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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 4801

KENNETH JACK AMODEO 29782 Woodbrook Dr. Agoura Hills, CA 91301 Pharmacist License No. RPH 37646 OAH No. 2014080123

Respondent.

DECISION AND ORDER

Pursuant to the Board of Pharmacy's action on September 30, 2015, the attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval was adopted by the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective on November 9, 2015.

It is so ORDERED on October 9, 2015.

BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

By

Amy Gutierrez, Pharm.D. Board President



California State Board of Pharmacy 1625 N. Market Blvd, N219, Sacramento, CA 95834 Phone: (916) 574-7900 Fax: (916) 574-8618 www.pharmacy.ca.gov

October 9, 2015

Kenneth Jack Amodeo 29782 Woodbrook Dr. Agoura Hills, CA 91301

Re:

LETTER OF PUBLIC REPROVAL

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Kenneth Jack Amodeo, Pharmacist License No. RPH 37646

Dear Mr. Amodeo:

On January 6, 2014, the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California, filed an Accusation against your Pharmacist License. The Accusation alleges that you engaged in unprofessional conduct under Business and Professions Code sections 4081 and 4033, in that, after Golden State Pharmaceuticals ceased business operations in 2010, you as Pharmacist-In-Charge, failed to maintain all prescription records filled by the pharmacy and all other records at a Board licensed facility for a period of three years. Specifically, the Accusation alleges that you failed to notify the Board as to where all records of acquisition and disposition of dangerous drugs, including prescription files, were retained and maintained for the legally required period of three years from the date of making.

The Accusation further alleges that you violated title 16, section 1761, subdivision (a) of the California Code of Regulations in conjunction with sections 4059 subdivision (a) and 4060 of the Business and Professions Code in that, while you were Pharmacist-In-Charge at Golden State Pharmaceuticals, controlled substance prescriptions were furnished and dispensed without first contacting the prescribers to validate prescriptions that contained significant errors, omissions, irregularities, uncertainties, ambiguities, or alterations.

At a hearing, the Board could establish a factual basis for the charges in the Accusation. However, for the purpose of resolving the Accusation without the expense and uncertainty of further proceedings, the Board has decided that the charges warrant a public reproval.

Accordingly, in resolution of this matter under the authority provided under Business and Professions Code section 495, the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs issues this letter of public reproval.

Sincerely,

VIRGINIA HEROLD

Executive Officer

Board of Pharmacy

Department of Consumer Affairs

ļ	· ·		
1	KAMALA D. HARRIS		
2	Attorney General of California MARC D. GREENBAUM		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General LESLIE A. WALDEN		
.4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 196882		
	300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702		
5	Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-3465 Facsimile: (213) 897-2804		
6	Facsimile: (213) 897-2804 Attorneys for Complainant		
7	BEFORE THE		
8	BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
9	STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
10			
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 4801		
12	KENNETH JACK AMODEO 29782 Woodbrook Dr. OAH No. 2014080123 STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND		
13	Agoura Hills, CA 91301 Pharmacist License No. RPH 37646 DISCIPLINARY ORDER FOR PUBLIC REPROVAL		
14	Respondent. [Bus. & Prof. Code § 495]		
15			
16			
17	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-		
18	entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:		
19			
20	<u>PARTIES</u>		
21	1. VIRGINIA HEROLD (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the Board of		
22	Pharmacy. She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this matter		
23	by Kamala D. Harris, Attorney General of the State of California, by Leslie A. Walden, Deputy		
24	Attorney General.		
25	2. Respondent Kenneth Jack Amodeo (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by		
26	attorney Michael A. Dowell, whose address is: Hinshaw & Culbertson, LLP, 11601 Wilshire		
27	Boulevard, Suite 800, Los Angeles, California 90025.		
28			

3. On or about April 4, 1983, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacist License No. RPH 37646 to Kenneth Jack Amodeo (Respondent). The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 4801 and will expire on February 28, 2017, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

4. Accusation No. 4801 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 January 6, 2014.

Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 4801 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 4801. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval.
- 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 be represented by counsel at his own expense; 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 understands and agrees that the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 4801, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline upon his Pharmacist License.

