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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 5433

JOSEPH ABDELLAH OUASSIL 3137 Indianapolis Ave. Clovis, CA 93614

Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 105898

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 December 18, 2015.

It is so ORDERED on November 18, 2015.

BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

By

Amy Gutierrez, Pharm.D. Board President

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	STATE OF C	CALIFORNIA
10	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 5433
11	JOSEPH ABDELLAH OUASSIL	
12	3137 Indianapolis Ave. Clovis, CA 93614	STIPULATED SURRENDER OF
13	Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH	LICENSE AND ORDER
14	105898	
15	Respondent.	
16		
17	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGE	EED by and between the parties to the above-
18	entitled proceedings that the following matters ar	e true:
19	PAR	TIES
20	1. Virginia Herold ("Complainant") is t	he Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy.
21	She brought this action solely in her official capa	city and is represented in this matter by Kamala
22	D. Harris, Attorney General of the State of Califo	ornia, by Sydney M. Mehringer, Deputy Attorney
23	General,	
24	2. Joseph Abdellah Ouassil ("Responde	ent") is representing himself in this proceeding
25	and has chosen not to exercise his right to be rep	resented by counsel.
26	3. On or about August 11, 2010, the Bo	ard of Pharmacy ("Board") issued Pharmacy
27	Technician Registration No. TCH 105898 to Res	pondent. The Pharmacy Technician Registration
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		Stimulated Sugger den of Liggurge (Class No. 5422)

was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 5433 and will expire on July 31, 2016, unless renewed.

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JURISDICTION

4. Accusation No. 5433 was filed before the Board and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on August 25, 2015. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 5433 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

S. Respondent has carefully read, and understands the charges and allegations in
 Accusation No. 5433. Respondent also has carefully read, 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 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.

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

CULPABILITY

8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation
No. 5433, agrees that cause exists for discipline and hereby surrenders his Pharmacy Technician
Registration No. TCH 105898 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 Pharmacy Technician Registration without further process.
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CONTINGENCY

This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board. Respondent understands 10. and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and surrender, without notice to or participation by Respondent. 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.

14 12. This Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is intended by the parties to be an 15 integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of their agreement. It supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, discussions, 16 17 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 18 19 executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties,

13. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that 20 the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Order: 21 22

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 105898, issued to Respondent Joseph Abdellah Ouassil, is surrendered and accepted by the Board of Pharmacy.

1. The surrender of Respondent's Pharmacy Technician Registration and the acceptance 26 of the surrendered license by the Board shall constitute the imposition of discipline against 27

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

- 2. Respondent shall lose all rights and privileges as a registered pharmacy technician in California as of the effective date of the Board's Decision and Order.
- 3. 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.

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4. 7 If Respondent ever files an application for licensure or a petition for reinstatement in 8 the State of California, the Board shall treat it as a new application for licensure. Respondent 9 may not apply for any license, permit, or registration from the Board for three (3) years from the effective date of this decision. Respondent stipulates that should be apply for any license from the 10 Board on or after the effective date of this decision, all allegations set forth in the accusation shall 11 be deemed to be true, correct and admitted by Respondent when the Board determines whether to 12 grant or deny the application. Respondent shall satisfy all requirements applicable to that license 13 14 as of the date the application is submitted to the Board, including, but not limited to certification by a nationally recognized body prior to the issuance of a new license. Respondent is required to 15 report this surrender as disciplinary action. 16

5, 17 Respondent shall pay the Board its costs of investigation and enforcement in the amount of \$4,909.50 prior to issuance of a new or reinstated license. 18

6, 19 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 20California, all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation, No. 5433 shall be deemed 21 22 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. 23

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Stipulated Surrender of License (Case No. 5433)

