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

In the Matter of the Statement of Issues Against:

Case No. 5460

OAH No. 2015101038

VICTOR LEE

**Pharmacist License Applicant** 

Respondent.

#### **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 at 5:00 p.m. on May 12, 2016.

It is so ORDERED on April 12, 2016.

BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

By

Amy Gutierrez, Pharm.D. Board President

1	Kamala D. Harris				
2	Attorney General of California MARC D. GREENBAUM				
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General ZACHARY T. FANSELOW				
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 274129				
5	300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013				
6	Telephone: (213) 897-2562 Facsimile: (213) 897-2804				
7	Attorneys for Complainant				
8	BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY				
9	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA				
10		1			
11	In the Matter of the Statement of Issues Against:	Case No. 5460			
12	VICTOR LEE	OAH No. 2015101038			
13	• .	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER			
14	Pharmacist License Applicant				
15	Respondent.				
16	,				
17					
18	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AG	REED by and between the parties to the above-			
19	entitled proceedings that the following matters a	re true:			
20	PAR	<u>eties</u>			
21	1. Virginia Herold ("Complainant") is	the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy.			
22	She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this matter by Kamala				
23	D. Harris, Attorney General of the State of California, by Zachary T. Fanselow, Deputy Attorney				
24	General.				
25	2. Respondent Victor Lee ("Respondent") is represented in this proceeding by attorney				
26	Paul Chan, Esq., whose address is: 2311 Capitol Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95816.				
27	3. On or about November 17, 2014, Respondent filed an application dated November 3,				
28	2014, with the Board of Pharmacy to obtain a Pharmacist License.				

III

#### **JURISDICTION**

- 4. Statement of Issues No. 5460 was filed before the Board of Pharmacy ("Board"),
  Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Statement of
  Issues and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on
  September 30, 2015.
- 5. A copy of Statement of Issues No. 5460 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

#### ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 6. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Statement of Issues No. 5460. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 7. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Statement of Issues; 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.
- 8. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

#### **CULPABILITY**

- 9. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Statement of Issues No. 5460.
- 10. Respondent agrees that his Pharmacist License is subject to denial and he agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in 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 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, including PDF and facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 13. 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 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.
- 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 upon satisfaction of all statutory and regulatory requirements for issuance of a license, a Pharmacist License shall be issued to Respondent Victor Lee and immediately revoked. The revocation will be stayed and Respondent placed on five (5) years probation on the following terms and conditions:

7

10

11

12

13

14

15 16

17 18

19

2021

22

2324

25

262728

#### 1. Obey All Laws

Respondent shall obey all state and federal laws and regulations.

Respondent shall report any of the following occurrences to the Board, in writing, within seventy-two (72) hours of such occurrence:

- an arrest or issuance of a criminal complaint for violation of any provision of the Pharmacy Law, state and federal food and drug laws, or state and federal controlled substances laws
- a plea of guilty or nolo contendre in any state or federal criminal proceeding to any criminal complaint, information or indictment
- a conviction of any crime
- discipline, citation, or other administrative action filed by any state or federal agency which involves Respondent's pharmacist license or which is related to the practice of pharmacy or the manufacturing, obtaining, handling, distributing, billing, or charging for any drug, device or controlled substance.

Failure to timely report such occurrence shall be considered a violation of probation.

#### 2. Report to the Board

Respondent shall report to the Board quarterly, on a schedule as directed by the Board or its designee. The report shall be made either in person or in writing, as directed. Among other requirements, Respondent shall state in each report under penalty of perjury whether there has been compliance with all the terms and conditions of probation. Failure to submit timely reports in a form as directed shall be considered a violation of probation. Any period(s) of delinquency in submission of reports as directed may be added to the total period of probation. Moreover, if the final probation report is not made as directed, probation shall be automatically extended until such time as the final report is made and accepted by the Board.

#### 3. Interview with the Board

Upon receipt of reasonable prior notice, Respondent shall appear in person for interviews with the Board or its designee, at such intervals and locations as are determined by the Board or its designee. Failure to appear for any scheduled interview without prior notification to Board

Ì5 

staff, or failure to appear for two (2) or more scheduled interviews with the Board or its designee during the period of probation, shall be considered a violation of probation.

#### 4. Cooperate with Board Staff

Respondent shall cooperate with the Board's inspection program and with the Board's monitoring and investigation of Respondent's compliance with the terms and conditions of his probation. Failure to cooperate shall be considered a violation of probation.

