning such drugs that are distributed to
7 pharmacies, the Consumer Product Safety Commission has codified this statement of
8 its policy concerning which prescription drug packages supplied by manufacturers to
9 pharmacies must comply with the "special" (child-resistant) packaging requirements
10 contained in 16 CFR 1700.15.

11 . . .

12 (c) Manufacturers should also note that section 4(a) of the act (which
13 allows a product to be marketed in noncomplying packaging of a single size under
14 certain circumstances) does not apply to prescription drugs subject to section 4(b) of
15 the act. Thus, since the section 4(a) single-size exemption for over-the-counter drugs
16 and other household substances does not apply to prescription drugs, every unit of a
17 prescription drug subject to a special packaging standard which is distributed to a
18 pharmacy in a package intended by the manufacturer to be dispensed to a consumer
19 shall be in special packaging. . . .

20 11. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1707.2 states:

21 (a) A pharmacist shall provide oral consultation to his or her patient or
22 the patient's agent in all care settings:

23 (1) upon request; or

24 (2) whenever the pharmacist deems it warranted in the exercise of his or
25 her professional judgment.

26 (b)

27 (1) In addition to the obligation to consult set forth in subsection (a), a
28 pharmacist shall provide oral consultation to his or her patient or the patient's agent in
any care setting in which the patient or agent is present:

(A) whenever the prescription drug has not previously been dispensed to
a patient; or

(B) whenever a prescription drug not previously dispensed to a patient in
the same dosage form, strength or with the same written directions, is dispensed by
the pharmacy.

(2) When the patient or agent is not present (including but not limited to
a prescription drug that was shipped by mail) a pharmacy shall ensure that the patient
receives written notice:

(A) of his or her right to request consultation; and

(B) a telephone number from which the patient may obtain oral
consultation from a pharmacist who has ready access to the patient's record.

1 (3) A pharmacist is not required by this subsection to provide oral
2 consultation to an inpatient of a health care facility licensed pursuant to section 1250
3 of the Health and Safety Code, or to an inmate of an adult correctional facility or a
4 juvenile detention facility, except upon the patient's discharge. A pharmacist is not
obligated to consult about discharge medications if a health facility licensed pursuant
to subdivision (a) or (b) of Health and Safety Code Section 1250 has implemented a
written policy about discharge medications which meets the requirements of Business
and Professions Code Section 4074.

5 (c) When oral consultation is provided, it shall include at least the
6 following:

7 (1) directions for use and storage and the importance of compliance with
8 directions; and

9 (2) precautions and relevant warnings, including common severe side or
adverse effects or interactions that may be encountered.

10 (d) Whenever a pharmacist deems it warranted in the exercise of his or
her professional judgment, oral consultation shall also include:

11 (1) the name and description of the medication;

12 (2) the route of administration, dosage form, dosage, and duration of
13 drug therapy;

14 (3) any special directions for use and storage;

15 (4) precautions for preparation and administration by the patient,
including techniques for self-monitoring drug therapy;

16 (5) prescription refill information;

17 (6) therapeutic contraindications, avoidance of common severe side or
18 adverse effects or known interactions, including serious potential interactions with
known nonprescription medications and therapeutic contraindications and the action
19 required if such side or adverse effects or interactions or therapeutic contraindications
are present or occur;

20 (7) action to be taken in the event of a missed dose.

21 (e) Notwithstanding the requirements set forth in subsection (a) and (b), a
22 pharmacist is not required to provide oral consultation when a patient or the patient's
agent refuses such consultation.

23 12. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1718 states:

24 "Current Inventory" as used in Sections 4081 and 4332 of the Business
and Professions Code shall be considered to include complete accountability for all
25 dangerous drugs handled by every licensee enumerated in Sections 4081 and 4332.

26 The controlled substances inventories required by Title 21, CFR, Section
1304 shall be available for inspection upon request for at least 3 years after the date of
27 the inventory.

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1 13. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1761(a) states:

2 “(a) No pharmacist shall compound or dispense any prescription which contains any
3 significant error, omission, irregularity, uncertainty, ambiguity or alteration. Upon receipt of any
4 such prescription, the pharmacist shall contact the prescriber to obtain the information needed to
5 validate the prescription. . . .”