1	ACCEPTANCE
2	I have carefully read the Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I understand the
3	stipulation and the effect it will have on my Pharmacy Technician Registration. I enter into this
4	Stipulated Surrender of License and Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to
5	be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Pharmacy.
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7	DATED: 10/13/15
8	JOSEPH ABDELLAH OUASSIL Respondent
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10	ENDORSEMENT
11	The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully submitted
12	for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy of the Department of Consumer Affairs.
13	Dated: September <u>30</u> , 2015 Respectfully submitted,
14	Kamala D, Harris
15	Attorney General of California ARMANDO ZAMBRANO
16	Supervising Deputy Attorney General
17	SYDNEY M MEHENGER
18	SYDNEY M. MEHRINGER Deputy Attorney General
19	Attorneys for Complainant
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Stipulated Surrender of License (Case No. 5433)

Exhibit A

Accusation No. 5433

· ·	
Kamala D, Harris	
Attorney General of California ARMANDO ZAMBRANO	
Supervising Deputy Attorney General	
SYDNEY M. MEHRINGER Deputy Attorney General	
State Bar No. 245282 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702	
Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-2537	
Facsimile: (213) 897-2804 E-mail: Sydney.Mehringer@doj.ca.gov	
Attorneys for Complainant	
	DRE THE
DEPARTMENT OF	F PHARMACY CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF	' CALIFORNIA
In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 5433
JOSEPH ABDELLAH OUASSIL	
2742 Minford Street Lancaster, CA 93536	ACCUSATION
Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH	
105898	
Responden	
Complainant alleges:	
PA	<u>RTIES</u>
1. Virginia Herold ("Complainant") b	rings this Accusation solely in her official capacity
as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharm	acy, Department of Consumer Affairs.
2. On or about August 11, 2010, the I	Board of Pharmacy ("Board") issued Pharmacy
Technician Registration Number TCH 105898	to Joseph Abdellah Ouassil ("Respondent"). The
Pharmacy Technician Registration was in full	force and effect at all times relevant to the charges
brought herein and will expire on July 31, 2010	6, unless renewed.
JURIS	DICTION
3. This Accusation is brought before	the Board under the authority of the following
laws. All section references are to the Busines	s and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.
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4. 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."

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Section 4300.1 of the Code states:

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

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STATUTES

6. Section 4060 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

"No person shall possess any controlled substance, except that furnished to a person upon 20 the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, veterinarian, or naturopathic doctor 21 pursuant to Section 3640.7, or furnished pursuant to a drug order issued by a certified 22 nurse-midwife pursuant to Section 2746.51, a nurse practitioner pursuant to Section 2836.1, or a 23 physician assistant pursuant to Section 3502.1, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.5, 24 or a pharmacist pursuant to either subparagraph (D) of paragraph (4) of, or clause (iv) of 25 subparagraph (A) of paragraph (5) of, subdivision (a) of Section 4052. This section shall not 26 apply to the possession of any controlled substance by a manufacturer, wholesaler, pharmacy, 27 28 pharmacist, physician, podiatrist, dentist, optometrist, veterinarian, naturopathic doctor, certified

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JOSEPH ABDELLAH OUASSIL ACCUSATION -- CASE NO. 5433

1	nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, when in stock in containers correctly
2	labeled with the name and address of the supplier or producer."
3	7. Section 4301 of the Code states, in pertinent part:
4	"The board shall take action against any holder of a license who is guilty of unprofessiona
5	conduct or whose license has been procured by fraud or misrepresentation or issued by mistake.
6	Unprofessional conduct shall include, but is not limited to, any of the following:
7	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
8	"(f) The commission of any act involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or
9	corruption, whether the act is committed in the course of relations as a licensee or otherwise, an
10	whether the act is a felony or misdemeanor or not.
11	"(g) Knowingly making or signing any certificate or other document that falsely represent
2	the existence or nonexistence of a state of facts.
3	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
14	"(j) The violation of any of the statutes of this state, or any other state, or of the United
5	States regulating controlled substances and dangerous drugs.
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7	(o) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the
18	violation of or conspiring to violate any provision or term of this chapter or of the applicable
19	federal and state laws and regulations governing pharmacy, including regulations established by
20	the board or by any other state or federal regulatory agency."
21	8. Health and Safety Code section 11171 states, "No person shall prescribe, administe
22	or furnish a controlled substance except under the conditions and in the manner provided by thi
23	division."
24	9. Health and Safety Code section 11173 states, in pertinent part:
25	(a) No person shall obtain or attempt to obtain controlled substances, or procure or attempt
26	to procure the administration of or prescription for controlled substances, (1) by fraud, deceit,
27	misrepresentation, or subterfuge; or (2) by the concealment of a material fact."
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10. Health and Safety Code section 11174 states, "No person shall, in connection with the prescribing, furnishing, administering, or dispensing of a controlled substance, give a false name or false address."

