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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 4352

TODD LAWRENCE

440 Vista Roma Newport Beach, CA 92660

Pharmacist License No. RPH 46439

Respondent.

DECISION AND ORDER

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

This decision shall become effective on November 8, 2013.

It is so ORDERED on November 5, 2013.

BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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By

STAN C. WEISSER Board President

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1	KAMALA D. HARRIS		
2	Attorney General of California JAMES M. LEDAKIS		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General MARICHELLE S. TAHIMIC		
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 147392		
5	110 West "A" Street, Suite 1100		
_ {	San Diego, CA 92101 P.O. Box 85266	•	
6	San Diego, CA 92186-5266 Telephone: (619) 645-3154		
7	Facsimile: (619) 645-2061 Attorneys for Complainant		
8		RETHE	
9	BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY DEBARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFELAIRS		
10	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	·	
12	TODD CURTISS LAWRENCE	Case No. 4352	
13	440 Vista Roma Newport Beach, CA 92660	OAH No. 2013010105	
14	Pharmacist License No. RPH 46439	STIPULATED SURRENDER OF LICENSE AND ORDER	
15	Respondent.	BIOLING IN DOLLER	
16	Respondent		
17	In the interest of a prompt and speedy resc	Jution of this matter, consistent with the public	
	In the interest of a prompt and speedy resolution of this matter, consistent with the public		
18	interest and the responsibility of the Board of Pharmacy of the Department of Consumer Affairs		
19	the parties hereby agree to the following Stipulated Surrender of License and Order which will be		
20	submitted to the Board for approval and adoption as the final disposition of the Accusation.		
21	<u>PARTIES</u>		
22	1. Virginia Herold (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy.		
23	She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this matter by Kamal		
24	D. Harris, Attorney General of the State of California, by Marichelle S. Tahimic, Deputy		
25	Attorney General.		
26	2. Todd Curtiss Lawrence (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by attorney		
27	Ron Talmo, whose address is 2415 North Hespe	erian, Santa Ana, CA 926706	
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3. On or about August 13, 1993, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacist License No. RPH 46439 to Todd Curtiss Lawrence (Respondent). The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 4352 and will expire on May 31, 2015, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

4. Accusation No. 4352 was filed before the Board of Pharmacy (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on November 27, 2012. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 4352 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 4352. Respondent also has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order.
- 6. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 4352, agrees that cause exists for discipline and hereby surrenders his Pharmacist License No. RPH 46439 for the Board's formal acceptance.

9. Respondent understands that by signing this stipulation he enables the Board to issue an order accepting the surrender of his Pharmacist License without further process.

CONTINGENCY

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

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Pharmacist License No. RPH 46439, issued to Respondent Todd Curtiss Lawrence, is surrendered and accepted by the Board of Pharmacy.

1. The surrender of Respondent's Pharmacist License and the acceptance of the surrendered license by the Board shall constitute the imposition of discipline against Respondent.

This stipulation constitutes a record of the discipline and shall become a part of Respondent's license history with the Board of Pharmacy.

- 2. Respondent shall lose all rights and privileges as a Pharmacist in California as of the effective date of the Board's Decision and Order.
- Respondent shall cause to be delivered to the Board his pocket license and, if one was issued, his wall certificate on or before the effective date of the Decision and Order.
- 4. If Respondent ever files an application for licensure or a petition for reinstatement in the State of California, the Board shall treat it as a petition for reinstatement. Respondent must comply with all the laws, regulations and procedures for reinstatement of a revoked license in effect at the time the petition is filed, and all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 4352 shall be deemed to be true, correct and admitted by Respondent when the Board determines whether to grant or deny the petition.
- Respondent shall pay the agency its costs of investigation and enforcement in the amount of \$6,567.00 prior to issuance of a new or reinstated license.
- If Respondent should ever apply or reapply for a new license or certification, or petition for reinstatement of a license, by any other health care licensing agency in the State of California, all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 4352 shall be deemed to be true, correct, and admitted by Respondent for the purpose of any Statement of Issues or any other proceeding seeking to deny or restrict licensure.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Surrender of License and Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Ron Talmo. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Pharmacist License. I enter into this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Pharmacy.

