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

In the Matter of the First Amended Petition to Revoke Probation Against:

Case No. 3985

OAH No. 2012020057

FALAH H. KHALIFA

1133 Celis Street San Fernando, CA 91340

Pharmacist License No. RPH 31694

Respondent.

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Proposed Decision of the Administrative Law Judge is hereby adopted by the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This decision shall become effective on April 5, 2013.

It is so ORDERED on March 6, 2013.

BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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By

STANLEY C. WEISSER Board President

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Case No. 3985

FALAH H. KHALIFA

OAH No. 2012020057

Pharmacist License No. RPH 31694

Respondent

PROPOSED DECISION

This matter was heard by Glynda B. Gomez, Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) with the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH), on July 3, 2012¹ and October 2, 2012, in Los Angeles, California. Complainant was represented by Kevin J. Rigley, Deputy Attorney General. Respondent Falah H. Khalifa (Respondent) was present and represented by Ronald Marks, attorney at law.

Oral and documentary evidence was received. The record was closed, and the matter was submitted for decision on October 2, 2012.

FACTUAL FINDINGS

- 1. On November 9, 2011, Complainant Virginia K. Herold (Complainant) filed a Petition to Revoke Probation while acting in her official capacity as Executive Officer of the California State Board of Pharmacy (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs. On August 2, 2012, Complainant filed the First Amended Petition to Revoke Probation also while acting in her official capacity as Execution Officer of the Board.
 - 2. Respondent filed a Notice of Defense and Request for Hearing.

¹ On July 3, 2012, after direct examination of Inspector Joan Coyne, Complainant requested leave to amend the Petition to Revoke Probation and a continuance of the hearing. Complainant's motions were granted for good cause and without objection from Respondent.

- 3. Respondent was timely served with all Notices of Hearing and jurisdictional documents as required by Government Code sections 11505 and 11509.
- 4. On December 19, 1977, the Board issued Pharmacist License No. RPH 31694 to Respondent. The Pharmacist License is in effect and will expire on April 30, 2014.
- 5. Effective February 26, 2003, in Case No. 2288, entitled *In the Matter of the Accusation against Falah H. Khalifa dba Califa Pharmacy and Falah H. Khalifa* (Probation Order), the Board adopted a Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order which revoked Respondent's Pharmacy Permit and Pharmacist License. However, the revocation was stayed as to Respondent's Pharmacist license and the license was suspended for 120 days and placed on probation for three years under terms and conditions which included the following:

$[\P] \dots [\P]$

[Condition] 14. **Tolling of Probation**. Respondent must notify the Board in writing within 10 days of cessation of the practice of pharmacy or the resumption of the practice of pharmacy. Such periods of times shall not apply to the reduction of the probation period. It is a violation of probation for Respondent's probation to remain tolled pursuant to the provisions of this condition for a period exceeding three years.

Cessation of practice means any period of time exceeding 30 days in which Respondent is not engaged in the practice of pharmacy as defined in Section 4052 of he Business and Professions Code.

During Respondent's final year of probation, Respondent shall work at least 20 hours in each calendar month as a pharmacist and at least an average of 40 hours per month in any six consecutive months. Failure to do so will be a violation of probation. If Respondent has not complied with this condition during the probationary term, and Respondent has presented sufficient documentation of his or her good faith efforts to comply with this condition, and if no other conditions have been violated, the board, in its discretion, may grant an extension of Respondent's probation period up to one year without further hearing in order to comply with this condition.

[Condition] 17. **Supervised Practice**. Respondent KHALIFA shall practice only under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist not on probation with the board. Upon and after the effective date of this decision, Respondent KHALIFA shall not practice pharmacy and his license shall be automatically suspended until a supervisor is approved by the Board. The supervision shall be, as required by the Board: Substantial-Atleast 50% of a work week

Within thirty (30) days of the effective Date of this decision, Respondent KHALIFA shall have his supervisor submit notification to the Board in writing stating the direct supervisor and pharmacists-incharge have read the decision in case number 2288 and is familiar with the level of supervision as determined by the Board.

Within ten (10) days of leaving employment, Respondent KHALIFA shall notify the Board in writing. Respondent KHALIFA'S level of supervision shall be reevaluated by the Board after the completion of one year of probation to determine whether or not a lower level of supervision is appropriate.

(Exhibits 1 and 7.)

- 6. In 2003, Respondent met with Board Supervising Inspector/ Probation Monitor Joan Coyne (Coyne) and reviewed all the terms and conditions of his probation. The purpose of placing Respondent on probation and having him work in a supervised location is to allow the Board the opportunity to observe him working as a pharmacist and to ensure that he can safely practice without presenting a danger to the public.
- 7. From 2003 to 2007, Respondent completed all of his probation conditions except conditions 14 and 17 which together required that he obtain Board approval of a supervisor and work as a pharmacist under a specified supervision level for an average of 40 hours per month over a six month period of time during his last year of probation. Despite Respondent's good faith efforts to obtain the required employment and supervision, he was not able to find an appropriate position to complete his probation terms.
- 8. In 2007, Coyne held an office conference with Respondent to discuss his noncompliance with conditions 14 and 17 of his probation. Respondent advised Coyne of his attempts to obtain employment as a pharmacist which included attending local pharmacy association meetings to solicit employment, visiting individual pharmacies to apply for work and soliciting volunteer opportunities.
- 9. In July of 2009, enforcement analyst Tina Thomas (Thomas) became Respondent's probation monitor. She was transferred to the probation monitor position from an administrative position with the Board and is based in the Board's Sacramento Office. When Thomas first started the position as probation monitor, she was somewhat overwhelmed with the volume of cases and paperwork. Thomas reviewed the monthly reports that Respondent filed from August of 2009 forward, but due to the press of business and backlog, she did not review his entire file or ascertain the status of his compliance with probation until July of 2010. At that time, she noticed that Respondent had been on

probation since 2003 and had not obtained pharmacy employment. After reviewing Respondent's file, Thomas contacted the Board's enforcement manager and assistant executive officer to discuss revoking Respondent's probation.

- 10. As a result of Thomas' meeting with the enforcement manager and assistant executive officer, Coyne who is based in Southern California, was dispatched to hold an office conference with Respondent about his non-compliance with probation terms 14 and 17 in August of 2010. Coyne met with Respondent with Respondent some time in August of 2010 at which time he advised her that he had not yet obtained employment as a pharmacist, but had some prospects for employment. Coyne reported the results of the office conference and status of Respondent's employment search to Thomas.
- 11. After further consultation with the enforcement manager, on December 20, 2010, Thomas sent documentation and a request for preparation and filing of petition to revoke Respondent's probation to the Attorney General's Office. From Thomas' perspective, her handling of Respondent's probation was finished at that time.
- 12. In accordance with her understanding of the Board's policy, Thomas did not inform Respondent that she had requested that a petition to revoke his probation be filed or that she was no longer monitoring his probation. For all Respondent knew, his case continued to be monitored by Thomas. Respondent continued to file quarterly reports with Thomas as he always had. He did not know that Thomas was no longer reviewing his monthly reports.
- 13. Respondent contacted Thomas in March of 2011 and advised her that he was seeking a position with Jay Scott Drugs and others. On September 14 and 19, 2011, Respondent advised Thomas in a telephone conversation, that he had found a volunteer pharmacist position and asked her if he could take the position. He did not specifically state that the position was with Jay Scott Drugs and Thomas did not inquire where Respondent proposed to work. Thomas advised Respondent that his license was valid and that there was nothing to stop him from working as a pharmacist. Thomas did not discuss the board's supervision requirements with Respondent or requirements that the Board approve his employer. From her perspective, she had completed her work on Respondent's case on December 20, 2010 when she forwarded the request for preparation of a petition to revoke Respondent's probation.
- 14. Respondent began working as a volunteer pharmacist for Jay Scott Drugs, under pharmacist in charge and owner Albert Daher on October 21, 2011. On November 16, 2011, Thomas received a verification of employment dated November 1, 2011 signed by Albert Dahr verifying that he was Respondent's immediate supervisor as well as the pharmacist in charge and owner of Jay Scott Drugs. The verification of employment indicated that Respondent was hired on October 21, 2011 to work a full time 9 hour shift of 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. On Respondent's fourth quarter report dated December 24, 2011, he stated

that he was working full time from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays filing prescriptions and consulting patients. He also noted that for the next quarter he would be working part time from 9:00 a.m.to 1 p.m. every other day.