6 14. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1770, states:

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

13 **DANGEROUS DRUGS AND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES**

14 15. Lidocaine is a combination medication used to treat irritation, soreness, and itchiness
15 from certain skin conditions (e.g., scrapes, minor burns, eczema, and insect bites). It is a
16 dangerous drug under Code section 4022.

17 16. Diclofenac is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug. It is a dangerous drug under
18 Code section 4022.

19 17. Omega-3 is a fish oil supplement that is issued by prescription. It is a dangerous drug
20 under Code section 4022.

21 18. Oxycodone is an opioid pain medication. It is a Schedule II controlled substance
22 under Code of Federal Regulations, title 21, section 1308.12(b)(1)(xiii).

23 19. Norco is a brand name for the combination prescription drug
24 acetaminophen/hydrocodone. It is used to treat moderate to severe pain. It is a Schedule II
25 controlled substance under Code of Federal Regulations, title 21, section 1308.12(b)(vi).

26 20. Ambien (zolpidem) is a sedative, also called a hypnotic. It is a Schedule IV
27 controlled substance under Code of Federal Regulations, title 21, section 1308.14(c)(54).

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1 21. Alprazolam is a benzodiazepine. It is used to treat anxiety disorders, panic disorders,
2 and anxiety caused by depression. It is a Schedule IV controlled substance under Code of Federal
3 Regulations, title 21, section 1308.14(c)(2).

4 **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

5 22. Jon Paul Letko is CEO/President of the following businesses:

- 6 a. Global Healthcare Management, LLC, located in Milford, NJ
7 b. Keystone Choice Pharmacy, LLC, located in Easton, PA
8 c. Loyalton Pharmacy, located in Loyalton, CA

9 23. On or about September 16, 2016, the Board issued Original Permit No. PHY 54562 to
10 Complete Pharmacy Services LLC, Sierra Nevada Pharmacy Holdings LLC, Melchor Wealth
11 Management, Inc., Letko Asset Management LLC, and Loyalton Holding LLC to do business as
12 Loyalton Pharmacy, with Jon Letko as president.

13 24. On or about June 1, 2017, the Board received an online complaint from S.E., a
14 physician assistant with LifeLong Medical Care (LifeLong) located in Berkeley, California.
15 According to the complaint, since late 2016, LifeLong staff received faxes and calls from various
16 clinics and call centers requesting approval for fraudulent prescriptions, usually Lidocaine
17 ointment. In every instance, the patient was a LifeLong patient and the prescribers had not
18 prescribed Lidocaine ointment. The faxes were from Loyalton Pharmacy, USA Health Initiatives,
19 Curexa, and Woods Pharmacy.

20 25. On or about June 26, 2017, Board Inspector P.P. spoke with physician assistant S.E.
21 S.E. stated that the callers said they were from Loyalton Pharmacy and requested prescriptions for
22 Lidocaine ointment, sometimes patches. A couple of the callers said they were from Global
23 Healthcare. LifeLong rarely prescribes Lidocaine.

24 26. On or about July 6, 2017, Board Inspector P.P. conducted an inspection of Loyalton
25 Pharmacy. As P.P. entered the pharmacy through the front door, a register was to the left. The
26 pharmacy was located in the back of this independent pharmacy.

27 27. Board Inspector P.P. entered Loyalton Pharmacy through a door marked
28 "consultation." To the right was an office. Up one step and to the left was the pharmacy. The

1 pharmacy itself was small and P.P. crossed it in about six steps. P.P. then arrived, by taking a
2 step down, to another office area where staff pharmacist G.S. was in front of two computer
3 screens and on the phone. P.P. walked through this office and to the back where two pharmacy
4 technicians, J.A. and C.L., were working at computers. When P.P. asked the pharmacy
5 technicians what they were doing, J.A. replied, "typing prescriptions received by e-mail from
6 Global."

7 28. Pharmacist-in-Charge E.P. informed Board Inspector P.P. that the back part of the
8 pharmacy was separate from the front because the prescriptions were brought into the pharmacy
9 by Global Healthcare. The stock in the back was kept separate and inventoried separately from
10 the front pharmacy. E.P. then stated that the prescriptions came from Keystone Choice Pharmacy
11 (Keystone). E.P. then made a call. After the call, E.P. stated that the prescriptions were not from
12 Global Healthcare but from Keystone.