11. Health and Safety Code section 11180 states, "No person shall obtain or possess a controlled substance obtained by a prescription that does not comply with this division."

COST RECOVERY

12. 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.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

13. Hydrocodone/acetaminophen ("hydrocodone/apap") is a Schedule III controlled
substance pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 11056, subdivision (e)(4) and is a
dangerous drug pursuant to Code section 4022. As of October 6, 2014, became a schedule II
controlled substance pursuant to United States Title 21 Section 812. Norco is a brand name for
hydrocodone/apap.

17 14. Promethazine with codeine is a Schedule V controlled substance pursuant to Health
18 and Safety Code section 11058, subdivision (c)(1) and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Code
19 section 4022.

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BACKGROUND FACTS

15. On or about April 4, 2014, the Board received a letter from Dan Kivisto, the
Pharmacist-in-Charge ("PIC Kivisto") of Burns Prescription Pharmacy Inc. ("Burns Pharmacy") in
Lancaster, California. PIC Kivisto reported that Respondent had resigned from Burns Pharmacy
after PIC Kivisto conducted an internal investigation and discovered that Respondent had
obtained fraudulent prescriptions in the names of family members, had them filled at Burns
Pharmacy, and then diverted the medication for himself.¹
While Respondent is a registered pharmacy technician, he was not employed in that role at

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Burns Pharmacy.

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JOSEPH ABDELLAH OUASSIL ACCUSATION - CASE NO, 5433

On or about September 12, 2014, a Board Inspector met with PIC Kivisto at Burns 16. Pharmacy, PIC Kivisto told the Board Inspector that he discovered Respondent was diverting controlled substances when he was investigating fraudulent prescriptions issued in the name of Dr. N. De Jesus. In February 2014, PIC Kivisto discovered a generic Norco prescription was missing from the pharmacy's "will call" area. PIC Kivisto ran a CURES report on all of his employees and discovered that several had received prescriptions for controlled substances from Dr. De Jesus after she retired in September 2013. Additionally, the CURES report revealed that Dr. De Jesus had prescribed promethazine with codeine and Norco for Respondent's stepfather, Y.K., and Norco for Respondent's brother, C.O. PIC Kivisto contacted Y.K. to inquire about the prescriptions and Y.K. had no knowledge of the prescriptions and denied ever seeing Dr. De Jesus or receiving the prescriptions.

17. On or about October 30, 2014, the Board Inspector interviewed Respondent. 12 Respondent admitted that the prescriptions for promethazine with codeine and Norco for Y.K. 13 were fraudulent and the prescriptions for Norco for C.O. were fraudulent. He stated that he 14 arranged for an employee at Dr. De Jesus's office to authorize the prescriptions for him. Once the 15 prescriptions were filled, Respondent would pick them up and pay for the narcotics. On the days 16 he did not work, Respondent would consume the drugs. The fraudulent prescriptions are as 17 follows: 18