- 15. On November 9, 2011, Complainant signed the original Petition to Revoke Probation which was later served on Respondent by certified mail on November 18, 2011.
- 16. Respondent submitted a letter dated June 6, 2012 from pharmacist Albert Daher indicating that Respondent worked at Jay Scott Drugs for 70 hours in October of 2011, 202.5 hours in November of 2011, 74 hours in December of 2012, 28 hours in January of 2012, 27.5 hours in February of 2012, 21.5 hours in March of 2012, 22 hours in April of 2011, 21 hours in May of 2012 and 22 hours in June as of June 6, 2012. Respondent credibly testified at the administrative hearing that he worked the hours set forth in the letter. He explained that he had worked 202.5 hours in November of 2011 because he mistakenly thought that he was required to work a total of 240 hours and did not understand that he had to work a minimum number of 20 hours per month totaling 240 hours over a course of the year. After realizing that he was required to work a minimum number of hours each month, he adjusted his schedule to a part-time basis.
- 17. As of the first day of hearing on July 3, 2012, Coyne was not aware of Respondent's telephone conversations with Thomas. Coyne opined that such employment should have been a problem, because an accusation was filed on August 4, 2010 and was pending before the Board against Jay Scott Drugs and Pharmacist in Charge Albert Dahr in Case Number 3482.
- 18. During the break between the first day of hearing on July 3, 2012 and the second day on October 2, 2012, Coyne visited Jay Scott Drugs with the purpose of verifying Respondent's employment and supervision level. Coyne determined that although Respondent was not on the premises the day she visited Jay Scott Drugs, he had been working there under very informal supervision.
- 19. Complainant did not submit any evidence establishing that the Board had incurred costs for the prosecution of this matter.

LEGAL CONCLUSIONS

- 1. Business and Professions Code (Code) section 4011 provides that the Board shall administer the Pharmacy Law and the Uniform Controlled Substances Act.
- 2. Code section 4300 provides that the Board may revoke a licensee's probation, if he violates a probation order.

- 3. Cause exists to revoke Respondent's probation and impose the stayed order of revocation, in that Respondent failed to timely comply with Probation Condition Number 14 (Secure and Maintain Employment as Pharmacist), as set forth in Factual Findings 1 through 18.
- 4. Cause exists to revoke Respondent's probation and impose the stayed order of revocation, in that Respondent failed to comply with Probation Condition Number 17 (Supervised Practice), as set forth in Factual Findings 1 through 18 when he failed to obtain Board approval of his supervisor before commencing work with Jay Scott Drugs.
- 5. Although cause exists to revoke respondent's probation for violation of conditions 14 and 17 of the terms and conditions of his probation and institute the stayed order of revocation, it is not appropriate in this instance. Respondent has been on probation for an extraordinary amount of time and has been given several chances to comply with his probation order yet failed to comply with conditions 14 and 17. However, it is significant that Respondent obtained employment, notified the probation monitor of the employment and worked many more hours than he was required to under the terms of his probation. The purpose of placing Respondent on probation and having him work in a supervised location is to allow the Board the opportunity to observe him working as a pharmacist and to ensure that he can safely practice without presenting a danger to the public. Respondent's probation monitor was aware of the employment before the Petition to Revoke Probation was filed and could have easily made arrangements for an inspector to visit Jay Scott Drugs and observe Respondent's employment or she could have advised him that his efforts would be futile and the employer he had chosen was unacceptable. She did neither. Under these circumstances, revocation of Respondent's pharmacist license would be unfair and unduly punitive. For the reasons set forth above, Respondent deserves another opportunity to comply with the probation terms and demonstrate that his continued pharmacy practice does not present a danger to the public.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, THE FOLLOWING ORDERS are hereby made:

Pharmacist License, Number RPH 31694, issued to Falah H. Khalifa, is hereby revoked. However, the revocation of Pharmacist License Number RPH 32694 is stayed and Respondent Falah H. Khalifa is placed on probation for one (1) year on the following terms and conditions:

1. Obey All Laws

Respondent shall obey all state and federal laws and regulations.

Respondent shall report any of the following occurrences to the board, in writing, within seventy-two (72) hours of such occurrence:

- an arrest or issuance of a criminal complaint for violation of any provision of the Pharmacy Law, state and federal food and drug laws, or state and federal controlled substances laws
- a plea of guilty or nolo contendere in any state or federal criminal proceeding to any criminal complaint, information or indictment
- a conviction of any crime
- discipline, citation, or other administrative action filed by any state or federal agency which involves respondent's pharmacist license or which is related to the practice of pharmacy or the manufacturing, obtaining, handling, distributing, billing, or charging for any drug, device or controlled substance.

Failure to timely report such occurrence shall be considered a violation of probation.

2. Report to the Board

Respondent shall report to the board quarterly, on a schedule as directed by the board or its designee. The report shall be made either in person or in writing, as directed. Among other requirements, respondent shall state in each report under penalty of perjury whether there has been compliance with all the terms and conditions of probation. Failure to submit timely reports in a form as directed shall be considered a violation of probation. Any period(s) of delinquency in submission of reports as directed may be added to the total period of probation. Moreover, if the final probation report is not made as directed, probation shall be automatically extended until such time as the final report is made and accepted by the board.

3. Interview with the Board

Upon receipt of reasonable prior notice, respondent shall appear in person for interviews with the board or its designee, at such intervals and locations as are determined by the board or its designee. Failure to appear for any scheduled interview without prior notification to board staff, or failure to appear for two (2) or more scheduled interviews with the board or its designee during the period of probation, shall be considered a violation of probation.

4. Cooperate with Board Staff

Respondent shall cooperate with the board's inspection program and with the board's monitoring and investigation of respondent's compliance with the terms and conditions of his probation. Failure to cooperate shall be considered a violation of probation.

5. Continuing Education

Respondent shall provide evidence of efforts to maintain skill and knowledge as a pharmacist as directed by the board or its designee.

6. Notice to Employers

During the period of probation, respondent shall notify all present and prospective employers of the decision in case number 2288 and 3985 and the terms, conditions and restrictions imposed on respondent by the decision, as follows:

Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, and within fifteen (15) days of respondent undertaking any new employment, respondent shall cause his or his direct supervisor, pharmacist-in-charge (including each new pharmacist-in-charge employed during respondent's tenure of employment) and owner to report to the board in writing acknowledging that the listed individual(s) has/have read the decision in case numbers 2288 and 3985, and the terms and conditions imposed thereby. It shall be respondent's responsibility to ensure that his employer(s) and/or supervisor(s) submit timely acknowledgment(s) to the board.

