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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 4790

TARZANA PHARMACY; NOURI

NOURANI

18370 Burbank Blvd., Ste. 104

Tarzana, CA\_91356\_

OAH No. 2014080272

STIPULATED SETTLEMENT TO

REVOKE AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER

AS TO RESPONDENT TARZANA

PHARMACY ONLY

Original Pharmacist License No. RPH 58760 Original Permit No. PHY 49879

Respondents.

## **DECISION AND ORDER**

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary 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 September 18, 2015.

It is so ORDERED August 19, 2015.

BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

By

Amy Gutierrez, Pharm.D.

**Board President** 

Kamala D. Harais Attorney General of California Marc D. Greenbaum . 2 Supervising Deputy Attorney General ZACHARY T. PANSELOW ţ Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 274129 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-2562 Facsimile: (213) 897-2804 5 б Attornova for Complainant 7 BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 410 In the Matter of the Acousation Against: Case No. 4790 11 TARZANA FHARMACY; NOURI OAH No. 2014080272 12 MOURANT STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER AS TO 18370 Burbank Blyd., Ste. 104 Tarzana, CA 91356 RESPONDENT TARZANA PHARMACY Original Phármacist License No. RPM 58760 Original Parmit No. PHY 49879 15 Respondent. 16 17 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the perties' to the above-18 entitled proceedings that the following matters are true: 19 PARTIES. 20 Virginia Herold ("Complainant") is the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy. 21 She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this matter by Kamala D. Harris, Attorney General of the State of California, by Zachary T. Fanselow, Deputy Attorney 23 General. 24 Tarzana Pharmacy ("Respondent Pharmacy") is represented in this proceeding by 25 attorney Herbert Weinberg, whose address is McChire Woods LLP, 1800 Century Park East, 8th 26 Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90067. 21 This stipulation is between the Board of Pharmacy and Respondent Tarzana Pharmacy 28 only. Respondent Nouri Nourani is not a party to this stipulation, Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order (Case No. 4790)

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3. On or about April 1, 2009, the Board of Pharmacy issued Original Permit. Number PHY 49879 to Terzana Pharmacy; Nouri Nourani ("Respondent Pharmacy"). The Original Permit was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 4790, expired on April 1, 2014, and has since been canceled.

# Thresorchion

- 4. Acousation No. 4790 was filed before the Board of Pharmacy ("Board"), Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent Pharmacy. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent Pharmacy on February 25, 2014.
- Respondent Pharmacy failed to file a Notice of Defense and the Board issued a
  Default Decision and Order on July 2, 2014, with an effective date of August 1, 2014.
- 6. On or about July 8, 2014, Respondent Pharmacy submitted a Motion for Relief From Default Decision and Order and the Board issued an order vacating the Default Decision and Order effective July 21, 2014. Respondent Pharmacy then filed its Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation.
- 7. A copy of Accusation No. 4790 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference.

## ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 8. Respondent Pharmacy has carefully read, fully discussed-with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 4790. Respondent Pharmacy also has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 9. Respondent Phormacy is fully aware of its 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 its own expense; the right to combont and cross-examine the witnesses against it; the right to present evidence and to testify on its own behalf; the right to the issuance of subposues to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration

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27 29 and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.

10. Respondent Flurmacy voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

# CULPABILITY

- Respondent Pharmacy admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Acousation No. 4790.
- 12. Respondent Pharmacy agrees that its Original Permit Number PHY 49879 is subject to discipline and it agrees to be bound by the Board's imposition of discipline as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

# CONTINGENCY

- 13. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board of Pharmacy. Respondent Pharmacy 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 sattlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent Pharmacy or its counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent Pharmacy understands and agrees that it may not withdraw its 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 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.
- 14. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 15. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary 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 Settlement and Disciplinary

Stipulated Settlement and Dicolplinary Order (Case No. 4790)

Order may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a 2 writing executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties. .\*3 16. 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: 5 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Original Permit No. PHY 49879, issued to Respondent Ć, Tarzana Pharmacy; Nouri Nourani, is revoked. 1 8 ACCEPTANCE I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully Ģ discussed it with my attorney. Herbert Weinberg. I understand the stipulation and the effect it 10 will have on my Pharmacy Permit. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order 11 voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the 12 Board of Pharmany. 13 14 DATED 15 TARZAMA PHARMAOY, NOURI NOURANI 16 Respondent Pharmacy 17 18 I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Tarzana Pharmacy: Nouri Nourani the 19 terms and conditions and other matters contained in this Stipplated Settlement and Disciplinary 20 Order. I approve its form and content, 21 27/2018 22 23 Attorney for Respondent Pharmacy 24 23 26 27 28