#### 5. Continuing Education

Respondent shall provide evidence of efforts to maintain skill and knowledge as a pharmacist as directed by the Board or its designee.

#### 6. Notice to Employers

During the period of probation, Respondent shall notify all present and prospective employers of the decision in case number 5460 and the terms, conditions and restrictions imposed on Respondent by the decision, as follows:

Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, and within fifteen (15) days of Respondent undertaking any new employment, Respondent shall cause his direct supervisor, pharmacist-in-charge (including each new pharmacist-in-charge employed during Respondent's tenure of employment) and owner to report to the Board in writing acknowledging that the listed individual(s) has/have read the decision in case number 5460, and terms and conditions imposed thereby. It shall be Respondent's responsibility to ensure that his employer(s) and/or supervisor(s) submit timely acknowledgment(s) to the Board.

If Respondent works for or is employed by or through a pharmacy employment service, Respondent must notify his direct supervisor, pharmacist-in-charge, and owner at every entity licensed by the Board of the terms and conditions of the decision in case number 5460 in advance of the Respondent commencing work at each licensed entity. A record of this notification must be provided to the Board upon request.

Furthermore, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, and within fifteen (15) days of Respondent undertaking any new employment by or through a pharmacy employment service, Respondent shall cause his direct supervisor with the pharmacy employment

service to report to the Board in writing acknowledging that he has read the decision in case number 5460 and the terms and conditions imposed thereby. It shall be Respondent's responsibility to ensure that his employer(s) and/or supervisor(s) submit timely acknowledgment(s) to the Board.

Failure to timely notify present or prospective employer(s) or to cause that/those employer(s) to submit timely acknowledgments to the Board shall be considered a violation of probation.

"Employment" within the meaning of this provision shall include any full-time, parttime, temporary, relief or pharmacy management service as a pharmacist or any position for which a pharmacist license is a requirement or criterion for employment, whether the Respondent is an employee, independent contractor or volunteer.

# 7. No Supervision of Interns, Serving as Pharmacist-in-Charge (PIC), Serving as Designated Representative-in-Charge, or Serving as a Consultant

During the period of probation, Respondent shall not supervise any intern pharmacist, be the pharmacist-in-charge or designated representative-in-charge of any entity licensed by the Board nor serve as a consultant unless otherwise specified in this order. Assumption of any such unauthorized supervision responsibilities shall be considered a violation of probation.

#### 8. Probation Monitoring Costs

Respondent shall pay any costs associated with probation monitoring as determined by the Board each and every year of probation. Such costs shall be payable to the Board on a schedule as directed by the Board or its designee. Failure to pay such costs by the deadline(s) as directed shall be considered a violation of probation.

#### 9. Status of License

Respondent shall, at all times while on probation, maintain an active, current license with the Board, including any period during which suspension or probation is tolled. Failure to maintain an active, current license shall be considered a violation of probation.

If Respondent's license expires or is cancelled by operation of law or otherwise at any time during the period of probation, including any extensions thereof due to tolling or otherwise, upon

renewal or reapplication Respondent's license shall be subject to all terms and conditions of this probation not previously satisfied.

#### 10. License Surrender While on Probation/Suspension

Following the effective date of this decision, should Respondent cease practice due to retirement or health, or be otherwise unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of probation, Respondent may tender his license to the Board for surrender. The Board or its designee shall have the discretion whether to grant the request for surrender or take any other action it deems appropriate and reasonable. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender of the license, Respondent will no longer be subject to the terms and conditions of probation. This surrender constitutes a record of discipline and shall become a part of the Respondent's license history with the Board.

Upon acceptance of the surrender, Respondent shall relinquish his pocket and wall license to the Board within ten (10) days of notification by the Board that the surrender is accepted. Respondent may not reapply for any license from the Board for three (3) years from the effective date of the surrender. Respondent shall meet all requirements applicable to the license sought as of the date the application for that license is submitted to the Board, including any outstanding costs.

# 11. Notification of a Change in Name, Residence Address, Mailing Address or Employment

Respondent shall notify the Board in writing within ten (10) days of any change of employment. Said notification shall include the reasons for leaving, the address of the new employer, the name of the supervisor and owner, and the work schedule if known. Respondent shall further notify the Board in writing within ten (10) days of a change in name, residence address, mailing address, or phone number.

Failure to timely notify the Board of any change in employer(s), name(s), address(es), or phone number(s) shall be considered a violation of probation.

#### 12. Tolling of Probation

Except during periods of suspension, Respondent shall, at all times while on probation, be employed as a pharmacist in California for a minimum of forty (40) hours per calendar month.