13 29. Pharmacist-in-Charge E.P. said that Global Healthcare advertised diabetic supplies on
14 television and the internet. When asked how Loyalton Pharmacy received the prescriptions, E.P.
15 said Global Healthcare, then changed her answer to Loyalton Pharmacy, called the patients to
16 approve Lidocaine prescriptions. E.P. said she did not know whether the patients had Lidocaine
17 products prior to the calls, however she had no record of previous prescribing at Loyalton
18 Pharmacy.

19 30. During the inspection, Pharmacist-in-Charge E.P. repeatedly said Keystone made the
20 patient calls because Global Healthcare is not a pharmacy. E.P. said that Global Healthcare did
21 not have access to the patients' confidential information, only Keystone had such access.

22 31. During the inspection, pharmacy technician J.A. came into the front of the pharmacy
23 and Board Inspector P.P. asked him who sent the prescriptions for lidocaine to the pharmacy.
24 J.A. replied, "Global."

25 32. From the list provided by physician assistant S.E., Board Inspector P.P. provided
26 pharmacist G.S. with a list of patient profiles with Loyalton Pharmacy. G.S. wrote on the sheet
27 by the patient names indicating no drugs on file. However, each patient's prescriber was called to
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1 obtain either a prescription for Lidocaine or Omega-3. The reason many of the patients had no
2 prescriptions on file was the prescribers denied the prescriptions.

3 33. During the inspection, Board Inspector P.P. took screen shots of the patient profiles
4 that pharmacist G.S. looked up. The screen shots confirmed Loyaltan Pharmacy had physician
5 assistant S.E.'s patients in their system. The notes in the comments sections revealed multiple
6 phone calls made by Global Healthcare personnel to patients and their prescribers for Omega 3
7 and Lidocaine ointments. P.P. later verified with pharmacist G.S. and pharmacy technician J.A.
8 that Global Healthcare made calls to prescribers, not a pharmacy.

9 34. During the review of patient profiles, pharmacist G.S. said each of the patients would
10 have signed an agreement form to contact their prescribers. As G.S. went through the list of
11 patients, most of the patients had not signed any agreement for service or contact of their
12 prescriber.

13 35. Board Inspector P.P. then investigated whether Loyaltan Pharmacy maintained
14 allergy information and physical addresses for its patients. From the patient list P.P. was using
15 throughout her inspection, she discovered seven patients with no allergy information on file, and
16 eight patients with no physical address on file. For this group of patients, P.P. discovered that
17 Loyaltan Pharmacy had dispensed the following controlled substances: Oxycodone 10mg, Norco
18 10/325mg, Norco 5/325mg, Ambien 10mg, Oxycodone ER 10mg, and Alprazolam 1mg. P.P.
19 asked Pharmacist-in-Charge E.P. how she would know if these patients lived in the area, and E.P.
20 stated she would not know, she just assumed the patients lived in or around Loyaltan. When P.P.
21 showed E.P. one of the prescriptions Norco 10 for a patient whose doctor was in Grass Valley,
22 hours away from Loyaltan Pharmacy, E.P. admitted she had not verified the prescription with the
23 doctor.

24 36. Pharmacist-in-Charge E.P. said she had a contract with Keystone to solicit
25 prescriptions which would be filled in the back room of the pharmacy. E.P. said Keystone
26 handled all of the calls to the doctor offices. When Board Inspector P.P. provided E.P. with the
27 list she had obtained from physician assistant S.E., E.P. stated she was sure the callers identified
28 on the list were from Keystone. Pharmacist G.S. then stated that the callers on the list were from

1 Global Healthcare. P.P. then went to the back of the pharmacy and spoke with pharmacy
2 technician J.A. who said she was primarily in charge of obtaining the prescriptions from Global
3 Healthcare. J.A. said sometimes she would make the outside calls to physicians but mostly the
4 staff from Global Healthcare made those calls. J.A. said she had no communication with
5 Keystone.

6 37. Pharmacy Technician G.L. printed an e-mail from Global Healthcare to show their
7 normal mode of receipt of lidocaine prescriptions. G.L. said the only communication she had was
8 with Global Healthcare. For example, if they obtained a prescription e-mail, G.L. sent the
9 information to Global Healthcare for processing, not another pharmacy. G.L. said when a
10 Loyalton Pharmacy pharmacist received a verbal prescription from a doctor's office, G.L. always
11 sent the verbal approval to Global Healthcare for processing, not another pharmacy.