ENDORSEMENT The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Pharmany of the Department of Consumer Affairs. 7,4 Respectfully submitted, Kamala D. Harris Attorney General of California Marc D. Greensaum Supervising Deputy Attorney General B Zachary T. Fanselow Deputy Attorney General Antorneys for Complainant LA2013510034 51696179.doc 2,5 Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order (Case No. 4790)

1	Kamala D. Harris		
2	Attorney General of California MARC D. GREENBAUM		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General ZACHARY T. FANSELOW		
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6	Facsimile: (213) 897-2804 Attorneys for Complainant		
7	BEFORE THE		
8	BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
9	STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
10	the state of the s	·	
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 4790	
12	TARZANA PHARMACY; NOURI NOURANI		
13	18370 Burbank Blyd., Ste. 104 Tarzana, CA 91356	ACCUSATION	
14	Original Pharmacist License No. RPH 58760		
15	Original Permit No. PHY 49879		
16	Respondent.		
17	Complainant alleges:		
18			
	PARTIES CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTIES CONTRACTOR		
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 September 8, 2006, the Board of Pharmacy issued Original Pharmacist		
22	License No. RPH 58760 to Nouri Nourani ("Respondent Nourani" or "Respondents"). The		
23	Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein		
24	and will expire on May 31, 2014, unless renewed.		
25	3. On or about April 1, 2009, the Board of Pharmacy issued Original Permit Number		
26	PHY 49879 to Tarzana Pharmacy; Nouri Nourani ("Respondent Pharmacy" or "Respondents"),		
27	The Original Permit was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein		
28	and will expire on April 1, 2014, unless renewed.		
		A constitution	

#### JURISDICTION

- 4. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs ("Board"), under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.
- 5. Section 4300 provides, in pertinent part, that every license issued by the Board is subject to discipline, including suspension or revocation.
  - 6. Section 4300.1 states:

"The expiration, cancellation, forfeiture, or suspension of a board-issued license by operation of law or by order or decision of the board or a court of law, the placement of a license on a retired status, or the voluntary surrender of a license by a licensee shall not deprive the board of jurisdiction to commence or proceed with any investigation of, or action or disciplinary proceeding against, the licensee or to render a decision suspending or revoking the license."

# STATUTORY PROVISIONS

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.
- "(g) Knowingly making or signing any certificate or other document that falsely represents the existence or nonexistence of a state of facts.

. . . .

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

#### 8. Section 4022 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."

## 9. Section 4051 states:

- "(a) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, it is unlawful for any person to manufacture, compound, furnish, sell, or dispense any dangerous drug or dangerous device, or to dispense or compound any prescription pursuant to Section 4040 of a prescriber unless he or she is a pharmacist under this chapter.
- "(b) Notwithstanding any other law, a pharmacist may authorize the initiation of a prescription, pursuant to Section 4052, and otherwise provide clinical advice or information or patient consultation if all of the following conditions are met:
- "(1) The clinical advice or information or patient consultation is provided to a health care professional or to a patient.
- "(2) The pharmacist has access to prescription, patient profile, or other relevant medical information for purposes of patient and clinical consultation and advice.
- "(3) Access to the information described in paragraph (2) is secure from unauthorized access and use."

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- 10. Section 4059, subdivision (a) states: "A person may not furnish any dangerous drug, except upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, veterinarian, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.7. A person may not furnish any dangerous device, except upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, veterinarian, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.7."
- 11. Section 4063 states: "No prescription for any dangerous drug or dangerous device may be refilled except upon authorization of the prescriber. The authorization may be given orally or at the time of giving the original prescription. No prescription for any dangerous drug that is a controlled substance may be designated refillable as needed."
  - 12. Section 4324 states:
- "(a) Every person who signs the name of another, or of a fictitious person, or falsely makes, alters, forges, utters, publishes, passes, or attempts to pass, as genuine, any prescription for any drugs is guilty of forgery and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison, or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than one year.
- "(b) Every person who has in his or her possession any drugs secured by a forged prescription shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison, or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than one year."