Patient Name	RX #	Drug Type	Drug Quantity	Date Filled
K.Y	2098929	hydrocodone/apap 10mg- 325mg	180 tablets	9/17/2013
K.Y	2098929	hydrocodone/apap 10mg- 325mg	180 tablets	9/30/2013
K.Y	2098929	hydrocodone/apap 10mg- 325mg	180 tablets	10/15/2013
K.Y	2098929	hydrocodone/apap 10mg- 325mg	180 tablets	11/8/2013
K,Y	2098928	promethazine with codeine 10mg/6.25mg	480 ml	9/17/2013
<u>K.Y</u>	_2098928	promethazine_with_codeine 10mg/6.25mg	480_ml	9/30/2013_
K.Y	2098928	promethazine with codeine 10mg/6.25mg	480 ml	10/15/2013
K,Y	2098928	promethazine with codeine	480 ml	11/08/2013

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JOSEPH ABDELLAH OUASSIL ACCUSATION -- CASE NO. 5433

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		10mg/6.25mg	· · · · · ·		
1 K.Y 2	2098928	promethazine with codeine 10mg/6.25mg	480 ml	11/25/2013	
K,Y	2098928	promethazine with codeine 10mg/6.25mg	480 ml	12/18/2013	
C.O.	2100508	hydrocodone/apap 10mg- 325mg	180 tablets	9/25/2013	
5 C.O.	2100508	hydrocodone/apap 10mg- 325mg	180 tablets	10/21/2013	
C.O.	2100508	hydrocodone/apap 10mg- 325mg	180 tablets	11/15/2013	
C,O,	2100508	hydrocodone/apap 10mg- 325mg	180 tablets	2/26/2014	
FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE				······································	
	18. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivisi				
1 18.					
2 in conjunctio					
B Respondent					
14 promethazine with codeine. Between September 2013 and February 2014, R				Respondent obtained	
5 fraudulent p	fraudulent prescriptions for Norco and promethazine with codeine in the name of his stepfathe			ne of his stepfather,	
	K.Y., and his brother, C.O., with the help of an employee of Dr. N. De Jesus in the following				
	way: (1) the employee authorized the prescriptions; (2) Respondent had the prescriptions filled at				
		ident signed for, paid for, and p		•	
	Respondent personally used the medications obtained by the prescriptions. Complainant				
	incorporates by reference Paragraphs 15 through 17 as though fully set forth herein.				
2		SECOND CAUSE FOR DIS			
	(Dishonest and Fraudulent Acts)			4301, subdivision (A	
	19. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision (f) and subdivision (h), in conjunction with Health and Safety Code sections 11171, 11173, and				
	11180, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct in that Respondent committed dishonest and				
	fraudulent acts, including obtaining controlled substances by fraud, misrepresentation, and decelt				
5 11180, on th	ets, including ob	taining controlled substances l	Complainant incorporates by reference Paragraphs 15 through 18 as though fully set forth herein		
11180, on th 16	-	-			
5 11180, on th 6 fraudulent a	-	-			

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THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Knowingly Signing a False Document)

20. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision (g) on the grounds of unprofessional conduct in that Respondent knowingly signed a document that falsely represented the existence of a state of facts. Complainant incorporates by reference Paragraphs 15 through 18 as though fully set forth herein. Additionally, when Respondent signed for the prescriptions, he forged the signatures of his stepfather, K.Y., and his brother, C.O.

FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Providing a False Name in Connection with a Prescription)

21. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision (h),
in conjunction with Health and Safety Code sections 11174 and 11180, on the grounds of
unprofessional conduct in that Respondent had fraudulent prescriptions issued in the names of his
stepfather, K.Y., and his brother, C.O. Complainant incorporates by reference Paragraphs 15
through 18 as though fully set forth herein.

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 Technician Registration Number TCH 105898, issued to Joseph Abdellah Ouassil;

20 2. Ordering Joseph Abdellah Ouassil to pay the Board of Pharmacy the reasonable costs
21 of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code
22 section 125.3; and

3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper,

24 8/17/15 25 DATED: 26

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Executive Officer Board of Pharmacy Department of Consumer Affairs State of California *Complainant*

7 JOSEPH ABDELLAH OUASSIL ACCUSATION -- CASE NO. 5433