12 38. Pharmacist-in-Charge E.P. provided Board Inspector P.P. with a list of people who
13 worked at Keystone. None of the personnel identified on the list matched the names of the callers
14 identified on the list provided by physician assistant S.E. In addition, the list provided by E.P.
15 described the process for dispensing prescription-only medication as:

16 Keystone . . . will engage in the (1) intake process using the information
17 system of Loyalton Pharmacy LLC. The prescription will be received into the
18 Loyalton Pharmacy LLC's system by a pharmacy technician in Keystone Choice
19 pharmacy LLC. The Keystone . . . staff will engage in the (2) central processing
20 pharmacy functionality such as data entry, prospective drug review, refill
21 authorizations, interventions, patient counseling, claims submission, claims resolution
22 and adjudication. The labels will be created by Keystone . . . staff and mailed
23 overnight to Loyalton . . . staff. The label printing may also occur directly at
24 Loyalton . . . if ARX software is used. From this point, the medication will be
25 prepared, packaged and ultimately filled (3) and dispensed (4) out of Loyalton
26 Pharmacy LLC.

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1 39. Board Inspector P.P. conducted an audit of some of Loyaltan Pharmacy's dangerous
2 drugs which revealed the following:

Dangerous Drug	Beginning Inventory	Total Acquisitions	Ending Inventory	Total Disposition	Variance
3 Omega 3 4 1gm	19	96,169	0	75,870	20,299
5 Lidocaine 6 5% 7 Ointment	0	1,894,550	88,270	1,817,029	77,521
8 Lido/ 9 prolocaine 10 2.5%	0	327,600	510	301,650	25,950
11 Diclofenac 12 1.5 ml	0	64,800	11,250	61,800	3,000

13 40. After auditing Loyaltan Pharmacy's inventory, Board Inspector P.P. spoke with
14 Pharmacist-in-Charge E.P. regarding invoices for the dangerous drugs that P.P. audited. E.P. said
15 she did not have invoices because they were sent "back east" so they would pay the invoices.
16 E.P. acknowledged to P.P. that the invoices were to be kept in the pharmacy and stored for seven
17 years.

18 41. Loyaltan Pharmacy was unable to account for any of the variances (losses) identified
19 by Board Inspector P.P.'s audit for Omega 3, Lidocaine 5% ointment, Lido/prolocaine 2.5%, and
20 diclofenac.

21 42. On or about August 18, 2017, Pharmacist-in-Charge E.P. provided Board Inspector
22 P.P. with audio records of Patient H.G. regarding how this patient obtained Lidocaine from
23 Loyaltan Pharmacy. In the first recording, H.G. called into a website to order a knee and back
24 brace. In the second recording, H.G. spoke with a representative from Global Healthcare, where
25 H.G. again indicated an interest in knee and back braces. The Global Healthcare representative
26 solicited H.G. to obtain Lidocaine and diclofenac topicals for pain. H.G. told the Global
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1 Healthcare representative that she was taking Ibuprofen. The Global Healthcare representative
2 told H.G. there was no problem using Lidocaine and diclofenac with the medications H.G. was
3 on. The Global Healthcare representative told H.G. that Loylton Pharmacy would be giving
4 H.G. the prescriptions and gave H.G. Loylton Pharmacy's customer service number.

5 43. Diclofenac external and Ibuprofen oral are in the steroidal anti-inflammatory agents
6 class and may represent a therapeutic duplication. They have potentially severe life-threatening
7 reaction/interaction which may cause deterioration in the patient's clinical status. Administration
8 of diclofenac sodium external should be used with extreme caution in geriatric patients.

9 44. After receiving the audio recordings, Board Inspector P.P. spoke with Pharmacist-in-
10 Charge E.P. E.P. admitted that she never called and consulted with Patient H.G. on the use of
11 Lidocaine or diclofenac. E.P. admitted that no one from Loylton Pharmacy called H.G. to obtain
12 a medication history. E.P. admitted that she did not check H.G.'s medication history for drug
13 interactions or use in the elderly.

14 45. At the conclusion of her investigation, Board Inspector P.P. determined that Global
15 Healthcare used a call-in request for knee and back braces to obtain the callers' medical
16 information and to solicit prescriptions from the callers' prescribers. Loylton Pharmacy then
17 used the information Global Healthcare obtained to solicit prescriptions from the callers'
18 prescribers.