If respondent works for or is employed by or through a pharmacy employment service, respondent must notify his direct supervisor, pharmacist-in-charge, and owner at every entity licensed by the board of the terms and conditions of the decision in case numbers 2288 and 3985 in advance of the respondent commencing work at each licensed entity. A record of this notification must be provided to the board upon request.

Furthermore, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, and within fifteen (15) days of respondent undertaking any new employment by or through a pharmacy employment service, respondent shall cause his direct supervisor with the pharmacy employment service to report to the board in writing acknowledging that the supervisor has read the decisions in case numbers 2288 and 3985 and the terms and conditions imposed thereby. It shall be respondent's responsibility to ensure that his employer(s) and/or supervisor(s) submit timely acknowledgment(s) to the board.

Failure to timely notify present or prospective employer(s) or to cause that/those employer(s) to submit timely acknowledgments to the board shall be considered a violation of probation.

"Employment" within the meaning of this provision shall include any full-time, part-time, temporary, relief or pharmacy management service as a pharmacist or any position for which a pharmacist license is a requirement or criterion for employment, whether the respondent is an employee, independent contractor or volunteer.

7. No Supervision of Interns, Serving as Pharmacist-in-Charge (PIC), Serving as Designated Representative-in-Charge, or Serving as a Consultant

During the period of probation, respondent shall not supervise any intern pharmacist, act as the pharmacist-in-charge or designated representative-in-charge of any entity licensed by the board nor serve as a consultant unless otherwise specified in this order. Assumption of any such unauthorized supervision responsibilities shall be considered a violation of probation.

8. Probation Monitoring Costs

Respondent shall pay any costs associated with probation monitoring as determined by the board each and every year of probation. Such costs shall be payable to the board on a schedule as directed by the board or its designee. Failure to pay such costs by the deadline(s) as directed shall be considered a violation of probation.

9. Status of License

Respondent shall, at all times while on probation, maintain an active, current license with the board, including any period during which suspension or probation is tolled. Failure to maintain an active, current license shall be considered a violation of probation.

If respondent's license expires or is cancelled by operation of law or otherwise at any time during the period of probation, including any extensions thereof due to tolling or otherwise, upon renewal or reapplication respondent's license shall be subject to all terms and conditions of this probation not previously satisfied.

10. License Surrender While on Probation

Following the effective date of this decision, should respondent cease practice due to retirement or health, or be otherwise unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of probation, respondent may tender his license to the board for surrender. The board or its designee shall have the discretion whether to grant the request for surrender or take any other action it deems appropriate and reasonable. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender of the license, respondent will no longer be subject to the terms and conditions of probation. This surrender constitutes a record of discipline and shall become a part of the respondent's license history with the board.

Upon acceptance of the surrender, respondent shall relinquish his pocket and wall license to the board within ten (10) days of notification by the board that the surrender is accepted. Respondent may not reapply for any license from the board for three (3) years from the effective date of the surrender. Respondent shall meet all requirements applicable to the license sought as of the date the application for that license is submitted to the board, including any outstanding costs.

11. Notification of a Change in Name, Residence Address, Mailing Address or Employment

Respondent shall notify the board in writing within ten (10) days of any change of employment. Said notification shall include the reasons for leaving, the address of the new employer, the name of the supervisor and owner, and the work schedule if known. Respondent shall further notify the board in writing within ten (10) days of a change in name, residence address, mailing address, or phone number.

Failure to timely notify the board of any change in employer(s), name(s), address(es), or phone number(s) shall be considered a violation of probation.

12. Tolling of Probation

Except during periods of suspension, respondent shall, at all times while on probation, be employed as a pharmacist in California for a minimum of 20 hours per calendar month. Any month during which this minimum is not met shall toll the period of probation, i.e., the period of probation shall be extended by one month for each month during which this minimum is not met. During any such period of tolling of probation, respondent must nonetheless comply with all terms and conditions of probation.

Should respondent, regardless of residency, for any reason (including vacation) cease practicing as a pharmacist for a minimum of 20 hours per calendar month in California, respondent must notify the board in writing within ten (10) days of the cessation of practice, and must further notify the board in writing within ten (10) days of the resumption of practice. Any failure to provide such notification(s) shall be considered a violation of probation.

It is a violation of probation for respondent's probation to remain tolled pursuant to the provisions of this condition for a total period, counting consecutive and non-consecutive months, exceeding thirty-six (36) months.

"Cessation of practice" means any calendar month during which respondent is not practicing as a pharmacist for at least 20 hours, as defined by Business and Professions Code section 4000 et seq. "Resumption of practice" means any calendar month during which respondent is practicing as a pharmacist for at least 20 hours as a pharmacist as defined by Business and Professions Code section 4000 et seq.

Respondent is required to practice as a pharmacist in a licensed pharmacy setting that dispenses medication for a minimum of six months prior to the completion of probation. After the first six months of probation, the board or its designee may consider a modification of this requirement. If respondent fails to comply with this requirement or a subsequent modification thereto, such failure shall be considered a violation of probation.

13. Violation of Probation

If a respondent has not complied with any term or condition of probation, the board shall have continuing jurisdiction over respondent, and probation shall automatically be extended, until all terms and conditions have been satisfied or the board has taken other action as deemed appropriate to treat the failure to comply as a violation of probation, to terminate probation, and to impose the penalty that was stayed.

If respondent violates probation in any respect, the board, after giving respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. Notice and opportunity to be heard are not required for those provisions stating that a violation thereof may lead to automatic termination of the stay and/or revocation of the license. If a petition to revoke probation or an accusation is filed against respondent during probation, the board shall have continuing jurisdiction and the period of probation shall be automatically extended until the petition to revoke probation or accusation is heard and decided.

14. Completion of Probation

Upon written notice by the board or its designee indicating successful completion of probation, respondent's license will be fully restored.

DATED: February 1, 2013

Glynda B. Gomez

Administrative Law Judge

Office of Administrative Hearings

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|----|--|--|--|--|
| 1 | KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California | | | |
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| 7 | Autorneys for Complumum | | | |
| 8 | BEFORE THE | | | |
| 9 | BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS | | | |
| 10 | STATE OF CALIFORNIA | | | |
| 11 | In the Matter of the Petition to Revoke Case No. 3985 | | | |
| 12 | Probation Against: FIRST AMENDED | | | |
| 13 | FALAH H, KHALIFA 1133 Celis Street PETITION TO REVOKE PROBATION | | | |
| 14 | San Fernando, CA 91340 | | | |
| 15 | Original Pharmacist License No. RPH 31694 | | | |
| 16 | Respondent. | | | |
| 17 | | | | |
| 18 | Complainant alleges: | | | |
| 19 | PARTIES | | | |
| 20 | 1. Virginia Herold (Complainant) brings this Petition to Revoke Probation solely in her | | | |
| 21 | official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer | | | |
| 22 | Affairs, | | | |
| 23 | 2. On or about December 19, 1977, the Board of Pharmacy issued Original Pharmacist | | | |
| 24 | License Number RPH 31694 to Falah H. Khalifa (Respondent). The Original Pharmacist License | | | |
| 25 | was in effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on April 30, 2014, | | | |
| 26 | unless renewed. | | | |
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| 28 | · <i>†11</i> | | | |
| | 1 | | | |
| | PETITION TO REVOKE PROBATION | | | |

3. In a disciplinary action entitled "In the Matter of Accusation Against Falah H. Khalifa," Case No. 2288, the Board of Pharmacy, issued a decision, effective February 26, 2003, in which Respondent's Original Pharmacist License was revoked. However, the revocation was stayed and Respondent's Original Pharmacist License was placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with certain terms and conditions. A copy of that decision is attached as Exhibit A and is incorporated by reference.

