1 2 3 5 6 7 8 BEFORE THE **BOARD OF PHARMACY** 9 DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA 10 11 12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 4081 13 14 ROBERT BENLEVI DEFAULT DECISION AND ORDER P.O. Box 7581 15 Santa Monica, CA 90406 [Gov. Code, §11520] 16 and 17 1262 S. Barrington Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90025 18 19 Pharmacist License No. RPH 46690 20 21 Respondent. 22 23 FINDINGS OF FACT 24 On or about June 15, 2012, Complainant Virginia K. Herold, in her official capacity 25 as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs, filed 26 Accusation No. 4081 against Robert Benlevi (Respondent) before the Board of Pharmacy. 27 (Accusation attached as Exhibit A.) 28

2.	On or about September 7, 1993, the Board of Pharmacy (Board) issued Phar	macis
License No	Io. RPH 46690 to Respondent. The Pharmacist License expires on August 31,	2013
and has no	ot been renewed.	

- 3. On or about September 14, 2012 and December 21, 2012, Respondent was served by Certified and First Class Mail copies of the Accusation No. 4081, Statement to Respondent, Notice of Defense, Request for Discovery, and Discovery Statutes (Government Code sections 11507.5, 11507.6, and 11507.7) at Respondent's address of record which, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4100, is required to be reported and maintained with the Board. Respondent's address of record was and is:
- P.O. Box 7581 Santa Monica, CA 90406

1262 S. Barrington Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90025.

- 4. Service of the Accusation was effective as a matter of law under the provisions of Government Code section 11505, subdivision (c) and/or Business & Professions Code section 124.
- 5. On or about September 15, 2012, January 2, 2013, and January 8, 2013, the aforementioned documents were returned by the U.S. Postal Service marked "Attempted Not Known" and "Refused."
 - 6. Government Code section 11506 states, in pertinent part:
 - (c) The respondent shall be entitled to a hearing on the merits if the respondent files a notice of defense, and the notice shall be deemed a specific denial of all parts of the accusation not expressly admitted. Failure to file a notice of defense shall constitute a waiver of respondent's right to a hearing, but the agency in its discretion may nevertheless grant a hearing.
- Respondent failed to file a Notice of Defense within 15 days after service upon him 7. of the Accusation, and therefore waived his right to a hearing on the merits of Accusation No. 4081.

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- 8. California Government Code section 11520 states, in pertinent part:
- (a) If the respondent either fails to file a notice of defense or to appear at the hearing, the agency may take action based upon the respondent's express admissions or upon other evidence and affidavits may be used as evidence without any notice to respondent.
- 9. Pursuant to its authority under Government Code section 11520, the Board finds Respondent is in default. The Board will take action without further hearing and, based on the relevant evidence contained in the Default Decision Evidence Packet in this matter, as well as taking official notice of all the investigatory reports, exhibits and statements contained therein on file at the Board's offices regarding the allegations contained in Accusation No. 4081, finds that the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 4081, are separately and severally, found to be true and correct by clear and convincing evidence.
- 10. Taking official notice of its own internal records, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3, it is hereby determined that the reasonable costs for Investigation and Enforcement is \$3,822.00 as of May 10, 2013.

<u>DETERMINATION OF ISSUES</u>

- 1. Based on the foregoing findings of fact, Respondent Robert Benlevi has subjected his Pharmacist License No. RPH 46690 to discipline.
 - 2. The agency has jurisdiction to adjudicate this case by default.
- 3. The Board of Pharmacy is authorized to revoke Respondent's Pharmacist License based upon the following violations alleged in the Accusation which are supported by the evidence contained in the Default Decision Evidence Packet in this case:
- a. <u>First Cause for Discipline Convictions of Substantially Related Crimes</u>. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under sections 490, 4300, and 4301, subdivision (1), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1770, in that Respondent was convicted of crimes substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a pharmacist which to a substantial degree evidence his present or potential unfitness to perform the functions authorized by his license in a manner consistent with the public health, safety, or welfare. The circumstances of the convictions are as follows:

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ORDER IT IS SO ORDERED that Pharmacist License No. RPH 46690, heretofore issued to Respondent Robert Benlevi, is revoked. Pursuant to Government Code section 11520, subdivision (c), Respondent may serve a written motion requesting that the Decision be vacated and stating the grounds relied on within seven (7) days after service of the Decision on Respondent. The agency in its discretion may vacate the Decision and grant a hearing on a showing of good cause, as defined in the statute. This Decision shall become effective on August 22, 2013. It is so ORDERED July 23, 2013. STANLEY C. WEISSER, BOARD PRESIDENT FOR THE BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS 51293411.DOC DOJ Matter ID:LA2011600967 Attachment: Exhibit A: Accusation

Exhibit A

Accusation

1	KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California			
2	GREGORY SALUTE Supervising Deputy Attorney General HEATHER HUA Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 223418 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702			
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6	Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-2574			
7	Facsimile: (213) 897-2804 Attorneys for Complainant			
8	Diate	ODE TYPE		
9	BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA			
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J				
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 4081		
12	ROBERT BENLEVI P.O. Box 7581			
13	Santa Monica, CA 90406	ACCUSATION		
14	Pharmacist License No. RPH 46690			
15	Respondent.			
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17	Complainant alleges:			
18	<u>PARTIES</u>			
19	1. Virginia Herold (Complainant) br	ings this Accusation solely in her official capacity		
20	as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs (Board).			
21	2. On or about September 7, 1993, the Board issued Pharmacist License No. RPH 46690			
22	to Robert Benlevi (Respondent). The Pharmacist License is inactive and will expire on August			
23	31, 2013, unless renewed.			
24	JURISDICTION			
25	3. This Accusation is brought before the Board under the authority of the following			
26	laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.			
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28	<i>///</i>			
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Accusation (Case no.: 4081)