9. For the purpose of resolving the Accusation without the expense and uncertainty of further proceedings, Respondent agrees that, at a hearing, Complainant could establish a factual basis for the charges in the Accusation, and that Respondent hereby gives up his right to contest those charges.

10. Respondent agrees that his Pharmacist License is subject to discipline and he agrees to be bound by the Disciplinary Order below.

CONTINGENCY

- 11. 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 settlement, 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 Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval 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.
- 12. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval, including Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 13. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval 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 Order for Public Reproval may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties.

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 Pharmacist License No. RPH 37646 issued to Respondent Kenneth Jack Amodeo (Respondent) shall, by way of letter from the Board's Executive Officer, be publicly reproved. The letter shall be in substantially the same form as the letter attached as Exhibit B to this stipulation.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this decision, Respondent shall submit to the Board or its designee, for prior approval, an appropriate program of Remedial Education related to his duties as a Pharmacist—In—Charge. The program of Remedial Education shall consist of at least six (6) hours, which shall be completed within three (3) months at Respondent's own expense. All remedial education shall be in addition to, and shall not be credited toward, continuing education (CE) courses used for license renewal purposes. Following the completion of each course, the board or its designee may require the Respondent, at his or her own expense, to take an approved examination to test the Respondent's knowledge of the course. Any such examination failure shall require respondent to take another course approved by the Board in the same subject area.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent shall pay \$6,604.00 to the Board for its costs associated with the investigation and enforcement of this matter. Respondent shall pay said costs within ninety (90) days of the effective date of the Board's decision adopting this agreement.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Michael A. Dowell. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Pharmacist License. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Pharmacy.

1	DATED: 5-7-15 Semeth Jack Que des KENNETH JACK AMODEO
2	Respondent
3	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Kenneth Jack Amodeo the terms and
4	conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order
5	for Public Reproval. I approve its form and content.
7	DATED: 5-7-15 MICHAEL A, DOWELL Attorney for Respondent
8	Tandandy for Respondent
9	////
10	<i> </i>
11	<u>ENDORSEMENT</u>
12	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval is hereby
13	respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy of the Department of
14	Consumer Affairs.
15	
16	Dated: Respectfully submitted,
17	KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California
18	MARC D. GREENBAUM Supervising Deputy Attorney General
19	Vando
20	I POLIF A WALDEN
21	Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant
22	amorneys for Companian
23	
24	LA2013509844
25	51771191.doc
26	
27	
28	
-	

Exhibit A

Accusation No. 4801

- 11			
1	KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California		
2	Marc D. Greenbaum		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General LESLIE A. WALDEN		
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 196882		
5	300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013		
6	Telephone: (213) 897-3465 Facsimile: (213) 897-2804		
7	Attorneys for Complainant	•	
8	BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY		
9	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
	STATEOFC	LALIFORTIA	
10	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 4801	
11	GOLDEN STATE PHARMACEUTICALS;		
12	KENNETH JACK AMODEO 768 Calle Plano	ACCUSATION	
13	Camarillo, CA 93012		
14	Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 48647,		
15	Pharmacist License No. RPH 37646		
16	A MANAGE MANAGE AND A VOI		
17	Respondent.		
18		<u>.</u>	
19			
·20	Complainant alleges:		
21	PARTIES		
22	1. Virginia Herold (Complainant) brir	ngs this Accusation solely in her official capacity	
23	as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs.		
24	2. On or about August 24, 2007, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacy Permit		
25	Number PHY 48647 to Golden State Pharmaceuticals (Respondent). The Pharmacy Permit		
26	expired on August 1, 2010, and has not been renewed.		
27			
28			

6. Section 4300.1 of the Code 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."

- 7. 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.
 - 8. Section 4081 of the Code states:
- "(a) 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, 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.
- "(b) The owner, officer, and partner of any pharmacy, wholesaler, or veterinary food-animal drug retailer shall be jointly responsible, with the pharmacist-in-charge or representative-in-charge, for maintaining the records and inventory described in this section.
- "(c) The pharmacist-in-charge or representative-in-charge shall not be criminally responsible for acts of the owner, officer, partner, or employee that violate this section and of which the pharmacist-in-charge or representative-in-charge had no knowledge, or in which he or she did not knowingly participate."