JURISDICTION

- 4. This Petition to Revoke Probation 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.
- 5. Section 4011 of the Code provides that the Board shall administer and enforce both the Pharmacy Law [Bus. & Prof. Code section 4000 et seq.] and the Uniform Controlled Substances Act [Health & Safety Code section 11000 et seq.].
 - 6. Section 4300 of the Code states, in pertinent part:
 - "(a) Every license issued may be suspended or revoked.
- "(b) The board shall discipline the holder of any license issued by the board, whose default has been entered or whose case has been heard by the board and found guilty, by any of the following methods:

"(4) Revoking his or her license.

- "(d) The board may initiate disciplinary proceedings to revoke or suspend any probationary certificate of licensure for any violation of the terms and conditions of probation. Upon satisfactory completion of probation, the board shall convert the probationary certificate to a regular certificate, free of conditions.
- "(e) The proceedings under this article shall be conducted in accordance with Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of the Government Code, and the board shall have all the powers granted therein. The action shall be final, except that the propriety of

. the action is subject to review by the superior court pursuant to Section 1094.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure."

7. Section 118, subdivision (b), of the Code provides that the suspension/expiration/surrender/cancellation of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued or reinstated.

FIRST CAUSE TO REVOKE PROBATION

(Failure to Secure and Maintain Employment as Pharmacist)

8. At all times after the effective date (February 26, 2003) of the Decision and Order imposing probation on Respondent's Original Pharmacist License No. RPH 31694, Condition 14 of that Order required, in pertinent part:

"Tolling of Probation. Respondent must notify the Board in writing within 10 days of cessation of the practice of pharmacy or the resumption of the practice of pharmacy. Such periods of time shall not apply to the reduction of the probation period. It is a violation of probation for Respondent's probation to remain tolled pursuant to the provisions of this condition for a period exceeding three years.

"Cessation of practice" means any period of time exceeding 30 days in which Respondent is not engaged in the practice of pharmacy as defined in Section 4052 of the Business and professions Code."

"During Respondent's final year of probation, Respondent shall work at least 20 hours in each calendar month as a pharmacist and at least an average of 40 hours per month in any six consecutive months. Failure to do so will be a violation of probation. If Respondent has not complied with this condition during the probationary term, and Respondent has presented sufficient documentation of his or her good faith efforts to comply with this condition, and if no other conditions have been violated, the board, in its discretion, may grant an extension of Respondent's probation period up to one year without further hearing in order to comply with this condition."

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9. Respondent's probation is subject to revocation because he failed to comply with Condition 14 of probation referenced above, in that Respondent failed to secure employment as a pharmacist at any point after February 26, 2003, the effective date of the above-referenced Decision and Order, until October of 2011, Notwithstanding Respondent's alleged late securing of employment at such time, Respondent has failed to work at least an average of 40 hours per month in any six consecutive months as a pharmacist. Moreover, Respondent, after February 26, 2003, had already been given several previous extensions in which to comply with this condition, yet failed to do so.

SECOND CAUSE TO REVOKE PROBATION

(Failure to Comply With Requirements of Supervised Practice Condition of Probation)

10. At all times after the effective date (February 26, 2003) of the Decision and Order imposing probation on Respondent's Original Pharmacist License No. RPH 31694, Condition 17 of that Order required, in pertinent part:

"Supervised Practice. Respondent KHALIFA shall practice only under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist not on probation with the board. Upon and after the effective date of this decision, Respondent KHALIFA shall not practice pharmacy and his license shall be automatically suspended until a supervisor is approved by the Board. The supervision shall be, as required by the Board:

"Substantial - At least 50% of a work week

"Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, Respondent KHALIFA shall have his supervisor submit notification to the Board in writing stating that the supervisor has read the decision in case number 2288 and is familiar with the required level of supervision as determined by the Board,

"If Respondent KHALIFA changes employment, Respondent KHALIFA shall have his new supervisor, within fifteen (15) days after employment commences, submit notification to the Board in writing stating the direct supervisor and pharmacist-in-charge have read the decision in case number 2288 and is familiar with the level of supervision as determined by the Board.

"Within ten (10) days of leaving employment, Respondent KHALIFA shall notify the Board in writing. Respondent KHALIFA'S level of supervision shall be reevaluated by the Board after the completion of one year of probation to determine whether or not a lower level of supervision is appropriate."

11. Respondent's probation is subject to revocation because he failed to comply with Condition 17 of probation referenced above, in that Respondent failed to obtain the Board's approval of the only supervisor under whom Respondent has worked as a pharmacist during his entire probationary period, when he finally secured such employment as a pharmacist in or around October of 2011. Respondent is also in violation of Condition 17 because the only supervisor under whom Respondent has worked as a pharmacist during his entire probationary period failed to submit written notification to the Board within thirty (30) days stating that he (the supervisor) had read the decision in case number 2288 and was familiar with the level of supervision required as determined by the Board in regard to Respondent.

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:

- Revoking the probation that was granted by the Board of Pharmacy in Case No. 2288 and imposing the disciplinary order that was stayed, thereby revoking Original Pharmacist License No. RPH 31694 issued to Falah H, Khalifa;
 - 2. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: 8/2/12

VIRGINIA HEROLD
Executive Officer

Board of Pharmacy

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California Complainant

LA2011600493 pet revoke prob.rtf

Exhibit A

Decision and Order

Board of Pharmacy Case No. 2288

| 1 2 3 4 5 5 | BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General of the State of California GREGORY J. SALUTE, State Bar No. 164015 Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice, 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-2520 Facsimile: (213) 897-2804 | | | |
|-------------|---|--|--|--|
| 6 | Attorneys for Complainant | | | |
| 7 | BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY | | | |
| 8 | DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA | | | |
| 9 | | | | |
| 10 | In the Matter of the Accusation Against: | Case No. 2288 | | |
| 11 | FALAH H. KHALIFA, dba CALIFA PHARMACY | OAH No. L2002030117 | | |
| 12 | 1133 Celis Street | STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER AS TO ALL | | |
| 13 | San Fernando, CA 91340 FALAH H. KHALIFA, Owner and Pharmacist-in-Charge | RESPONDENTS | | |
| 14 | Original Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 30196 | | | |
| 15 | | | | |
| 16 | and | | | |
| 17 | FALAH H. KHALIFA 1133 Celis Street San Fernando, CA 91340 | | | |
| 18 | Original Pharmacist License No. RPH 31694 | | | |
| 19 | Respondents. | `. | | |
| 20 | Respondents. | | | |
| 21 | | | | |
| 22 | In the interest of a prompt and speedy settlen | nent of this matter, consistent with the public | | |
| 23 | interest and the responsibility of the Board of Pharm | acy of the Department of Consumer Affairs, | | |
| 24 | the parties hereby agree to the following Stipulated S | Settlement and Disciplinary Order which will | | |
| 25 | be submitted to the Board for approval and adoption | as the final disposition of the Accusation | | |
| 26 | with respect to Respondents FALAH H. KHALIFA, | dba CALIFA PHARMACY and FALAH H. | | |
| 27 | KHALIFA ("Respondents"). | | | |

- 1. Patricia F. Harris (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy. She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this matter by Bill Lockyer, Attorney General of the State of California, by Gregory J. Salute, Deputy Attorney General.
- 2. Respondents are represented in this proceeding by attorney Ronald S. Marks, Esq. whose address is 6320 Canoga Avenue, Woodland Hills, CA 91367.
- 3. On or about September 1, 1983, the Board of Pharmacy issued Original Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 30196 to FALAH H. KHALIFA, Individual License Owner, to do business as CALIFA PHARMACY ("Respondent CALIFA PHARMACY"). The Original Pharmacy Permit Number was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on August 1, 2003, unless renewed.
- 4. On or about December 19, 1977, the Board of Pharmacy issued Original Pharmacist License Number RPH 31694 to FALAH H. KHALIFA ("Respondent KHALIFA"). The Original Pharmacist License Number was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on April 30, 2004, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

5. Accusation No. 2288 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 Respondents on January 23,
2002. Respondents timely filed their Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of
Accusation No. 2288 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 6. Respondents have carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understand the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 2288. Respondents have also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understand the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
 - 7. Respondents are fully aware of their 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 their own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against them; the right to present evidence and to testify on their 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.