19 **Patient H.G.**

20 46. On or about February 21, 2017, Board Inspector P.P. received a complaint from
21 Patient H.G. H.G. alleged that she had received Lidocaine from Loylton Pharmacy without any
22 notification from her doctor that such a prescription was issued. The prescription was issued on
23 or about December 7, 2016.

24 47. During Board Inspector P.P.'s July 6, 2017 inspection of Loylton Pharmacy, she
25 conducted an investigation regarding Loylton Pharmacy's issuance of Lidocaine to Patient H.G.

26 48. While reviewing Patient H.G.'s profile with Pharmacist G.S., he said that each patient
27 would have signed an agreement form for Loylton Pharmacy to contact their prescribers.

28 However, G.S. was unable to provide a signed approval for Patient H.G.

1 49. Pharmacist-in-Charge E.P. stated that she could not find the prescription for
2 Lidocaine for Patient H.G. Loyalton Pharmacy never provided this prescription to Board
3 Inspector P.P., after being requested to do so.

4 **Patient P.G.**

5 50. On or about February 23, 2017, the Board received a complaint regarding Patient
6 P.G.'s receipt of prescription medications from Loyalton Pharmacy which P.G. contended were
7 not authorized by his doctor. P.G. lived in Claremont, CA, approximately 500 miles away from
8 Loyalton Pharmacy.

9 51. During Board Inspector P.P.'s July 6, 2017 inspection of Loyalton Pharmacy, she
10 conducted an investigation regarding Loyalton Pharmacy's issuance of prescription medication to
11 Patient P.G.

12 52. While reviewing Patient P.G.'s profile with Pharmacist G.S., it was determined that
13 on or about January 16, 2017, Loyalton Pharmacy issued Patient P.G. Lidocaine 5% ointment.
14 Pharmacist G.S. was unable to retrieve any prescription for P.G. Pharmacist G.S. said that each
15 patient would have signed an agreement form for Loyalton Pharmacy to contact their prescribers,
16 however he was unable to provide a signed approval for Patient P.G.

17 53. On or about August 18, 2017, Board Inspector P.P. spoke with Pharmacist-in-Charge
18 E.P. regarding the Lidocaine prescription that was issued to Patient P.G. Pharmacist-in-Charge
19 E.P. admitted that she did not consult with P.G. on the use of Lidocaine or diclofenac, that no one
20 from Loyalton Pharmacy called P.G. to obtain a medication history, and that E.P. did not check
21 P.G.'s medication history for drug interactions or use in the elderly.

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1 **FIRST CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION**

2 **(Commission of Act Substantially Related to the Qualifications, Functions, or Duties of the**
3 **Business)**

4 54. Respondent's application is subject to denial under section 480, subdivision (a)(3) of
5 the Code as follows:

6 55. Loyalton Pharmacy, for which Respondent's president, Jon Paul Letko, is president
7 and CEO, violated Code section 4301, subdivision (f), in that between September 16, 2016 and
8 July 6, 2017, Loyalton Pharmacy committed acts of unprofessional conduct as follows:

9 a. Loyalton Pharmacy could not account for the losses of Omega-3, Lidocaine 5%
10 ointment, diclofenac 1.5% solution, and Lidocaine/prilocaine 2.5% cream.

11 b. Loyalton Pharmacy's Pharmacist-in-Charge E.P. had no relationship with most of the
12 patients who received Omega-3, Lidocaine 5% ointment, Lidocaine/prilocaine 2.5% cream, and
13 diclofenac 1.5% solution. E.P. did not know how the prescriptions were obtained nor was she
14 aware that Loyalton Pharmacy obtained the prescriptions by solicitation of prescribers when
15 patients were not on the prescriptions previously.

16 c. Loyalton Pharmacy failed to keep, store, and provide invoices to show purchases of
17 Omega-3, Lidocaine 5% ointment, Lidocaine/prilocaine 2.5% cream, and diclofenac 1.5%
18 solution.

19 d. Loyalton Pharmacy failed to obtain addresses of patients who received Schedule II
20 through IV controlled substances, thereby increasing the risk of drug diversion.

21 e. The facts and circumstances are described with more particularity in paragraphs 28-
22 37 and 39-45, above.