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RTISS LAWRENCE Respondent

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1	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Todd Curtiss Lawrence the terms and	
2	conditions and other matters contained in this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I	
3	approve its form and content.	The state of the s
4	DATED: Sep 27, 2013	Roole Tolus
5		RON TALMO, Esq. Attorney for Respondent
6		Amorney for Respondent
7	ENDORSEMENT	
8	The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully submitted	
9	for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy of the Department of Consumer Affairs.	
10	Dated: Sept. 27, 2013	Respectfully submitted,
11		KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California
12		JAMES M. LEDAKIS Supervising Deputy Attorney General
13		•
14		Marichelle Jahin
15		MARICHELLE S. TAHIMIC Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant
16		Allor neys for Complainant
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Exhibit A

Accusation No. 4352

- 11			
1	KAMALA D. HARRIS		
2	Attorney General of California JAMES M. LEDAKIS		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General MARICHELLE S. TAHIMIC		
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 147392		
5	110 West "A" Street, Suite 1100 San Diego, CA 92101		
6	P.O. Box 85266 San Diego, CA 92186-5266		
7	Telephone: (619) 645-3154 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061 Attorneys for Complainant		
8			
9	BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
10			
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:		
12	TODD CURTISS LAWRENCE Case No. 4352		
13	45 Chantilly Irvine, CA 92620		
14	Pharmacist License No. RPH 46439		
15	Respondent.		
16			
17	Complainant alleges:		
18	PARTIES		
19	1. Virginia Herold (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity		
20	as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs.		
21	2. On or about August 13, 1993, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacist License		
22	Number RPH 46439 to Todd Curtiss Lawrence (Respondent). The Pharmacist License was in		
23	full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on May 31		
24 .	2013, unless renewed.		
25	JURISDICTION		
26	3. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Pharmacy (Board), Department of		
27	Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the		
28	Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.		
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program under Article 5 (commencing with section 23249.50) of Chapter 12 of Division 11 of the Vehicle Code, shall not prohibit any agency established under Division 2 ([Healing Arts] commencing with Section 500) of this code, or any initiative act referred to in that division, from taking disciplinary action against a licensee or from denying a license for professional misconduct, notwithstanding that evidence of that misconduct may be recorded in a record pertaining to an arrest.

This section shall not be construed to apply to any drug diversion program operated by any agency established under Division 2 (commencing with Section 500) of this code, or any initiative act referred to in that division."

8. Section 493 of the Code states:

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in a proceeding conducted by a board within the department pursuant to law to deny an application for a license or to suspend or revoke a license or otherwise take disciplinary action against a person who holds a license, upon the ground that the applicant or the licensee has been convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of the licensee in question, the record of conviction of the crime shall be conclusive evidence of the fact that the conviction occurred, but only of that fact, and the board may inquire into the circumstances surrounding the commission of the crime in order to fix the degree of discipline or to determine if the conviction is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of the licensee in question.

As used in this section, 'license' includes 'certificate,' 'permit,' 'authority,' and 'registration.'

9. Section 4022 of the Code states:

"Dangerous drug" or "dangerous device" means any drug or device unsafe for self-use in humans or animals, and includes the following:

- (a) Any drug that bears the legend: "Caution: federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription," "Rx only," or words of similar import.
- (b) Any device that bears the statement: "Caution: federal law restricts this device to sale by or on the order of a _____," "Rx only," or words of similar import, the blank to be filled in with the designation of the practitioner licensed to use or order use of the device.
- (c) Any other drug or device that by federal or state law can be lawfully dispensed only on prescription or furnished pursuant to Section 4006."

10. Section 4060 of the Code states:

No person shall possess any controlled substance, except that furnished to a person upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, veterinarian, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.7, or furnished pursuant to a drug order issued by a certified nurse-midwife pursuant to Section 2746.51, a nurse practitioner pursuant to Section 2836.1, or a physician assistant pursuant to Section 3502.1, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.5, or a pharmacist pursuant to either subparagraph (D) of paragraph (4) of, or clause (iv) of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (5) of, subdivision (a) of Section This section shall not apply to the possession of any controlled substance by a manufacturer, wholesaler, pharmacy, pharmacist, physician, podiatrist, dentist, optometrist, veterinarian, naturopathic doctor, certified nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, when in stock in containers correctly labeled with the name and address of the supplier or producer.