8. Respondents voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waive and give up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

- 9. Respondents understand that although they are not making personal admissions to the alleged violations of the items of the Accusation #2288, their signature and agreement herein will allow the Board or its duly authorized representative to deem the violations of the Accusation affirmed and sustained as if true and proven for the purpose of imposing discipline or civil penalties. Respondents further understand that the sustained violations of the Accusation herein may be considered for any future administrative or disciplinary matter by the Board.
- 10. Respondents agree that their license(s) and/or pharmacy permit(s) are subject to discipline and they agree to be bound by the Board of Pharmacy (Board) 's imposition of discipline as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

CIRCUMSTANCES IN MITIGATION

11. Respondents have never been the subject of any disciplinary action. They are admitting responsibility at an early stage in the proceedings.

CONTINGENCY

12. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board of Pharmacy.

Respondents understand and agree that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board of Pharmacy may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondents or their counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondents understand and agree that they may not withdraw their agreement or seek to rescind

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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 Settlement 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.

- 13. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 14. 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 Disciplinary Order:

DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Original Pharmacy Permit Number No. PHY 30196 issued to Respondent FALAH H. KHALIFA, Individual License Owner, to do business as CALIFA PHARMACY is REVOKED.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that Pharmacist License Number RPH 31694 issued to Respondent FALAH H. KHALIFA is revoked. However, the revocation on Pharmacist License Number RPH 31694 is stayed and Respondent FALAH H. KHALIFA is placed on probation for three (3) years on the following terms and conditions.

1. Actual Suspension - Pharmacist. Pharmacist License Number RPH 31694, issued to Respondent FALAH H. KHALIFA is suspended for a period of one-hundred and twenty (120) days.

During suspension, Respondent KHALIFA shall not enter any pharmacy area or any portion of the licensed premises of a wholesaler, veterinary food-animal drug retailer or any other distributor of drugs which is licensed by the Board, or any manufacturer, or where dangerous drugs and devices or controlled substances are maintained. Respondent KHALIFA shall not practice pharmacy nor do any act involving drug selection, selection of stock, manufacturing, compounding, dispensing or patient consultation; nor shall Respondent

KHALIFA manage, administer, or be a consultant to any licensee of the Board, or have access to or control the ordering, manufacturing or dispensing of dangerous drugs and devices or controlled substances.

Respondent KHALIFA shall not engage in any activity that requires the professional judgment of a pharmacist. Respondent KHALIFA shall not direct or control any aspect of the practice of pharmacy. Respondent KHALIFA shall not perform the duties of a pharmacy technician or an exemptee for any entity licensed by the Board.

2. Obey All Laws. Respondent KHALIFA shall obey all state and federal laws and regulations substantially related to or governing the practice of pharmacy.

Respondent KHALIFA shall report any of the following occurrences to the Board, in writing, within 72 hours of such occurrence:

- an arrest or issuance of a criminal complaint for violation of any provision of the Pharmacy Law, state and federal food and drug laws, or state and federal controlled substances laws
- a plea of guilty or nolo contendere in any state or federal criminal proceeding to any criminal complaint, information or indictment
- a conviction of any crime
- discipline, citation, or other administrative action filed by any state and federal
 agency which involves Respondent KHALIFA's license or which is related to
 the practice of pharmacy or the manufacturing, obtaining, handling or
 distribution or billing or charging for any drug, device or controlled substance.
- 3. Reporting to the Board. Respondent KHALIFA shall report to the Board quarterly. The report shall be made either in person or in writing, as directed. Respondent KHALIFA shall state under penalty of perjury whether there has been compliance with all the terms and conditions of probation. If the final probation report is not made as directed, probation shall be extended automatically until such time as the final report is made and accepted by the Board.
 - 4. Interview with the Board. Upon receipt of reasonable notice,

Respondent KHALIFA shall appear in person for interviews with the Board upon request at various intervals at a location to be determined by the Board. Failure to appear for a scheduled interview without prior notification to Board staff shall be considered a violation of probation.

- 5. Cooperation with Board Staff. Respondent KHALIFA shall cooperate with the Board's inspectional program and in the Board's monitoring and investigation of Respondent KHALIFA's compliance with the terms and conditions of his probation. Failure to comply shall be considered a violation of probation.
- 6. **Continuing Education.** Respondent KHALIFA shall provide evidence of efforts to maintain skill and knowledge as a pharmacist as directed by the Board.
- 7. Notice to Employers. Respondent KHALIFA shall notify all present and prospective employers of the decision in case number 2288 and the terms, conditions and restrictions imposed on Respondent KHALIFA by the decision. Within 30 days of the effective date of this decision, and within 15 days of Respondent KHALIFA undertaking new employment, Respondent KHALIFA shall cause his direct supervisor, pharmacist-in-charge and/or owner to report to the Board in writing acknowledging the employer has read the decision in case number 2288.

If Respondent KHALIFA works for or is employed by or through a pharmacy employment service, Respondent KHALIFA must notify the direct supervisor, pharmacist-in-charge, and/or owner at every pharmacy of the and terms conditions of the decision in case number 2288 in advance of the Respondent KHALIFA commencing work at each pharmacy.

"Employment" within the meaning of this provision shall include any full-time, parttime, temporary, relief or pharmacy management service as a pharmacist, whether the Respondent KHALIFA is considered an employee or independent contractor.

8. No Preceptorships, Supervision of Interns, Being Pharmacist-in-Charge (PIC), or Serving as a Consultant. Respondent KHALIFA shall not supervise any intern pharmacist or perform any of the duties of a preceptor, nor shall Respondent KHALIFA be the pharmacist-in-charge of any entity licensed by the Board unless otherwise specified in

this order.

9. Reimbursement of Board Costs. Respondent KHALIFA shall pay to the Board its costs of investigation and prosecution in the amount of \$15,000.00. Respondent KHALIFA shall make said payments as follows: Said payments shall be made in equal monthly installments over the three year period of probation with the final payment being made to the Board no later than 90 days prior to the completion of the three (3) year probationary term.

The filing of bankruptcy by Respondent KHALIFA shall not relieve Respondent KHALIFA of his responsibility to reimburse the Board its costs of investigation and prosecution.

- 10. **Probation Monitoring Costs.** Respondent KHALIFA shall pay the costs associated with probation monitoring as determined by the Board each and every year of probation. Such costs shall be payable to the Board at the end of each year of probation. Failure to pay such costs shall be considered a violation of probation.
- 11. Status of License. Respondent KHALIFA shall, at all times while on probation, maintain an active current license with the Board, including any period during which suspension or probation is tolled.