26 ·

9. Section 4059 of the Code states:

"(a) 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.

* * * * *

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 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."

REGULATIONS

1. 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."

12. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1708.2 provides:

"Any permit holder shall contact the board prior to transferring or selling any dangerous drugs, devices or hypodermics inventory as a result of termination of business or bankruptcy proceedings and shall follow official instructions given by the board applicable to the transaction."

- 13. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1761 provides:
- "(a) No pharmacist shall compound or dispense any prescription which contains any significant error, omission, irregularity, uncertainty, ambiguity or alteration. Upon receipt of any such prescription, the pharmacist shall contact the prescriber to obtain the information needed to validate the prescription."..."

COSTS

14. 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

(Golden State Pharmaceuticals - Failure to File Discontinuance of Business)

- 15. Respondent Golden State Pharmaceuticals is subject to disciplinary action under title 16, section 1708.2 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) in that Respondent failed to contact the Board prior to transferring or selling any dangerous drugs, devices or hypodermic inventory as a result of termination of its business. The circumstances are as follows:
- 16. On or about April 29, 2011, an onsite inspection by the Board of Pharmacy revealed that another business was operating out of the business address licensed to Respondent located at 768 Calle Plano, Camarillo, CA 93012. Respondent failed to submit or file a Discontinuance of Business form with the Board upon the termination of its business.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Golden State Pharmaceuticals - Failure to Maintain Prescription Records)

- 17. Respondent Golden State Pharmaceuticals is subject to disciplinary action under section 4333 in conjunction with 4081 of the Code in that it failed to maintain all prescriptions filled by the pharmacy and all other records on its premises for inspection by authorized officers for a period of three years. The circumstances are as follows:
- 18. On or about June 16, 2010 Respondent Golden State Pharmaceuticals terminated its business operations located at 768 Calle Plano, Camarillo, CA 93012, and subsequently failed to notify the Board prior to transferring, selling or disposing of all dangerous drugs and devices. In addition, Respondent failed to notify the Board as to where all records of acquisition and disposition of dangerous drugs, including prescription files, were retained and maintained for the legally required period of three years from the date of making.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Golden State Pharmaceuticals - Unauthorized Prescriptions)

- 19. Respondent Golden State Pharmaceuticals is subject to disciplinary action under title 16, section 1761, subdivision (a) of the CCR in conjunction with section 4059 subdivision (a) and 4060 of the Code in that it failed to contact the prescribers to validate prescriptions prior to compounding or dispensing such prescriptions which contained significant errors, omissions, irregularities, uncertainties, ambiguities, or alterations. The circumstances are as follows:
- 20. From on or about January 2009 to June 2010, Respondent Golden State

 Pharmaceuticals furnished and dispensed approximately 1000 controlled substance prescriptions, which were not prescribed or authorized by Douglas Mills, M.D.. Specifically, Respondent failed to obtain validation of the prescriptions from Dr. Mills who was not employed by Frontline Medical Associates, the prescribing medical group, since September 2007, and had not been practicing medicine in the State of California since October 2009.

