3 6 7 BEFORE THE **BOARD OF PHARMACY** DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA 10 11 12 Case No. 4388 In the Matter of the Accusation Against: 13 14 DAVID F. DIAZ DEFAULT DECISION AND ORDER 1947 Norwalk Ave 15 Los Angeles, CA 90041 Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH [Gov. Code, §11520] 16 92998 17 18 Respondent. 19 20 FINDINGS OF FACT 21 On or about December 14, 2012, Complainant Virginia K. Herold, in her official 22 capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs, 23 filed Accusation No. 4388 against David F. Diaz (Respondent) before the Board of Pharmacy. 24 (Accusation attached as Exhibit A.) 25 2. On or about August 4, 2009, the Board of Pharmacy (Board) issued Pharmacy 26 Technician Registration No. TCH 92998 to Respondent. The Pharmacy Technician Registration 27 was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 4388 28

and expired on January 31, 2013. The lapse in licensure, however, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 118(b) does not deprive the Board of its authority to institute or continue this disciplinary proceeding.

- 3. On or about January 4, 2013, Respondent was served by Certified and First Class Mail copies of the Accusation No. 4388, 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: 1947 Norwalk Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90041.
- 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. 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.
- 6. Respondent failed to file a Notice of Defense within 15 days after service upon him of the Accusation, and therefore waived his right to a hearing on the merits of Accusation No. 4388.
 - 7. 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.
- 8. 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. 4388, finds that

DEFAULT DECISION AND ORDER

ORDER IT IS SO ORDERED that Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 92998, heretofore issued to Respondent David F. Diaz, 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 July 11, 2013. It is so ORDERED ON June 11, 2013. **BOARD OF PHARMACY** DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA By Board President 51273031.DOC DOJ Matter ID:LA2012507668 Attachment: Exhibit A: Accusation

Exhibit A

Accusation

- 1	
1	KAMALA D. HARRIS
2	Attorney General of California KAREN B. CHAPPELLE
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General THOMAS L. RINALDI
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7	Attorneys for Complainant
8	BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY
9	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA
10	
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 4388
12	DAVID F. DIAZ 1947 Norwalk Ave
13	Los Angeles, CA 90041 A C C U S A T I O N
14	Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 92998
15	Respondent.
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17	Complainant alleges:
18	<u>PARTIES</u>
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 4, 2009, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacy Technician
22	Registration Number TCH 92998 to David F. Diaz (Respondent). The Pharmacy Technician
23	Registration was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and
24	will expire on January 31, 2013, unless renewed.
25	<u>JURISDICTION</u>
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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4. 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 4052. 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."

5. 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 any other state, or of the United States regulating controlled substances and dangerous drugs.
- "(o) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of or conspiring to violate any provision or term of this chapter or of the applicable

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federal and state laws and regulations governing pharmacy, including regulations established by the board or by any other state or federal regulatory agency.

- 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:
 - "(1) Suspending judgment.
 - "(2) Placing him or her upon probation.
 - "(3) Suspending his or her right to practice for a period not exceeding one year.
 - "(4) Revoking his or her license.
- "(5) Taking any other action in relation to disciplining him or her as the board in its discretion may deem proper.

7. Section 118 of the Code states:

- "(a) The withdrawal of an application for a license after it has been filed with a board in the department shall not, unless the board has consented in writing to such withdrawal, deprive the board of its authority to institute or continue a proceeding against the applicant for the denial of the license upon any ground provided by law or to enter an order denying the license upon any such ground.
- "(b) The suspension, expiration, or forfeiture by operation of law of a license issued by a board in the department, or its suspension, forfeiture, or cancellation by order of the board or by order of a court of law, or its surrender without the written consent of the board, shall not, during any period in which it may be renewed, restored, reissued, or reinstated, deprive the board of its authority to institute or continue a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee upon any ground provided by law or to enter an order suspending or revoking the license or otherwise taking disciplinary action against the licensee on any such ground.

- "(c) As used in this section, board includes an individual who is authorized by any provision of this code to issue, suspend, or revoke a license, and 'license' includes 'certificate,' 'registration,' and 'permit.'"
- 8. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board/Registrar/Director 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.
 - 9. Health and Safety Code section 11350, subdivision (a) provides that:

Except as otherwise provided in this division, every person who possesses (1) any controlled substance specified in subdivision (b) or (c), or paragraph (1) of subdivision (f) of Section 11054, specified in paragraph (14), (15), or (20) of subdivision (d) of Section 11054, or specified in subdivision (b) or (c) of Section 11055 or specified in subdvision (h) of Section 11056, or (2) any controlled substance classified in Schedule III, IV, or V which is a narcotic drug, unless upon the written prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, or veterinarian licensed to practice in this state, shall be punished by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170 of the Penal Code.

DRUG CLASSIFICATION

10. Hydrocodone is a Schedule II controlled narcotic substance pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 11056(e)(4) and a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022.

BACKGROUND

11. On or around January 30, 2012, the Board received an initial notice of controlled substance theft from CVS Pharmacy (CVS.) The notification followed an investigation by CVS that was conducted after it was determined that several hundred hydrocodone tablets were missing from the pharmacy's inventory. During the course of that investigation, covert cameras were installed in the pharmacy. Through the video surveillance that followed, Respondent was observed placing a bottle containing controlled substances in his pocket on two separate

occasions. When confronted with the thefts by loss prevention personnel, Respondent admitted to

taking an unknown quantity of hydrocodone tablets from the pharmacy.

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