BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 3591

MARK ELDON CESSNA

2116 Winthrop Drive Alhambra, CA 91803

Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 57069

Respondent.

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby adopted by the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This decision shall become effective on August 19, 2011. It is so ORDERED July 20, 2011.

BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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By

STANLEY C. WEISSER Board President

1	Kamala D. Harris	
2	Attorney General of California MARC D. GREENBAUM	
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General SHAWN P. COOK	
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 117851	
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6	Telephone: (213) 897-9954 Facsimile: (213) 897-2804 Attorneys for Complainant	
7	Aliorneys for Complainani	
8	BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY	
9	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
10	DIAID OF CAMPORIAN	
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 3591	
12	MARK ELDON CESSNA 2116 Winthrop Drive	
13	Alhambra, CA 91803 Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH LICENSE AND ORDER	
14	57069	
15	Respondent.	
16		
17	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties in this	
18	proceeding that the following matters are true:	
19	<u>PARTIES</u>	
20	1. Virginia Herold (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy.	
21	She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this matter by Kamal	
22	D. Harris, Attorney General of the State of California, by Shawn P. Cook, Deputy Attorney	
23	General.	
24	2. Mark Eldon Cessna (Respondent) is representing himself in this proceeding and has	
25	chosen not to exercise his right to be represented by counsel.	
26	3. On or about June 25, 2004, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacy Technician	
27	Registration No. TCH 57069 to Mark Eldon Cessna (Respondent). The Pharmacy Technician	
28		
	'	

Registration was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation. No. 3591 and will expire on June 30, 2012, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

4. Accusation No. 3591 was filed before the Board of Pharmacy (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on March 22, 2011.

Respondent filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 3591 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- Respondent has carefully read, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 3591. Respondent also has carefully read, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order.
- 6. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel, at his own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

- 8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 3591, agrees that cause exists for discipline and hereby surrenders his Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 57069 for the Board's formal acceptance.
- 9. Respondent understands that by signing this stipulation he enables the Board to issue an order accepting the surrender of his Pharmacy Technician Registration without further process.

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CONTINGENCY

- 10. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board of Pharmacy. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board of Pharmacy may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and surrender, without notice to or participation by Respondent. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Surrender and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 11. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 12. This Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is intended by the parties to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of their agreement. It supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations, and commitments (written or oral). This Stipulated Surrender of License and Order may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties.
- 13. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Order:

ORDER OF SURRENDER

Respondent surrenders Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 57069 as of the effective date of this decision. Respondent shall relinquish his pharmacy technician license to the board within ten (10) days of the effective date of this decision.

1. The surrender of respondent's license and the acceptance of the surrendered license by the board shall constitute the imposition of discipline against respondent. This decision

constitutes a record of discipline and shall become a part of respondent's license history with the board.

- 2. Respondent understands and agrees that if he ever files an application for licensure or a petition for reinstatement in the State of California, the board shall treat it as a new application for licensure.
- 3. Respondent may not apply for any license, permit, or registration from the board for three (3) years from the effective date of this decision. Respondent stipulates that should he apply for any license from the board on or after the effective date of this decision, all allegations set forth in the accusation shall be deemed to be true, correct and admitted by respondent when the board determines whether to grant or deny the application. Respondent shall satisfy all requirements applicable to that license as of the date the application is submitted to the board, including, but not limited to certification by a nationally recognized body prior to the issuance of a new license. Respondent is required to report this surrender as disciplinary action.
- 4. Respondent stipulates that should he or she apply for any license from the board on or after the effective date of this decision, investigation and prosecution costs in the amount of \$5,153 shall be paid to the board prior to issuance of the license.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Pharmacy Technician Registration. I enter into this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Pharmacy.

DATED: <u>5/11/11</u>

MARK ELDON CESSNA

Respondent

ENDORSEMENT The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy of the Department of Consumer Affairs. Dated: May 3, 2011 Respectfully submitted, KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California MARC D. GREENBAUM Supervising Deputy Attorney General SHAWN P. COOK Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant LA2010500693 Stipulation.rtf