If Respondent KHALIFA's license expires or is cancelled by operation of law or otherwise, upon renewal or reapplication, Respondent KHALIFA's license shall be subject to all terms and conditions of this probation not previously satisfied.

date of this decision, should Respondent KHALIFA cease practice due to retirement or health, or be otherwise unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of probation, Respondent KHALIFA may tender his license to the Board for surrender. The Board shall have the discretion whether to grant the request for surrender or take any other action it deems appropriate and reasonable. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender of the license, Respondent KHALIFA will no longer be subject to the terms and conditions of probation.

Upon acceptance of the surrender, Respondent KHALIFA shall relinquish his

pocket license to the Board within 10 days of notification by the Board that the surrender is accepted. Respondent KHALIFA may not reapply for any license from the Board for three years from the effective date of the surrender. Respondent KHALIFA shall meet all requirements applicable to the license sought as of the date the application for that license is submitted to the Board.

- 13. Notification of Employment/Mailing Address Change. Respondent KHALIFA shall notify the Board in writing within 10 days of any change of employment. Said notification shall include the reasons for leaving and/or the address of the new employer, supervisor or owner and work schedule if known. Respondent KHALIFA shall notify the Board in writing within 10 days of a change in name, mailing address or phone number.
- 14. **Tolling of Probation.** Respondent must notify the board in writing within 10 days of cessation of the practice of pharmacy or the resumption of the practice of pharmacy. Such periods of time shall not apply to the reduction of the probation period. It is a violation of probation for respondent's probation to remain tolled pursuant to the provisions of this condition for a period exceeding three years.

"Cessation of practice" means any period of time exceeding 30 days in which respondent is not engaged in the practice of pharmacy as defined in Section 4052 of the Business and Professions Code.

During Respondent's final year of probation, Respondent shall work at least 20 hours in each calendar month as a pharmacist and at least an average of 40 hours per month in any six consecutive months. Failure to do so will be a violation of probation. If Respondent has not complied with this condition during the probationary term, and Respondent has presented sufficient documentation of his or her good faith efforts to comply with this condition, and if no other conditions have been violated, the board, in its discretion, may grant an extension of Respondent's probation period up to one year without further hearing in order to comply with this condition.

15. Violation of Probation. If Respondent KHALIFA violates probation in any respect, the Board, after giving Respondent KHALIFA notice and an opportunity to be heard,

may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order which was stayed. If a petition to revoke probation or an accusation is filed against Respondent KHALIFA during probation, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction and the period of probation shall be extended, until the petition to revoke probation or accusation is heard and decided.

If Respondent KHALIFA has not complied with any term or condition of probation, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction over Respondent KHALIFA, and probation shall automatically be extended until all terms and conditions have been satisfied or the Board has taken other action as deemed appropriate to treat the failure to comply as a violation of probation, to terminate probation, and to impose the penalty which was stayed.

- 16. **Completion of Probation.** Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent KHALIFA's license will be fully restored.
- 17. Supervised Practice. Respondent KHALIFA shall practice only under the supervision of a pharmacist not on probation with the Board. Respondent KHALIFA shall not practice until the supervisor is approved by the Board. The supervision shall be, as required by the Board:

Substantial - At least 50% of a work week

Within 30 days of the effective date of this decision, Respondent KHALIFA shall have his supervisor submit notification to the Board in writing stating the supervisor has read the decision in case number 2288 and is familiar with the level of supervision as determined by the Board.

If Respondent KHALIFA changes employment, Respondent KHALIFA shall have his new supervisor, within 15 days after employment commences, submit notification to the Board in writing stating the direct supervisor and pharmacist-in-charge have read the decision in case number 2288 and is familiar with the level of supervision as determined by the Board.

Within 10 days of leaving employment, Respondent KHALIFA shall notify the Board in writing. Respondent KHALIFA's level of supervision shall be reevaluated by the Board after the completion of one year of probation to determine whether or not a lower level of

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eupervisium is appropriate.

18. No Ownership of Premises. Respondent KHALIFA shall not own. have any legal or beneficial interest in, or serve as a measurer, administrator, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of any business, firm, partnership, or corporation currently or hereinafter licensed by the Board. Respondent KHALIFA shall sell or transfer any legal or beneficial interest in any entity licensed by the Board within 90 days following the effective date of this decizion and shall immediately thereafter provide written proof thereof to the Board.

19. Talking of Suspension. If Respondent KHALIFA leaves California to reside or practice outside this state, for any period exceeding 10 days (including vacation), Respondent KHALIFA must notify the Board in writing of the dates of departure and return. Periods of residency or practice outside the state - or any absence exceeding a period of 10 days shall not apply to the reduction of the suspension period.

Respondent KHALIFA shall not practice pharmacy upon returning to this state until metified by the Board that the period of suspension has been completed.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Curler and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Ronald S. Marks. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Original Phanuacy Permit Number No. PHY 30196. I oncer inso this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and imelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Pharmacy. DATED:

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FALAH M KHALIFA dhe CALIFA PHARMACY Respondent

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| 1 | I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have |
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| 2 | fully discussed it with my attorney, Ronald S. Marka. I understand the stipulation and the |
| | |
| 3 | effect it will have on my Pharmacist License Number RPH 31694. I onter into this Stipulated |
| A | Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be |
| 5 | bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Pharmacy. |
| 6 | DATED: 12/20/07 |
| 7 | Six u . (i') |
| 8 | FALL H. Klight |
| 9 | Réspondent. |
| 10 | A TAY AND |
| 11 | I have read and fully discussed with Respondents FALAH H. KHALIFA and FALAH |
| 12 | KHALIFA dba CALIFA PHARMACY the terms and conditions and other matters contained. |
| 13 | in the chove Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I approve its form and content. |
| 14 | DATED: _/2/20/02 |
| 15 | III Reter - |
| 16 | RONALD S. MARKS' Automoty for Respondent |
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ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

DATED: 12/25/02

BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General of the State of California

Attorneys for Complainant

Deputy Attorney General

DOJ Docket Number: 03585110-LA2000AD0541

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

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| In the Matter of the Accusation Against: | Case No. 2288 |
| FALAH H. KHALIFA, dba CALIFA PHARMACY 1133 Celis Street San Fernando, CA 91340 FALAH H. KHALIFA, Owner and Pharmacist-in-Charge | OAH No. L2002030117 |
| Original Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 30196 | |
| and | |
| FALAH H. KHALIFA 1133 Celis Street San Fernando, CA 91340 | |
| Original Pharmacist License No. RPH 31694 | |
| Respondents. | |
| | |
| DECISION AND | ORDER |
| The attached Stipulated Settlement a | and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted |
| by the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consum | er Affairs, as its Decision in this matter. |
| This Decision shall become effective | eon_ February 26, 2003 . |
| It is so ORDEREDJanuary 2 | 7, 2003 |
| Non 1 | |
| DEPARTME | PHARMACY ENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS CALIFORNIA |
| | |

Ву

JOHN D. JONES Board President

| 1 2 3 4 5 | BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General of the State of California GREGORY J. SALUTE, State Bar No. 164015 Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice 300 South Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, California 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-2520 Facsimile: (213) 897-2804 Attorneys for Complainant | | | |
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| 8 | BEFORE T | | | |
| 9 | BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS | | | |
| 10 | STATE OF CAL | | | |
| 11 | In the Matter of the Accusation Against: | Case No. 2288 | | |
| 12 | FALAH H. KHALIFA, dba CALIFA PHARMACY | ACCUSATION | | |
| 13 | 1133 Celis Street San Fernando, CA 91340 | | | |
| 14 | FALAH H. KHALIFA, Owner and Pharmacist-in-Charge | , | | |
| 15 | Original Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 30196 | | | |
| 16 | | | | |
| 17 | and | | | |
| 18 | FALAH H. KHALIFA 1133 Celis Street San Fernando, CA 91340 | | | |
| 19 | Original Pharmacist License No. RPH 31694 | | | |
| 20 | | · | | |
| 21 | Respondents. | | | |
| 22 | Complainant alleges: | | | |
| 23 | PARTIE | <u>88</u> | | |
| 24 | 1. Patricia F. Harris ("Complain | ant") brings this accusation solely in her | | |
| 25 | official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Boa | rd of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer | | |
| 26 | Affairs. | | | |
| 27 | 2. On or about September 1, 198 | 83, the Board of Pharmacy issued Original | | |
| 28 | Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 30196 to FALAH F | • | | |

do business as CALIFA PHARMACY ("Respondent CALIFA PHARMACY"). The Original Pharmacy Permit Number was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on August 1, 2002, unless renewed.