Any month during which this minimum is not met shall toll the period of probation, i.e., the period of probation shall be extended by one month for each month during which this minimum is not met. During any such period of tolling of probation, Respondent must nonetheless comply with all terms and conditions of probation.

Should Respondent, regardless of residency, for any reason (including vacation) cease practicing as a pharmacist for a minimum of forty (40) hours per calendar month in California, Respondent must notify the Board in writing within ten (10) days of the cessation of practice, and must further notify the Board in writing within ten (10) days of the resumption of practice. Any failure to provide such notification(s) shall be considered a violation of probation.

It is a violation of probation for Respondent's probation to remain tolled pursuant to the provisions of this condition for a total period, counting consecutive and non-consecutive months, exceeding thirty-six (36) months.

"Cessation of practice" means any calendar month during which Respondent is not practicing as a pharmacist for at least forty (40) hours, as defined by Business and Professions Code section 4000 et seq. "Resumption of practice" means any calendar month during which Respondent is practicing as a pharmacist for at least forty (40) hours as a pharmacist as defined by Business and Professions Code section 4000 et seq.

#### 13. Violation of Probation

If Respondent has not complied with any term or condition of probation, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction over Respondent, and probation shall automatically be extended, until all terms and conditions have been satisfied or the Board has taken other action as deemed appropriate to treat the failure to comply as a violation of probation, to terminate probation, and to impose the penalty that was stayed.

If Respondent violates probation in any respect, the Board, after giving Respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. Notice and opportunity to be heard are not required for those provisions stating that a violation thereof may lead to automatic termination of the stay and/or revocation of the license. If a petition to revoke probation or an accusation is filed against Respondent during probation, the

Board shall have continuing jurisdiction and the period of probation shall be automatically extended until the petition to revoke probation or accusation is heard and decided.

#### 14. Completion of Probation

Upon written notice by the Board or its designee indicating successful completion of probation, Respondent's license will be fully restored.

#### 15. Pharmacists Recovery Program (PRP)

Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, Respondent shall contact the Pharmacists Recovery Program (PRP) for evaluation, and shall immediately thereafter enroll, successfully participate in, and complete the treatment contract and any subsequent addendums as recommended and provided by the PRP and as approved by the Board or its designee. The costs for PRP participation shall be borne by the Respondent.

If Respondent is currently enrolled in the PRP, said participation is now mandatory and as of the effective date of this decision is no longer considered a self-referral under Business and Professions Code section 4362(c)(2). Respondent shall successfully participate in and complete his current contract and any subsequent addendums with the PRP.

Failure to timely contact or enroll in the PRP, or successfully participate in and complete the treatment contract and/or any addendums, shall be considered a violation of probation.

Probation shall be automatically extended until Respondent successfully completes the PRP. Any person terminated from the PRP program shall be automatically suspended by the Board. Respondent may not resume the practice of pharmacy until notified by the Board in writing.

Any confirmed positive test for alcohol or for any drug not lawfully prescribed by a licensed practitioner as part of a documented medical treatment shall result in the automatic suspension of practice by Respondent and shall be considered a violation of probation.

Respondent may not resume the practice of pharmacy until notified by the Board in writing.

During suspension, Respondent shall not enter any pharmacy area or any portion of the licensed premises of a wholesaler, veterinary food-animal drug retailer or any other distributor of drugs which is licensed by the Board, or any manufacturer, or where dangerous drugs and devices

or controlled substances are maintained. Respondent shall not practice pharmacy nor do any act involving drug selection, selection of stock, manufacturing, compounding, dispensing or patient consultation; nor shall Respondent manage, administer, or be a consultant to any licensee of the Board, or have access to or control the ordering, manufacturing or dispensing of dangerous drugs and controlled substances. Respondent shall not resume practice until notified by the Board.

During suspension, Respondent shall not engage in any activity that requires the professional judgment of a pharmacist. Respondent shall not direct or control any aspect of the practice of pharmacy. Respondent shall not perform the duties of a pharmacy technician or a designated representative for any entity licensed by the Board.

Subject to the above restrictions, Respondent may continue to own or hold an interest in any licensed premises in which he holds an interest at the time this decision becomes effective unless otherwise specified in this order.

Failure to comply with this suspension shall be considered a violation of probation.

Respondent shall pay administrative fees as invoiced by the PRP or its designee. Fees not timely paid to the PRP shall constitute a violation for probation. The Board will collect unpaid administrative fees as part of the annual probation monitoring costs if not submitted to the PRP.