- 11		•
1	KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California	
2	MARC D. GREENBAUM Supervising Deputy Attorney General	
3	SHAWN P. COOK	
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 117851 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702	
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6	Facsimile: (213) 897-2804 Attorneys for Complainant	
7		
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9	DEPARTMENT OF CON	SUMER AFFAIRS
10	STATE OF CAL	IFORNIA
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Ca	se No. 3591
12	MARK ELDON CESSNA	
-13		CCUSATION
14	Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 57069	
15	Respondent.	
16		
17	Complainant alleges:	
18	PARTI	ES
19	1. Virginia Herold (Complainant) brings th	is Accusation solely in her official capacity
20	as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy,	Department of Consumer Affairs.
21	2. On or about June 25, 2004, the Board of	Pharmacy issued Pharmacy Technician
22	Registration Number TCH 57069 to Mark Eldon Cessna (Respondent). The Pharmacy	
23	Technician Registration was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought	
24	herein and will expire on June 30, 2012, unless renewed.	
25	JURISDICTION	
26	3. This Accusation is brought before the B	oard, Department of Consumer Affairs,
27_	under the authority of the following laws.—All-section	on-references-are-to-the-Business-and
28	Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise indicated.	
	1.	·

Accusation

- 4. Section 22 of the Code states:
- "(a) 'Board' as used in any provisions of this Code, refers to the board in which the administration of the provision is vested, and unless otherwise expressly provided, shall include 'bureau,' 'commission,' 'committee,' 'department,' 'division,' 'examining committee,' 'program,' and 'agency.'
- "(b) Whenever the regulatory program of a board that is subject to review by the Joint Committee on Boards, Commissions, and Consumer Protection, as provided for in Division 1.2 (commencing with Section 473), is taken over by the department, that program shall be designated as a 'bureau.'"
- 5. Section 150 of the Code states: "The department is under the control of a civil executive officer who is known as the Director of Consumer Affairs."
 - 6. Section 477 of the Code states:

As used in this division:

- "(a) 'Board' includes 'bureau,' 'commission,' 'committee,' 'department,' 'division,' 'examining committee,' 'program,' and 'agency.'
- "(b) 'License' includes certificate, registration or other means to engage in a business or profession regulated by this code."
- 7. Section 118, subdivision (b), of the Code provides that the suspension/ expiration/ surrender/cancellation of a license shall not deprive the Board/Registrar/Director of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued or reinstated.
- 8. Section 4011 of the Code provides that the Board shall administer and enforce both the Pharmacy Law [Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4000 et seq.] and the Uniform Controlled Substances Act [Health & Safety Code, § 11000 et seq.].
 - 9. Section 4038 of the Code states:
- "(a) 'Pharmacy technician' means an individual who assists a pharmacist in a pharmacy in the performance of his or her pharmacy related duties, as specified in Section 41.15."
 - 10. Section 4060 of the Code provides in pertinent part:

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

- 11. Section 4104, subd. (a) provides: "Every pharmacy shall have in place procedures for taking action to protect the public when a licensed individual employed by or with the pharmacy is discovered or known to be chemically, mentally, or physically impaired to the extent it affects his or her ability to practice the profession or occupation authorized by his or her license, or is discovered or known to have engaged in the theft, diversion, or self-use of dangerous drugs."
- 12. Section 4300(a) of the Code provides that every license issued by the Board may be suspended or revoked.
- 13. Section 4301 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board shall take action against any holder of a license that is guilty of "unprofessional conduct," defined to include, but not be 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.
- "(h) The administering to oneself, of any controlled substance, or the use of any dangerous drug or of alcoholic beverages to the extent or in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to oneself, to a person holding a license under this chapter, or to any other person or to the public, or to the extent that the use impairs the ability of the person to conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by the license.
- (i) Except as otherwise authorized by law, knowingly selling, furnishing, giving away, or administering, or offering to sell, furnish, give away, or administer, any controlled substance to an addict.
- (j) The violation of any of the statutes of this state, of any other state, or of the United States regulating controlled substances and dangerous drugs.

- "(o) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of or conspiring to violate any provision or term of this chapter or of the applicable federal and state laws and regulations governing pharmacy, including regulations established by the board or by any other state or federal regulatory agency.
 - (p) Actions or conduct that would have warranted denial of a license."
- 14. Section 4324 of the Code states: "Any person who, while on duty, sells, dispenses or compounds any drug while under the influence of any dangerous drug or alcoholic beverages shall be guilty of a misdemeanor."
 - 15. Health and Safety Code section 11550 (a) states in pertinent part:
- "(a) No person shall use, or be under the influence of any controlled substance which is (1) specified in subdivision (b), (c), or (e), or paragraph (1) of subdivision (f) of Section 11054, specified in paragraph (14), (15), (21), (22), or (23) of subdivision (d) of Section 11054, specified in subdivision (b) or (c) of Section 11055, or specified in paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (d) or in paragraph (3) of subdivision (e) of Section 11055, or (2) a narcotic drug classified in Schedule III, IV, or V, except when administered by or under the direction of a person licensed by the state to dispense, prescribe, or administer controlled substances. . . ."
 - 16. Health and Safety Code section 11170, states:
 - "No person shall prescribe, administer, or furnish a controlled substance for himself."
- 17. Health and Safety Code section 11173(a) provides that no person shall obtain or attempt to obtain controlled substances, or procure or attempt to procure the administration of or prescription for controlled substances, (1) by fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or subterfuge; or (2) by the concealment of a material fact.