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

- 4. Section 118, subdivision (b), provides that the suspension, expiration, surrender or 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.
- 5. Section 490 provides that a board may suspend or revoke a license on the ground that the licensee has been convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which the license was issued.
- 6. Section 4300, subdivision (a), states that "[e]very license issued may be suspended or revoked."
 - 7. Section 4301 states, in pertinent part:

"The board shall take action against any holder of a license who is guilty of unprofessional conduct or whose license has been 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.

"(1) The conviction of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a licensee under this chapter. . . ."

REGULATORY PROVISION

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

"For the purpose of denial, suspension, or revocation of a personal or facility license pursuant to Division 1.5 (commencing with Section 475) of the Business and Professions Code, a crime or act shall be considered substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a licensee or registrant if to a substantial degree it evidences present or potential unfitness of a

licensee or registrant to perform the functions authorized by his license or registration in a manner consistent with the public health, safety, or welfare."

COST RECOVERY

9. Section 125.3 provides 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

(Convictions of Substantially Related Crimes)

- 10. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under sections 490, 4300, and 4301, subdivision (I), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1770, in that Respondent was convicted of crimes substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a pharmacist which to a substantial degree evidence his present or potential unfitness to perform the functions authorized by his license in a manner consistent with the public health, safety, or welfare. The circumstances of the convictions are as follows:
- a. On or about October 5, 2010, after pleading nolo contendere, Respondent was convicted of one interlineated misdemeanor count of violating Penal Code section 484(a) [theft] in the criminal proceeding entitled *The People of the State of California v. Robert Benlevi* (Super. Ct. Los Angeles County, 2010, No. 0WA23640). The Court sentenced Respondent to three (3) days in jail, placed him on 24 months probation, and ordered him to stay away from Sears, Santa Monica. The circumstances underlying the conviction are that on or about June 18, 2010, Respondent entered Sears, Santa Monica, and stole a pair of swim shorts and a T-shirt, valued at about \$40.00.
- b. On or about July 14, 2010, after pleading nolo contendere, Respondent was convicted of one misdemeanor count of violating Penal Code section 602.5(a) [enter/remain in noncommercial dwelling] in the criminal proceeding entitled *The People of the State of California v. Robert Benlevi* (Super. Ct. Los Angeles County, 2010, No. 0PY03731). The Court sentenced Respondent to 60 days in jail, placed him on 36 months probation, and ordered him to undergo six (6) months of psychological counseling at the rate of two (2) sessions per month. The

circumstances underlying the conviction are that on or about June 23, 2010, in violation of a restraining order on file with the Los Angeles Police Department, Respondent entered a vacant apartment from which he had been evicted.

- c. On or about April 28, 2010, after being found guilty by a jury, Respondent was convicted of violating Penal Code section 602.5(a) [enter/remain in noncommercial dwelling] in the criminal proceeding entitled *The People of the State of California v. Robert Benlevi* (Super. Ct. Los Angeles County, 2010, No. 0PY01865). The Court placed Respondent on 36 months probation, ordered him to complete ten (10) days of Cal Trans, and ordered him to stay away from L.H., C.H. and 6230 Reseda Blvd, Tarzana. The circumstances underlying the conviction are that on or about October 2009 through March 29, 2010, Respondent had been entering and leaving his evicted apartment at 6230 Reseda Blvd. by entering the apartment through the roof and jumping into the balcony. On or about March 29, 2010, Respondent was found sitting in the middle of his evicted apartment's living room.
- d. On or about March 1, 2005, after pleading nolo contendere, Respondent was convicted of violating Penal Code section 470(a) [forgery], a felony, in the criminal proceeding entitled *The People of the State of California v. Robert Benlevi* (Super. Ct. Los Angeles County, 2005, No. SA055436). The Court sentenced Respondent to 15 days in jail, placed him 36 months probation, ordered him to complete thirty (30) days of Cal Trans, and stay away from Washington Mutual located at 1550 Westwood Blvd., Los Angeles. Respondent was ordered to pay restitution to Washington Mutual. The circumstances underlying the conviction are that on or about February 18, 2005, Respondent entered a Washington Mutual Bank and tried to open a new checking account with false identification documents in another person's name.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Acts Involving Moral Turpitude, Dishonesty, Fraud, Deceit)

11. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under sections 4300 and 4301, subdivision (f), in that Respondent committed acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption. Complainant refers to and by this reference incorporates the allegations set forth above in paragraph 10, inclusive, as though set forth fully.

PRAYER

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

- 1. Revoking or suspending Pharmacist License No. RPH 46690, issued to Robert Benlevi;
- 2. Ordering Robert Benlevi to pay the Board the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to section 125.3; and
 - 3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: 6/15/12

VIRGINIA HEROLD

Executive Officer Board of Pharmacy

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California Complainant

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