#### 16. Random Drug Screening

Respondent, at his own expense, shall participate in random testing, including but not limited to biological fluid testing (urine, blood), breathalyzer, hair follicle testing, or other drug screening program as directed by the Board or its designee. Respondent may be required to participate in testing for the entire probation period and the frequency of testing will be determined by the Board or its designee. At all times, Respondent shall fully cooperate with the Board or its designee, and shall, when directed, submit to such tests and samples for the detection of alcohol, narcotics, hypnotics, dangerous drugs or other controlled substances as the Board or its designee may direct. Failure to timely submit to testing as directed shall be considered a violation of probation. Upon request of the Board or its designee, Respondent shall provide documentation from a licensed practitioner that the prescription for a detected drug was legitimately issued and is a necessary part of the treatment of the Respondent. Failure to timely

 provide such documentation shall be considered a violation of probation. Any confirmed positive test for alcohol or for any drug not lawfully prescribed by a licensed practitioner as part of a documented medical treatment shall be considered a violation of probation and shall result in the automatic suspension of practice of pharmacy by Respondent. Respondent may not resume the practice of pharmacy until notified by the Board in writing.

During suspension, Respondent shall not enter any pharmacy area or any portion of the licensed premises of a wholesaler, veterinary food-animal drug retailer or any other distributor of drugs which is licensed by the Board, or any manufacturer, or where dangerous drugs and devices or controlled substances are maintained. Respondent shall not practice pharmacy nor do any act involving drug selection, selection of stock, manufacturing, compounding, dispensing or patient consultation; nor shall Respondent manage, administer, or be a consultant to any licensee of the Board, or have access to or control the ordering, manufacturing or dispensing of dangerous drugs and controlled substances. Respondent shall not resume practice until notified by the Board.

During suspension. Respondent shall not engage in any activity that requires the professional judgment of a pharmacist. Respondent shall not direct or control any aspect of the practice of pharmacy. Respondent shall not perform the duties of a pharmacy technician or a designated representative for any entity licensed by the Board.

Subject to the above restrictions, Respondent may continue to own or hold an interest in any licensed premises in which he holds an interest at the time this decision becomes effective unless otherwise specified in this order.

Failure to comply with this suspension shall be considered a violation of probation.

#### 17. Abstain from Drugs and Alcohol Use

Respondent shall completely abstain from the possession or use of alcohol, controlled substances, dangerous drugs and their associated paraphernalia except when the drugs are lawfully prescribed by a licensed practitioner as part of a documented medical treatment. Upon request of the Board or its designee, Respondent shall provide documentation from the licensed practitioner that the prescription for the drug was legitimately issued and is a necessary part of the treatment of the Respondent. Failure to timely provide such documentation shall be considered a

22

23

2.4

25

26

27

28

violation of probation. Respondent shall ensure that he is not in the same physical location as individuals who are using illicit substances even if Respondent is not personally ingesting the drugs. Any possession or use of alcohol, controlled substances, or their associated paraphernalia not supported by the documentation timely provided, and/or any physical proximity to persons using illicit substances, shall be considered a violation of probation.

#### 18. Prescription Coordination and Monitoring of Prescription Use

Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, Respondent shall submit to the Board, for its prior approval, the name and qualifications of a single physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or psychiatrist of Respondent's choice, who shall be aware of the Respondent's history with the use of controlled substances and dangerous drugs and who will coordinate and monitor any prescriptions for Respondent for dangerous drugs, controlled substances or mood-altering drugs. The approved practitioner shall be provided with a copy of the Board's Statement of Issues and decision. A record of this notification must be provided to the Board upon request. Respondent shall sign a release authorizing the practitioner to communicate with the Board about Respondent's treatment(s). The coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or psychiatrist shall report to the Board on a quarterly basis for the duration of probation regarding Respondent's compliance with this condition. If any substances considered addictive have been prescribed, the report shall identify a program for the time limited use of any such substances. The Board may require that the single coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant or psychiatrist be a specialist in addictive medicine, or consult a specialist in addictive medicine. Should Respondent, for any reason, cease supervision by the approved practitioner, Respondent shall notify the Board immediately and, within thirty (30) days of ceasing treatment, submit the name of a replacement physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or psychiatrist of Respondent's choice to the Board or its designee for its prior approval. Failure to timely submit the selected practitioner or replacement practitioner to the Board for approval, or to ensure the required reporting thereby on the quarterly reports, shall be considered a violation of probation.