Nothing in this section authorizes a certified nurse-midwife, a nurse practitioner, a physician assistant, or a naturopathic doctor, to order his or her own stock of dangerous drugs and devices.

11. 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.
- (h) The administering to oneself, of any controlled substance, or the use of any dangerous drug or of alcoholic beverages to the extent or in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to oneself, to a person holding a license under this chapter, or to any other person or to the public, or to the extent that the use impairs the ability of the person to conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by the license.
- (j) The violation of any of the statutes of this state, or any other state, or of the United States regulating controlled substances and dangerous drugs.

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(1) The conviction of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a licensee under this chapter. The record of conviction of a violation of Chapter 13 (commencing with Section 801) of Title 21 of the United States Code regulating controlled substances or of a violation of the statutes of this state regulating controlled substances or dangerous drugs shall be conclusive evidence of unprofessional conduct. In all other cases, the record of conviction shall be conclusive evidence only of the fact that the conviction occurred. The board may inquire into the circumstances surrounding the commission of the crime, in order to fix the degree of discipline or, in the case of a conviction not involving controlled substances or dangerous drugs, to determine if the conviction is of an offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a licensee under this chapter. A plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea of nolo contendere is deemed to be a conviction within the meaning of this provision. The board may take action when the time for appeal has elapsed, or the judgment of conviction has been affirmed on appeal or when an order granting probation is made suspending the imposition of sentence, irrespective of a subsequent order under Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code allowing the person to withdraw his or her plea of guilty and to enter a plea of not guilty, or setting aside the verdict of guilty, or dismissing the accusation, information, or indictment.

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

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- 12. Section 4327 of the Code states that any person who, while on duty, sells, dispenses or compounds any drug while under the influence of any dangerous drug or alcoholic beverages shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.
 - 13. Title 16, California Code of Regulations, section 1669 states in part:
 - (b) When considering the suspension or revocation of a facility or a personal license on the ground that the licensee or the registrant has been convicted of a crime, the board, in evaluating the rehabilitation of such person and his present eligibility for a license will consider the following criteria:
 - (1) Nature and severity of the act(s) or offense(s).
 - (2) Total criminal record.
 - (3) The time that has elapsed since commission of the act(s)

regulatory agency.

11058 and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is used to relieve coughing.

- 20. <u>Hydrocodone/homatropin</u>, also known by the brand name Hydromet syrup, is a Schedule III controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11056(e)(3), and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is used to relieve coughing.
- 21. <u>Hydrocodone/chlorpheniramine</u>, also known by the brand names Hytan and Tussionex, is a Schedule III controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11056(e)(2), and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is used to relieve coughing.

FACTS

- 22. Respondent was employed as a pharmacist at a Target pharmacy located in Foothills Ranch, California, from January, 2011 through July 21, 2011. On July 7, 2011, D.I. received notification from Target Headquarters about a possible discrepancy in controlled substance inventory counts at the Foothills Ranch location. After business hours on July 7, 2011, D.I. and an investigation team conducted a controlled substance count and installed covert cameras. A second controlled substance count was conducted on July 17, 2011. Between July 7, 2011 and July 21, 2011, the investigation team had been viewing the store through the surveillance cameras.
- 23. The inventory count revealed a discrepancy of about 10,000 pills since January 2011. The following drugs were unaccounted for between January and July, 2011:

Hydrocodone-apap 7.5/750 mg2,876 tabletsHydrocodone-apap 10/325 mg8,027 tabletsHudromet Syrup834 mlPromethazine-codeine syrup776 mlHydrocodone-chlorphemiramine suspension974 ml

24. Video surveillance on July 11, 12, 16, 17 and 21, 2011, showed Respondent taking drugs. The video surveillance of July 21, 2011, showed Respondent placing various brands of