////

1///

2.0

(Kenneth Jack Amodeo - Failure to Maintain Prescription Records)

- 21. Respondent Kenneth Jack Amodeo is subject to disciplinary action under section 4333 in conjunction with 4081 of the Code in that he failed to maintain all prescriptions filled by the pharmacy and all other records on its premises for inspection by authorized officers for a period of three years. The circumstances are as follows:
- 22. On or about June 16, 2010, while Respondent Kenneth Jack Amodeo was the Pharmacist-in-Charge, Golden State Pharmaceuticals terminated its business operations located at 768 Calle Plano, Camarillo, CA 93012. Respondent Amodeo failed to notify the Board of the termination of business practices prior to transferring, selling or disposing of all dangerous drugs and devices. In addition, Respondent Amodeo failed to notify the Board as to where all records of acquisition and disposition of dangerous drugs, including prescription files, were retained and maintained for the legally required period of three years from the date of making.

FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Kenneth Jack Amodeo - Unauthorized Prescriptions)

- 23. Respondent Kenneth Jack Amodeo is subject to disciplinary action under Title 16, section 1761, subdivision (a) of the CCR in conjunction with section 4059 subdivision (a) and 4060 of the Code in that while he was the Pharmacist-In-Charge, the pharmacist(s) who dispensed the prescriptions failed to contact the prescribers to validate prescriptions prior to compounding or dispensing such prescriptions, which contained significant errors, omissions, irregularities, uncertainties, ambiguities, or alterations. The circumstances are as follows:
- 24. From on or about January 2009 to June 2010, Respondent Kenneth Jack Amodeo was the Pharmacist-In-Charge at Golden State Pharmaceuticals. During this time frame, approximately 1000 controlled substance prescriptions were furnished and dispensed, which were not prescribed or authorized by Douglas Mills, M.D.. Specifically, the pharmacist(s) failed to obtain validation of the prescriptions from Dr. Mills who was not employed by Frontline Medical Associates, the prescribing medical group, since September 2007 and had not been practicing medicine in the State of California since October 2009.

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:

- 1. Revoking or suspending Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 48647, issued to Golden State Pharmaceuticals and PIC Kenneth Jack Amodeo.
- 2. Revoking or suspending Pharmacist license Number RPH 48647, issued to Kenneth Jack Amodeo;
- 3. Ordering Kenneth Jack Amodeo and Golden State Pharmaceuticals to pay the Board of Pharmacy the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3;
 - 4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: 16/14 VIRGINIA HEROLD

Executive Officer
Board of Pharmacy

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California Complainant

LA2013509844 51404468.doc

Exhibit B

Letter of Public Reproval in Case No. 4801

Date:	

Kenneth Jack Amodeo 29782 Woodbrook Dr. Agoura Hills, CA 91301

Re:

LETTER OF PUBLIC REPROVAL

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Kenneth Jack Amodeo, Pharmacist License No. RPH 37646

Dear Mr. Amodeo:

On January 6, 2014, the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California, filed an Accusation against your Pharmacist License. The Accusation alleges that you engaged in unprofessional conduct under Business and Professions Code sections 4081 and 4033, in that, after Golden State Pharmaceuticals ceased business operations in 2010, you as Pharmacist-In-Charge, failed to maintain all prescription records filled by the pharmacy and all other records at a Board licensed facility for a period of three years. Specifically, the Accusation alleges that you failed to notify the Board as to where all records of acquisition and disposition of dangerous drugs, including prescription files, were retained and maintained for the legally required period of three years from the date of making.

The Accusation further alleges that you violated title 16, section 1761, subdivision (a) of the California Code of Regulations in conjunction with sections 4059 subdivision (a) and 4060 of the Business and Professions Code in that, while you were Pharmacist-In-Charge at Golden State Pharmaceuticals, controlled substance prescriptions were furnished and dispensed without first contacting the prescribers to validate prescriptions that contained significant errors, omissions, irregularities, uncertainties, ambiguities, or alterations,

At a hearing, the Board could establish a factual basis for the charges in the Accusation. However, for the purpose of resolving the Accusation without the expense and uncertainty of further proceedings, the Board has decided that the charges warrant a public reproval.

Accordingly, in resolution of this matter under the authority provided under Business and Professions Code section 495, the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs issues this letter of public reproval.

Sincerely,

VIRGINIA HEROLD Executive Officer Board of Pharmacy Department of Consumer Affairs