If at any time an approved practitioner determines that Respondent is unable to practice

22.

safely or independently as a pharmacist, the practitioner shall notify the Board immediately by telephone and follow up by written letter within three (3) working days. Upon notification from the Board or its designee of this determination, Respondent shall be automatically suspended and shall not resume practice until notified by the Board that practice may be resumed.

During suspension, Respondent shall not enter any pharmacy area or any portion of the licensed premises of a wholesaler, veterinary food-animal drug retailer or any other distributor of drugs which is licensed by the Board, or any manufacturer, or where dangerous drugs and devices or controlled substances are maintained. Respondent shall not practice pharmacy nor do any act involving drug selection, selection of stock, manufacturing, compounding, dispensing or patient consultation; nor shall Respondent manage, administer, or be a consultant to any licensee of the Board, or have access to or control the ordering, manufacturing or dispensing of dangerous drugs and controlled substances. Respondent shall not resume practice until notified by the Board.

During suspension, Respondent shall not engage in any activity that requires the professional judgment of a pharmacist. Respondent shall not direct or control any aspect of the practice of pharmacy. Respondent shall not perform the duties of a pharmacy technician or a designated representative for any entity licensed by the Board.

Subject to the above restrictions, Respondent may continue to own or hold an interest in any licensed premises in which he holds an interest at the time this decision becomes effective unless otherwise specified in this order.

Failure to comply with this suspension shall be considered a violation of probation.

#### 19. Supervised Practice

During the period of probation, Respondent shall practice only under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist not on probation with the Board. Upon and after the effective date of this decision, Respondent shall not practice pharmacy and his license shall be automatically suspended until a supervisor is approved by the Board or its designee. The supervision shall be, as required by the Board or its designee, either:

Continuous – At least 75% of a work week

Substantial - At least 50% of a work week

Partial - At least 25% of a work week

Daily Review - Supervisor's review of probationer's daily activities within 24 hours

Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, Respondent shall have his
supervisor submit notification to the Board in writing stating that the supervisor has read the
decision in case number 5460 and is familiar with the required level of supervision as determined
by the Board or its designee. It shall be the Respondent's responsibility to ensure that his
employer(s), pharmacist-in-charge and/or supervisor(s) submit timely acknowledgement(s) to the
Board. Failure to cause the direct supervisor and the pharmacist-in-charge to submit timely
acknowledgements to the Board shall be considered a violation of probation.

If Respondent changes employment, it shall be the Respondent's responsibility to ensure that his employer(s), pharmacist-in-charge and/or supervisor(s) submit timely acknowledgement(s) to the Board. Respondent shall have his new supervisor, within fifteen (15) days after employment commences, submit notification to the Board in writing stating the direct supervisor and pharmacist-in-charge have read the decision in case number 5460 and is familiar with the level of supervision as determined by the Board. Respondent shall not practice pharmacy and his license shall be automatically suspended until the Board or its designee approves a new supervisor. Failure to cause the direct supervisor and the pharmacist-in-charge to submit timely acknowledgements to the board shall be considered a violation of probation.

Within ten (10) days of leaving employment, Respondent shall notify the Board in writing.

During suspension, Respondent shall not enter any pharmacy area or any portion of the licensed premises of a wholesaler, veterinary food-animal drug retailer or any other distributor of drugs which is licensed by the Board, or any manufacturer, or where dangerous drugs and devices or controlled substances are maintained. Respondent shall not practice pharmacy nor do any act involving drug selection, selection of stock, manufacturing, compounding, dispensing or patient consultation; nor shall Respondent manage, administer, or be a consultant to any licensee of the Board, or have access to or control the ordering, manufacturing or dispensing of dangerous drugs and controlled substances. Respondent shall not resume practice until notified by the Board.

During suspension, Respondent shall not engage in any activity that requires the

professional judgment of a pharmacist. Respondent shall not direct or control any aspect of the practice of pharmacy. Respondent shall not perform the duties of a pharmacy technician or a designated representative for any entity licensed by the Board.

Subject to the above restrictions, Respondent may continue to own or hold an interest in any licensed premises in which he holds an interest at the time this decision becomes effective unless otherwise specified in this order.

Failure to comply with this suspension shall be considered a violation of probation.