#### COST RECOVERY

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

## (Deviation from prescription)

14. Respondent Nourani's Pharmacist License and Respondent Pharmacy's Original Permit are subject to disciplinary action under section 4301, subdivision (o), in that Respondents violated California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1716, and section 4063 by deviating from a prescription without the prior consent of the prescriber. The circumstances are as follows:

 a. On or about September 17, 2010, Respondent pharmacy dispensed prescription number 970622 for Voltaren 1% Gel.<sup>1</sup> Prescription number 970622 was originally written for Voltaren 1% 100mg and to have no refills, but was altered by Respondent without the consent of the prescriber to have three refills. Prescription number 970622 was dispensed as Voltaren 1% 300mg and subsequently refilled.

# SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

## (Unauthorized Refills)

- 15. Respondent Nourani's Pharmacist License and Respondent Pharmacy's Original Permit are subject to disciplinary action under section 4063 in that Respondents' refilled and created refills for prescriptions without the authorization of the prescriber. The circumstances are as follows:
- a. On or about July 19, 2011, Respondents created a refill authorization request for Voltaren 1% gel with prescription number 970622. Respondent created the refill authorization request without securing authorization from the prescriber. Respondent's refill authorization form indicated that there were seven refills for prescription number 970622 authorized by "MD." No such authorization was received. Respondent also changed the address and phone number from what was listed on the original prescription, and changed the prescription number to 994819. The refills were dispensed as prescription 994819 on or about July 19, 2011, and then again on or about August 25, 2011.
- b. On or about May 6, 2011, Respondents created a telephone prescription for clotrimazole / betamethasone with prescription number 989078. No refills were indicated on this originally authorized prescription. The prescription was originally dispensed on May 19, 2011. On or about August 25, 2011, Respondents created a refill authorization request for prescription number 989078 without authorization from the prescriber. Respondent's refill authorization form indicated that there were four refills for prescription number 989078 authorized by "MD/Nancy."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Voltaren 1% Gel is an anti-inflammatory medication often prescribed to treat joint pain.

No such authorization was received. The refills for prescription number 989078 were then dispensed on or about August 25, 2011, September 22, 2011, and January 24, 2012.

# THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# (Fraudulent Prescription)

- 16. Respondent Nourani's Pharmacist License and Respondent Pharmacy's Original

  Permit are subject to disciplinary action under section 4059, subdivision (a), section 4063 and for
  unprofessional conduct under section 4301, subdivision (g) in that Respondents furnished,
  dispensed and refilled an unauthorized prescription. The circumstances are as follows:
- a. On or about January 24, 2012, Respondents created a telephone prescription for Voltaren 1% Gel as prescription number 1011884 without authorization from the prescriber. The physician listed as the prescriber stated that this prescription was not called in to Respondent Pharmacy.
- b. On or about April 26, 2012, Respondents refilled prescription number 1011884 for Voltaren 1% Gel without authorization from the prescriber. The physician listed as the prescriber confirmed that the telephone prescription was not called in to Respondent Pharmacy.

## FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### (Unprofessional Conduct)

- 17. Respondent Nourani's Pharmacist License and Respondent Pharmacy's Original Permit are subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct under section 4301, subdivision (f), in that Respondents committed acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption. The circumstances are as follows:
- a. On or about September 17, 2010, Respondents altered prescription number 970622, originally written as one 100 gram tube of 1% Voltaren Gel with no refills, to three 100 gram tubes of 1% Voltaren gram tubes with three refills. The original prescription totaled 100 grams of 1% Voltaren Gel, the altered prescription, including refills, totaled 900 grams of 1% Voltaren Gel. Prescription number 970622 was originally dispensed on or about September 17, 2010. Prescription number 970622 was then refilled on or about January 26, 2011, with a different address for Dr. Nazarian than what was on the original prescription.

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- b. On or about July 19, 2011, Respondents added 7 additional refills to prescription number 970622 without authorization from the prescriber, changed the address and phone number from what was listed on the original prescription, and changed the prescription number to 994819. The refills were dispensed as prescription 994819 on or about July 19, 2011, and then again on or about August 25, 2011.
- On or about May 16, 2011, Respondents created a telephone prescription for prescription number 989078. The number of refills on the original authorized prescription was not indicated. The prescription was originally dispensed on May 19, 2011. On or about August 25, 2011, Respondents added 4 refills to prescription number 989078 without authorization from the prescriber. The refills for prescription number 989078 were then dispensed on August 25, 2011. September 22, 2011, and January 24, 2012.
- On or about January 24, 2012, Respondents created a telephone prescription for Voltaren 1% Gel with prescription number 1011884 without authorization from the prescriber. On or about April 26, 2012, Respondents refilled prescription number 1011884 without authorization from the prescriber.