3. On or about December 19, 1977, the Board of Pharmacy issued Original Pharmacist License Number RPH 31694 to FALAH H. KHALIFA ("Respondent KHALIFA"). The Original Pharmacist License Number was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on April 30, 2002, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

- 4. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Pharmacy ("Board"), under the authority of the following sections of the Business and Professions Code ("Code").
- 5. Business and Professions Code Section 118(b) provides that the suspension, expiration, or forfeiture by operation of law of a certificate does not deprive the Board of authority or jurisdiction to institute or continue with disciplinary action against the certificate or to order suspension or revocation of the certificate, during the period within which the certificate may be renewed, restored, reissued or reinstated.
- 6. Section 4300 of the Code permits the Board to take disciplinary action to suspend or revoke a license.
 - 7. Section 4301 of the Code states:

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

- (f) The commission of any act involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption, whether the act is committed in the course of relations as a licensee or otherwise, and whether the act is a felony or misdemeanor or not.
- (j) The violation of any of the statutes of this state or of the United States regulating controlled substances and dangerous drugs.
 - (m) The cash compromise of a charge of violation of Chapter 13 (commencing

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with Section 801) of Title 21 of the United States Code regulating controlled substances.

The record of the compromise is conclusive evidence of unprofessional conduct.

- (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 Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 4000) of the Business and Professions Code or of the applicable federal and state laws and regulations governing pharmacy, including regulations established by the board.
 - (p) Actions or conduct that would have warranted denial of a license.

6. **CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE**

- A. "Atridol" is a dangerous drug manufactured in Mexico. It is a combination of Indomethacin, Methocarbamol and Bethamethasone and is not authorized for use in the United States.
- B. "Cyclobenzaprine" is a trade name for Flexeril, which is designated by Business and Professions Code 4022 as a dangerous drug.
- C. "Lodine" is a trade name for Estodolac, which is designated by Business and Professions Code 4022 as a dangerous drug.
- D. "Miltrate 10" is a combination of Meprobamate and Peritrate, which has been discontinued by the manufacturer and is designated by Health and Safety Code section 11057(d)(15) as a Schedule IV controlled substance and by Business and Professions Code 4022 as a dangerous drug.
- E. "Vicodin" is a trade name for Hydrocodone 5mg and Acetaminophen 500mg, which is designated by Health and Safety Code section 11055(j) as a Schedule II controlled substance and by Business and Professions Code 4022 as a dangerous drug.
- F. "Vicodin" is a trade name for Hydrocodone 7.5mg and Acetaminophen 750mg, which is designated by Health and Safety Code section 11055(j) as a Schedule II controlled substance and by Business and Professions Code 4022 as a dangerous drug.

| | G, | Phenicinne | is a trade name for Adipex P, Pastin, which is designate |
|---|----------|----------------|--|
| by Health and | Safety C | ode section 11 | 1057(f)(2) as a Schedule IV controlled substance and by |
| Business and Professions Code 4022 as a dangerous drug. | | | |
| | H. | "Otilin eardro | ps" is a dangerous drug manufactured in Mexico. It is a |

- H. "Otilin eardrops" is a dangerous drug manufactured in Mexico. It is a combination of Neomycin Sulfate, Tetracaine and Chlorbutanol and is not authorized for use in the United States.
- I. "Dispan Doble" is a dangerous drug manufactured in Mexico. It contains
 Belladonna and is not authorized for use in the United States.
- J. "Incremin" is an iron supplement manufactured in Mexico and is not authorized for use in the United States.
- K. "Lomotil" is a combination of diphenoxylate and atropine. It is a Schedule V controlled substance and not authorized for use in the United States.
- L. "Neomycin" is an ointment manufactured in Mexico and is not authorized for use in the United States.
- M. "Homatropine drops" is manufactured in Mexico and is not authorized for use in the United States.
- N. "Bonadoxin" is manufactured in Mexico and is not authorized for use in the United States.
- O. "Lidocaine" is manufactured in Mexico and is not authorized for use in the United States.
- P. "Salsalate" is a trade name for Disalcid, which is designated by Business and Professions Code 4022 as a dangerous drug.
- 6. Section 4059 of the Code states, in pertinent part, that no person shall furnish any dangerous drug upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, or veterinarian. No person shall furnish any dangerous device, except upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, or veterinarian.

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7. Section 4081(a) of the Code states:

All records of manufacture and of sale, acquisition, 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, pharmacy, medical device retailer, veterinary food-animal drug retailer, 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.

- 8. Section 4332 of the Code provides that 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.
- 9. Section 4333 of the Code states, in pertinent part, that all prescriptions filled by a pharmacy and all other records required by Section 4081 shall be maintained on the premises and available for inspection by authorized officers of the law for a period of at least three years. In cases where the pharmacy discontinues business, these records shall be maintained in a board-licensed facility for at least three years.
- 10. Section 4342(a) of the Code states, in pertinent part, that the Board may institute any action or actions necessary as may be provided by law and that, in its discretion, are necessary, to prevent the sale of pharmaceutical preparations and drugs that do not conform to the standard tests as to quality strength, provided in the latest edition of the United States Pharmacopoeia or the National Formulary, or that violate any provision of the Sherman Food, Drug and Cosmetic Law (Part 5 (commencing with Section 109875) of Division 104 of the Health and Safety Code).

11. Title 16, California Code of Regulations, section 1717(a) states:

No medication shall be dispensed on prescription except in a new container which conforms with standards established in the official compendia.

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

"Current Inventory" as used in Section 4232 of the Business and Professions

Code shall be considered to include complete accountability for all dangerous drugs handled by
every licensee enumerated in Section 4232. 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 the inventory.

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

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(FAILURE TO MAINTAIN RECORDS)

- 14. Respondents CALIFA PHARMACY and KHALIFA are subject to disciplinary action under sections 4300 and 4301, subdivisions (f), (j), (o), (m) and (p) of the Code for unprofessional conduct for violating Code sections 4081(a), 4332, 4333, Title 16, California Code of Regulations, section 1718, and Health and Safety Code section 111208, in that Respondents failed to keep a complete, accurate and current inventory or complete accountability of dangerous drugs by reason of the following:
- a. On March 18, 1999, Inspector Venegas requested all the acquisition records for May 30, 1997 to March 18, 1999. Respondent KHALIFA informed the Inspector that these records were not on the premises. A request was made by the Inspector that Respondent bring all the records back to the pharmacy within 72 hours and to call once available. The Inspector issued a violation notice for unprofessional conduct.
- b. On or about May, 1999, a review of records was conducted of the invoices received from Respondents and that of the wholesalers, which revealed that Respondents failed

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to provide 11 invoices. Respondents failed to account for 1500 Vicodin tablets, 500 Vicodin Es tablets and 10,000 Phentermine 37.5. Additionally, inspectors conducted a Selected Drug Audit Summary, using the May 30, 1997 DEA Biennial Inventory as a starting point, on Tylenol #3, Vicodin, Vicodin ES and Didrex, which revealed that Respondents were short 8,585 tablets of Tylenol #3, 6,376 tablets of Vicodin, and 264 tablets of Didrex.