- 25. The Orange County Sheriff's Department was contacted and arrived at the store. Respondent told the Sheriff's narcotics investigator that he was caught stealing Vicodin. He told the investigator that he had been under a lot of stress and had been stealing prescription narcotics from the Target pharmacy for the past 6-7 months. He stated he became addicted to Vicodin when he started using cough syrup earlier in the year to cope with financial difficulties. Respondent denied selling or giving away any of the pills.
- 26. Respondent told the Sheriff's narcotics investigator that he had planned on taking the medication home, where he hides it in a drawer in his garage to prevent his wife from finding out about his addiction. Respondent stated he consumed about 10 pills each night after each work day. On his days off, Respondent stated he consumes between 20-40 pills a day. Respondent admitted he took the 7.5 and 10 milligram pills because they are the highest strength narcotics that the pharmacy kept unlocked. He admitted to stealing about 100-200 pills from Target every week, but admitted he sometimes stole more often in order to keep a supply on hand.
- 27. After receiving consent to search Respondent's home, investigators found 4 red prescription bottles of cough syrup that were either empty or nearly empty in the garage. The bottles did not have prescriptions labels affixed to them. The investigators also found 165 clear capsules containing a beige powder but the capsules were not marked and could not be identified.

Respondent was subsequently arrested for possession of narcotics and for stealing medication from his employer.

- 28. In The People of the State of California v. Todd Curtiss Lawrence, Orange County Superior Court, Harbor Justice Center, Case No. 11HF2301, Respondent was charged with possession of a controlled substance, specifically hydrocodone, on or between January 1, 2011 and July 21, 2011, in violation of Health and Safety Code 11350(a) (hereinafter "Count 1") and, grand theft by an employee in excess of \$950, in violation of Penal Code section 487(b)(3) (hereinafter "Count 2"). Both counts are felonies.
- 29. On April 26, 2012, Count 2 was reduced to a misdemeanor. Respondent pled guilty to both counts. Entry of judgment as to Count 1 was deferred pursuant to Penal Code 1000. The court allowed Respondent to complete the Maximus Program in lieu of the P.C. 1000 program. A hearing on completion of the deferred entry of judgment program is set for October 28, 2013.
- 30. As to Count 2, Respondent was convicted of grand theft on April 26, 2012 and sentenced to 3 years probation, pay \$505 in fees and fines and ordered to stay away from Target pharmacy.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(April 26, 2012 Conviction of Grand Theft)

31. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code sections 490 and 4301, subdivision (I), for conviction of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a pharmacist, when Respondent was convicted on April 26, 2012, on his guilty plea of grand theft from his employer on and between January 1, 2011 and July 21, 2011, as more fully set forth in paragraphs 22-30 above and incorporated herein by this reference as though set forth in full.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct - Commission of Any Act Involving Moral Turpitude, Dishonesty, Fraud and Deceit)

32. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision (f), for the commission of any act involving moral turpitude, dishonesty and deceit, when between

January 1, 2011 and July 21, 2011, Respondent stole drugs from his employer for his personal use, as more fully set forth in paragraphs 22-30 above and incorporated herein by this reference as though set forth in full.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct - Use of Any Dangerous Drug)

33. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision (h), for unprofessional conduct in that between January 1, 2011 and July 21, 2011, Respondent stole drugs from his employer and used these drugs on a daily basis to the extent or in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself in that Respondent became addicted to these drugs, as more fully set forth in paragraphs 22-30 above and incorporated herein by this reference as though set forth in full.

FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct – Violation of Laws Regarding Possession of Controlled Substances)

34. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision (j), for violation of Code section 4060, in that on and between January 1, 2011 and July 21, 2011, Respondent unlawfully possessed controlled substances, as more fully set forth in paragraphs 22-30 above and incorporated herein by this reference as though set forth in full.

FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct – Violation of Laws Regarding Self-Administration of Controlled Substances)

35. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), for violation of Health and Safety Code section 11170, in that on and between January 1, 2011 and July 21, 2011, Respondent unlawfully administered and furnished a controlled substance for himself, as more fully set forth in paragraphs 22-30 above and incorporated herein by this reference as though set forth in full.

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1	3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.	
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4	DATED: //8/12 VIRGINIA MEROLD	
5	Executive Officer Board of Pharmacy	
6	Executive Officer Board of Pharmacy Department of Consumer Affairs State of California	
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