# DISCIPLINARY CONSIDERATIONS

- To determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondent, Complainant alleges the following:
- On or about August 30, 2010, the Board of Pharmacy issued Respondent Pharmacy Citation Number CI 2009 43793, with no associated fine. Respondent Pharmacy complied with the citation and it is final. The citation alleged that on or about February 13, 2010, Respondent Pharmacy furnished Advair 250/50 on a prescription refill written and labeled for Advair 100/50.
- b. On or about April 20, 2012, the Board of Pharmacy issued Respondent Pharmacy Citation Number CI 2010 45716, with no associated fine. Respondent Pharmacy complied with the citation and it is final. The citation alleged that on or about August 25, 2010, Respondent Pharmacy failed to advise patient MI of the generic substitute of her Zestoretic prescription.
- On or about April 20, 2012, the Board of Pharmacy issued Respondent Pharmacy Citation Number CI 2010 48152, with a \$2,500.00 fine. Respondent Pharmacy complied with the

citation and it is final. The citation alleged that Respondent Pharmacy dispensed medications for SP and MP without reviewing their drug therapy.

- d. On or about February 4, 2013, the Board of Pharmacy issued Respondent Pharmacy Citation Number CI 2012 53909, with no associated fine. Respondent Pharmacy complied with the citation and it is final. The citation alleged that on or about September 11, 2012, Respondent Pharmacy gave a computer and original prescription records to another pharmacy, which then placed the records in an off-site storage location such that they were not open or available for required inspection.
- e. On or about July 21, 2009, the Board of Pharmacy issued Respondent Nourani Citation Number CI 2009 40867, with a \$1,000.00 fine. Respondent Nourani complied with the citation and it is final. The citation alleged that on or about June 3, 2009, Respondent Nourani failed to provide oral consultation on two new prescriptions for patient DH for Azithromycin and Albuterol inhaler when they were sold to DH's mother by a pharmacy clerk.
- f. On or about April 20, 2012, the Board of Pharinacy issued Respondent Nourani Citation Number CI 2011 52004, with a \$500,00 fine. Respondent Nourani complied with the citation and it is final. The citation alleged that on or about August 25, 2010, Respondent Nourani failed to advise patient MI of the generic substitute of her Zestoretic prescription.
- g. On or about April 20, 2012, the Board of Pharmacy issued Respondent Nourani Citation Number CI 2011 52005, with a \$2,500.00 fine. Respondent Nourani complied with the citation and it is final. The citation alleged that Respondent Nourani dispensed medications for SP and MP without reviewing their drug therapy.
- h. On or about February 4, 2013, the Board of Pharmacy issued Respondent Nourani Citation Number CI 2012 55357, with fines totaling \$1,125.00. Respondent Nourani complied with the citation and it is final. The citation alleged that on or about September 11, 2012, Respondent Pharmacy gave a computer and original prescription records to another pharmacy, without having a duplicate set of records on the licensed premises, which then placed the records in an off-site storage location such that they were not open for required inspection. The citation further alleges that on or about September 5, 2012, Respondent Nourani reported the loss of

1	controlled substances due to a burglary that occurred on June 13, 2012. This loss was not	
2	reported within thirty days as required.	
3	PRAYER	
4	WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged,	
5	and that following the hearing, the Board of Pharmacy issue a decision:	
6	1. Revoking or suspending Original Permit Number PHY 49879, issued to Tarzana	
7	Pharmacy; Nouri Nourani;	
8	2. Revoking or suspending Original Pharmacist License Number RPH 58760, issued to	
9	Nouri Nourani,	
10	3. Ordering Tarzana Pharmacy and Nouri Nourani to pay the Board of Pharmacy the	
11	reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and	
12	Professions Code section 125.3; and,	
13	4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.	
14   15   16   17   18   19   20   21   22   23   24   25	DATED: 2/17/14  VIRGINA HEROLD Executive Officer Board of Pharmacy Department of Consumer Affairs State of California Complainant  LA2013510034 51394228.doc	
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	9 Accusation	