23 56. Loyalton Pharmacy, for which Respondent's president, Jon Paul Letko, is president
24 and CEO, violated Code section 4301, subdivision (o), through its violation of Health and Safety
25 Code section 11164, subdivision (a)(2), in that Loyalton Pharmacy failed to obtain physical
26 addresses on prescriptions written for controlled substances. The facts and circumstances are
27 described with more particularity in paragraph 35, above.

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1 57. Loyalton Pharmacy, for which Respondent's president, Jon Paul Letko, is president
2 and CEO, violated Code section 4301, subdivision (o), through its violation of Code of Federal
3 Regulations, title 16, section 1701.1, subdivision (a), in that between September 16, 2016 and
4 July 6, 2017, Loyalton Pharmacy failed to obtain allergy information for up to fifty percent of its
5 patients prior to dispensing dangerous drugs, which could result in serious adverse reactions to
6 patients. The facts and circumstances are described with more particularity in paragraph 35,
7 above.

8 58. Loyalton Pharmacy, for which Respondent's president, Jon Paul Letko, is president
9 and CEO, violated Code section 4301, subdivision (o), through its violation of California Code of
10 Regulations, title 16, section 1707.2, in that Loyalton Pharmacy entered into an agreement with
11 Keystone Choice Pharmacy, located in Easton, PA, to conduct drug review, interventions, and
12 patient counseling for prescriptions obtained for Loyalton Pharmacy. The facts and
13 circumstances are described with more particularity in paragraph 38, above.

14 59. Loyalton Pharmacy, for which Respondent's president, Jon Paul Letko, is president
15 and CEO, violated Code section 4081, subdivisions (a) and (b), by and through California Code
16 of Regulations, title 16, section 1718, in that between September 16, 2016 and July 6, 2017,
17 Loyalton Pharmacy failed to maintain invoices for dangerous drugs. The facts and circumstances
18 are described with more particularity in paragraphs 39-41, above.

19 60. Loyalton Pharmacy, for which Respondent's president, Jon Paul Letko, is president
20 and CEO, violated Code section 4081, subdivisions (a) and (b), by and through Code section
21 4332 and California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1718, in that between September 16,
22 2016 and July 6, 2017, Loyalton Pharmacy failed to have complete accountability for all
23 dangerous drugs. The facts and circumstances are described with more particularity in
24 paragraphs 39-41, above.

25 61. Loyalton Pharmacy, for which Respondent's president, Jon Paul Letko, is president
26 and CEO, violated Code section 4301, subdivision (o), through its violation of California Code of
27 Regulations, title 16, section 1761, subdivision (a), in that on or about December 7, 2017,
28 Loyalton Pharmacy dispensed a prescription for Lidocaine 5% ointment without first verifying

1 the legitimacy of the prescription, which was sent to Loyalton Pharmacy from Global Healthcare.
2 The facts and circumstances are described with more particularity in paragraphs 42-44 and 46-49.

3 62. Loyalton Pharmacy, for which Respondent's president, Jon Paul Letko, is president
4 and sole owner, violated Code section 4301, subdivision (o), through its violation of California
5 Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1761, subdivision (a), in that on or about January 16, 2017,
6 Loyalton Pharmacy dispensed a prescription for Lidocaine 5% ointment without first verifying
7 the legitimacy of the prescription, which was sent to Loyalton Pharmacy from Global Healthcare.
8 The facts and circumstances are described with more particularity in paragraphs 50-53, above.

9 **SECOND CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION**

10 **(Unprofessional Conduct)**

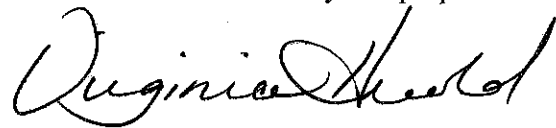
11 63. Respondent's application is subject to denial under section 4300 of the Code in that
12 Respondent's sole owner and president, Jon Paul Letko, committed unprofessional conduct. The
13 facts and circumstances are described with more particularity in paragraphs 55-58 and 61-21, and
14 all of their subparts, above.

15 **PRAYER**

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

- 18 1. Denying the application of Manifest Pharmacy, LLC for a Nonresident Pharmacy
19 Permit;
20 2. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

21
22 DATED: 1/16/18



23 VIRGINIA HEROLD
24 Executive Officer
25 Board of Pharmacy
26 Department of Consumer Affairs
27 State of California
28 *Complainant*

SA2017109098