- c. On or about September 20, 1999, inspectors from the Board performed an additional audit on Phentermine. Inspectors requested an inspection report of all acquisitions and dispositions from May 30, 1997 to September 20, 1999, which was to include all purchases of Adipex P, Fastin, Phentermine 37.5, Phentermine 30mg and all prescriptions filled during that time period. Additionally, inspectors requested all sales to doctors, other pharmacies and wholesalers, prescription documents from December 1, 1996, which would include the prescription refills for said time period.
- d. The September 20, 1999 audit revealed that Respondents had purchased 3000 capsules of Phentermine 30mg and returned 2000 and purchased 11,000 capsules of Phentermine 37.5. Respondents failed to provide any invoices for the purchase of 3000 capsules of Phentermine 30mg and invoices for 10,000 Phentermine 37.5. Additionally, inspectors conducted a Selected Drug Audit Summary, using the May 30, 1997 DEA Biennial Inventory as a starting point on Phentermine 30mg and Phentermine 37.5mg, which revealed that Respondents were short 1,140 of Phentermine 30mg and 11,076 of Phentermine 37.5mg.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE (DISPENSING WITHOUT A PRESCRIPTION)

15. Resp. dents CALIFA PHARMACY and KHALIFA are subject to disciplinary action under sections 4300 and 4301, subdivisions (f), (j), (o), and (p) of the Code for unprofessional conduct for violating Code sections 4059, 4342(a), Health and Safety Code section 11158 and Title 16, California Code of Regulations, section 1717(a) in that Respondents dispensed dangerous drugs without a prescription by reason of the following:

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- a. From on or about May 12, 1998 to on or about March 18, 1999, the Board conducted an undercover operation for the purchase of dangerous drugs without a prescription from Respondents.
- b. The undercover operation revealed that on five separate visits, Respondents sold dangerous drugs without a prescription to Inspector, Venegas as follows:
- 1. On or about May 12, 1998, Inspector Venegas went to CALIFA PHARMACY and explained to Respondent that he needed ear drops for his child who had a fever and an earache and that he also needed something for his back pain. Respondent gave him some eardrops called "Otilin" and instructed him in the use of the medication. Respondents also gave him a pink suspension in a "Prominicol Cough Syrup" bottle (generic for Triaminicol-OTC medication). Respondent informed him that it was an antibiotic, penicillin and instructed him in the proper storage. Additionally, he received some "Motrin" suspension for children. Respondent then gave him some yellow tablets (scored and printed with 257/10) and said that they were muscle relaxants and some white and green capsules called "Atridol," for pain. Respondent then charged Inspector Venegas \$49.00 for the medication.
- 2. On or about May 19, 1998, Inspector Venegas returned to CALIFA PHARMACY and asked Respondent for some stronger medication than "Atridol" that he gave him last time. Respondent gave him some red and gray capsules in a white box and said that they were for pain. The capsules were marked "Lodine 300". Respondent then charged Inspector Venegas \$20.00 for the medication.
- 3. On or about August 24, 1998, Inspector Venegas returned to CALIFA PHARMACY and asked for something for his pain. Respondent KHALIFA examined him physically and asked him to extend his arms and questioned him on his physical being. Respondent gave him a pack of Atridol and 6 round white tablets with "Dan" imprinted on one side and the number "5658" on the other. Respondent placed the while tablets in an "Otilin" box. Respondent then charged Inspector Venegas \$16.00 for the medication. The white tablets were later identified as generic for Flexeril, a muscle relaxant.

4. On or about October 19, 1998, Inspector Venegas returned to CALIFA PHARMACY and asked Respondent for something for pain. Respondent KHALIFA gave him some more Atridol and some white tablets with the name "Wallace" and "37" on top and "5201" underneath and were placed in a "Quadriderm" box. Respondent then charged Inspector Venegas \$17.00 for the medication and gave him instructions to lose weight and avoid stress. The white tablets were later identified as Miltrate 10, which had been discontinued for many years and is a Schedule IV controlled substance per Health and Safety Code section 11057(d)(15).

5. On March 18, 1999, Inspector Venegas returned to CALIFA PHARMACY and asked Respondent for something for pain. Respondent KHALIFA gave the Inspector some yellow tablets which had SL391 imprinted on them and put them in a "Dermicort" box. Respondent then charged Inspector Venegas \$10.00 for the medication. The yellow tablets were later identified as Salsalate, the generic for Disalcid, which is a dangerous drug used in the treatment of arthritis.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(STORING DRUGS IN MISLABELED CONTAINERS)

- 15. Respondents CALIFA PHARMACY and KHALIFA are subject to disciplinary action under sections 4300 and 4301, subdivisions (f), (j), (o), and (p) of the Code for unprofessional conduct for violating Code sections 4342(a), Health and Safety Code sections 111320 and 111255, and 21 U.S.C. 353 in that Respondents stored dangerous drugs in mislabeled containers by reason of the following (see attached copy of Ex. "7"):
- a. The Board conducted a physical inspection of the premises on March 13, 1999 and revealed that 125 containers contained dangerous drugs. The drugs were secured and later summarized.
- b. During the summary of the audit, items 7, 12, 18-21, 25, 27-29, 39, 41-43, 45-47, 49, 50, and 54 were dangerous drugs that were stored in containers of another product.
- c. During the summary of the audit, items 2, 5, 10, 14, 15, 22, 23, 34-36, 38, 51-53, 56-59, 63, 4, 67, and 68 were dangerous drugs that were mis-labeled or not labeled at all.

| 1 | d. During the summary of the audit, items 1, 17, 24, 31, 32, 37, 61, 62, 65, |
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| 2 | and 66 were foreign drugs not authorized for use in the United States. |
| 3 | e. Item number 44 was Miltrate 10, expiration date of 5/87 was found in a |
| 4 | large box of expires drugs. This was the only bottle of Miltrate 10 in stock. |
| 5 | f. Items 35, 50, and 59 were samples of legend drugs that were in stock. |
| 6 | <u>PRAYER</u> |
| 7 | WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein |
| 8 | alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Pharmacy issue a decision: |
| 9 | 1. Revoking or suspending Original Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 30196, |
| 10 | issued to FALAH H. KHALIFA, Individual License Owner, doing business as, CALIFA |
| 11 | PHARMACY. |
| 12 | 2. Revoking or suspending Original Pharmacist License Number RPH |
| 13 | 31694, issued to FALAH H. KHALIFA; |
| 14 | Ordering CALIFA PHARMACY and FALAH H. KHALIFA to pay the |
| ۱5 | Board of Pharmacy the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, |
| 16 | pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3; |
| 17 | 4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper. |
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| 19 | DATED: 11702 |
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| 21 | $\sim 1/$ |
| 22 | PATRICIA E HARRIS |
| 23 | Executive Officer Board of Pharmacy |
| 24 | Department of Consumer Affairs State of California |
| 25 | Complainant |
| 26 | 03585110-LA2000AD0541 2Accusation.wp |
| 27 | (GJS-10/22/01) |