COST RECOVERY

18. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed its reasonable costs of investigation and enforcement.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES / DANGEROUS DRUGS

19. Section 4021 of the Code states:

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

- 20. Section 4022 of the Code states, in pertinent part:
- "Dangerous drug' or 'dangerous device' means any drug or device unsafe for self-use, except veterinary drugs that are labeled as such, and includes the following:
- "(a) Any drug that bears the legend: 'Caution: federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription,' 'Rx only,' or words of similar import.
- "(c) Any other drug or device that by federal or state law can be lawfully dispensed only on prescription or furnished pursuant to Section 4006."
- 21. "Hydrocodone" with Acetaminophen is a Schedule III narcotic controlled substance as defined by Health and Safety Code section 11056 and is categorized as a "dangerous drug" pursuant to section 4022 of the Code.
- 22. Soma is a trade name for Carisoprodol, a muscle relaxant with dependence and side effect issues, and is categorized as a "dangerous drug" pursuant to section 4022 of the Code.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct based on Theft of a Controlled Substance)

- 23. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under sections 4300, 4301, subdivisions (f), (j), and (o), in conjunction with Health and Safety Code section 11173, subd. (a) in that between May 1, 2006 and June 21, 2007, Respondent unlawfully appropriated approximately 4,454 tablets of Hydrocodone with Acetaminophen (HA) from his employer, Costco Pharmacy #428 (Costco). The circumstances are as follows:
- 24. Respondent was employed as a pharmacy technician at Costco from July 27, 2005 through June 28, 2007. In or about April, 2007, Costco manager and Pharmacist in charge, (PIC) J.L. began monitoring controlled substances, specifically the inventory of HA, following reports from two technicians, T.C. and V.P. that they witnessed Respondent place a bottle of HA 10/325 mg in a tray for an order that did not contain HA 10/325 mg. PIC J.L. found the following drug shortages:

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<u>Dates</u>	<u>Drug</u>	Quantity	
1/21/07-4/8/07	HA 10/325 mg	559	
5/15/07-5/29/07	HA 10/325 mg	, 50	
5/10/07-6/04/07	HA 10/650 mg	85	
6/04/07-6/09/07	HA 7.5/650 mg	19	
6//04/07-6/09/07	HA 10/660 mg	39	
6/19/07-6/19/07	HA 10/325 mg	81	
6/21/07-6/21/07	HA 10/500 mg	10	

- 25. On June 16, 2007, video surveillance was installed and on June 19, 2007, PIC J.L. found two empty stock bottles of HA 10/325 mg in the trash. J.L. and another employee reviewed footage for June 19, 2007 and saw Respondent's suspicious behavior that corresponded with the two empty bottles of HA found in the trash.
- 26. On June 21, 2007, another pharmacy technician, L.B., told J.L. that she had observed Respondent discard an empty bottle of combination HA 10/500 mg. in the trash. J.L. had observed there were ten (10) tablets of HA 10/500 mg. in the stock bottle that morning and when he retrieved it from the trash, saw that it was empty. Video monitoring confirmed that Respondent had taken the ten (10) tablets without authorization.
- 27. On June 21, 2007, Costco Loss Prevention manager S.B. and Assistant Warehouse Manager C.V. interviewed Respondent at the warehouse office in the presence of PIC J.L. Respondent admitted to taking HA from the pharmacy. Respondent admitted that he had begun pilfering the HA the previous year and that it was for his personal use. Respondent took J.L. to his car, where ten (10) tablets of HA 10/500mg, that had been taken earlier that day without authorization from Costco were recovered.
- 28. ,The following drugs were contained in an "over- the- counter" container of Loratadine 10 mg. that was recovered from Respondent's car:

Drug	Quantity
-Garisoprodol	46

	HA 10/660 mg	11
2		11
11	HA 10/325 mg	3 .
3	29. Subsequently, Respondent took both	J.L. and S.B. to his apartment where they
4 r	retrieved additional tablets of HA. The following	g drugs were contained in an "over-the-counter"
5	container of Ibuprofen 200 mg. that was recovere	d from Respondent's apartment:
6	<u>Drug</u>	Quantity
7	Carisoprodol	46
8]	HA 10/660 mg	11
9]	HA 10/325 mg	3
10]	HA 10/325 mg	31
11	HA 10/500 mg	8
12	30. Respondent voluntarily signed a state	ement admitting to the theft of the HA.
13]	Respondent was placed on suspension pending further review and was terminated from	
14 ,	employment at Costco on June 28, 2007.	
15	31. Respondent admitted to Board invest	igator Dolly Harris that he had begun taking the
16	drugs from Costco in July, 2006 because of "job	stress". Respondent admitted to diverting HA
17	and Soma from Costco. Respondent stated he w	ould only ingest a couple of tablets while
18	working to avoid withdrawal symptoms and that	he secreted tablets in his pockets to take home
19	where he then ingested ten to fifteen (10-15) table	ets.
20	32. Respondent admitted that he had nev	ver been prescribed HA and that he was addicted
21	to the drug.	
22	33. An audit conducted at Costco for the period of May 1, 2007 through July 28, 2007	
23	revealed the following shortages of HA tablets:	
24	Drug	Shortage
25	HA 7.5 mg/500 mg	700
26	HA 7.5 mg/750 mg	539 .
114	-H-A-10mg/325-mg	-2,213
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Accusation

1	HA 10mg/500 mg	270
2	HA 10mg/650 mg	160
3	HA 10mg/660 mg	56
4	HA 5mg/500 mg	501
5	HA 7.5mg/325 mg	15
6	Total HA tablets missing	4,454
7	SECOND CAUSE	FOR DISCIPLINE
8	(Unprofessional Conduct ba	sed on Self Administration of
9	a Controlled Substance	ce or Dangerous Drug)
10	34. Respondent is subject to disciplinary	action under sections 4300, 4301, subdivisions
11	(h) and (j), in conjunction with Health and Safet	y Code sections 11550, subd. (a) and 11170 in
12	that between May 1, 2006 and June 21, 2007, Re	spondent unlawfully self-administered
13	approximately 4,454 tablets of Hydrocodone wit	h Acetaminophen (HA) and unknown quantities
14	of Soma. The circumstances are as alleged in th	e preceding paragraphs 24 through 33, which are
15	incorporated herein by reference as though fully	set forth.
16	THIRD CAUSE I	FOR DISCIPLINE
17	(Unprofessional Conduct Based on Furnishir	ng a Controlled Substance or Dangerous Drug)
18	35. Respondent is subject to disciplinary	action under sections 4300, 4301, subdivisions
19	(i) and (j), in conjunction with Health and Safet	y Code sections 11170 and 11173, subd. (a), in

isions that between May 1, 2006 and June 21, 2007, Respondent unlawfully furnished himself with approximately 4,454 tablets of Hydrocodone with Acetaminophen (HA) and an unknown quantity of Soma. The circumstances are as alleged in the preceding paragraphs 24 through 33, which are incorporated herein by reference as though fully set forth.

FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct Based on Possession of a Controlled Substance or Dangerous Drug)

36. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under sections 4300, 4060, and 4301, subdivision-(j),-in-that-between-May-1,-2006-and-June-21,-2007,-Respondent-unlawfully

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possessed approximately 4,454 tablets of Hydrocodone with Acetaminophen (HA) and an unknown quantity of Soma. The circumstances are as alleged in the preceding paragraphs 24 through 33, which are incorporated herein by reference as though fully set forth.

FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct Based on Dispensing a Controlled Substance
While Under the Influence)

37. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under sections 4300, 4301, subdivisions (h) and (j), in conjunction with Health and Safety Code sections 11550, subd. (a) and Code section 4324, in that between May 1, 2006 and June 21, 2007, Respondent unlawfully dispensed controlled substances while under the influence of Hydrocodone with Acetaminophen (HA) and/or Soma. The circumstances are as alleged in the preceding paragraphs 24 through 33, which are incorporated herein by reference as though fully set forth.

SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct Based on Conduct That Would Have Warranted Denial of a License)

38. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under sections 4300, and 4301, subdivision (p), in that his conduct between May 1, 2006 and June 21, 2007, wherein he unlawfully possessed, furnished, and administered the controlled substance Hydrocodone with Acetaminophen (HA) and/or dangerous drug Soma to himself constitutes conduct that would have warranted denial of a pharmacy technician license. The circumstances are as alleged in the preceding paragraphs 24 through 33, which are incorporated herein by reference as though fully set forth.

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 Pharmacy Technician Registration Number TCH 57069, issued to Mark Eldon Cessna;

1	2. Ordering Mark Eldon Cessna to pay the Board of Pharmacy the reasonable costs of		
2	the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section		
3	125.3;		
4	3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.		
5			
6	DATED: 223/11 Luginia Sked of		
7	VIRGINIA HEROLD Executive Officer		
8	Board of Pharmacy Department of Consumer Affairs		
9	State of California Complainant		
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