#### 20. No Ownership of Licensed Premises

Respondent shall not own, have any legal or beneficial interest in, or serve as a manager, administrator, member, officer, director, trustee, associate, or partner of any business, firm, partnership, or corporation currently or hereinafter licensed by the Board. Respondent shall sell or transfer any legal or beneficial interest in any entity licensed by the Board within ninety (90) days following the effective date of this decision and shall immediately thereafter provide written proof thereof to the Board. Failure to timely divest any legal or beneficial interest(s) or provide documentation thereof shall be considered a violation of probation.

#### ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Paul Chan, Esq. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my application for a pharmacist license. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Pharmacy.

DATED: 2/1/2016

VICTOR LEI Respondent

HI

///

	.9			
1	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Victor Lee the terms and conditions and			
2	other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I approve its			
3	form and content,			
4				
5	DATED: 7/3//C			
6	Paul Chan, Esq. Attorney for Respondent			
7	ENDORSEMENT			
8	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully			
9	submitted for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy.			
10				
11	Dated: Respectfully submitted,  KAMALA D. HARRIS			
12	KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California			
13	Marc D. Greenbaum Supervising Deputy Attorney General			
14	7			
15	ZACHARY T. FANSELOW			
16	Deputy Attorney General  Attorneys for Complainant			
17	zanorneys for Companium			
18				
19	LA2015500941			
20	51963045.doc			
21				
22				
23				
24				
25				
26				
27				

# Exhibit A

Statement of Issues No. 5460

1	Kamala D. Harris Attorney General of California Marc D. Greenbaum					
2						
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General ZACHARY T. FANSELOW Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 274129					
4						
5	300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013					
6	Telephone: (213) 897-2562 Facsimile: (213) 897-2804					
7	Attorneys for Complainant					
8	BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA					
10 11	In the Matter of the Statement of Issues Against:	Case No. 5460				
12	VICTOR LEE	TOR LEE STATEMENT OF ISSUES				
13	Pharmacist License Applicant	STATEMENT OF ISSUES				
14	Respondent.					
15	Respondent.					
16	Complainant alleges:					
17	PAR	TIES				
18	1. Virginia Herold ("Complainant") brir	ngs this Statement of Issues solely in her official				
19	capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs.					
20	2. On or about September 17, 1999, the Board of Pharmacy ("Board"), Department of					
21	Consumer Affairs, issued Pharmacy Intern Permit No. INT 9492 to Victor Lee ("Respondent").					
22	3. On or about April 16, 2003, the Board received an application for Pharmacist					
23	Licensure Examination from Respondent. The Board denied the Application on June 6, 2003.					
24	4. On or about November 10, 2003, the Board filed Accusation and Statement of Issue					
25	No. 2664 against Respondent.					
26	5. On or about February 13, 2004, the Board issued its Decision and Order in Case No.					
27	2664, accepting Respondent's application for a pharmacist license, but immediately revoking that					
28	license and placing it on probation for three years, with terms and conditions.					

- 6. On or about February 18, 2004, the Board issued Original Pharmacist License No. RPH 55289 to Respondent pursuant to its Decision and Order in Case No. 2664 and the corresponding terms and conditions of probation.
- 7. On or about October 23, 2008, Respondent surrendered Original Pharmacist License No. RPH 55289.
- 8. On or about November 17, 2014, the Board received an application for Pharmacist Examination and Licensure from Respondent. On or about November 3, 2014, Victor Lee certified under penalty of perjury to the truthfulness of all statements, answers, and representations in the application. The Board denied the application on March 27, 2015.

#### **JURISDICTION**

- 9. This Statement of Issues is brought before the Board of Pharmacy ("Board"),
  Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section references
  are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.
  - 10. Section 118 states, in pertinent part:
- "(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.

, , ,

"(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.'"

#### **STATUTORY PROVISIONS**

- 11. Section 480 states, in pertinent part:
- "(a) A board may deny a license regulated by this code on the grounds that the applicant has one of the following:

- "(1) Been convicted of a crime. A conviction within the meaning of this section means a plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea of nolo contendere. Any action that a board is permitted to take following the establishment of a conviction may be taken 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 the provisions of Section 1203.4, 1203.4a, or 1203.41 of the Penal Code.
- "(2) Done any act involving dishonesty, fraud, or deceit with the intent to substantially benefit himself or herself or another, or substantially injure another.
- "(3) (A) Done any act that if done by a licentiate of the business or profession in question, would be grounds for suspension or revocation of license.
- "(B) The board may deny a license pursuant to this subdivision only if the crime or act is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which application is made.

- "(c) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this code, a person shall not be denied a license solely on the basis of a conviction that has been dismissed pursuant to Section 1203.4, 1203.4a, or 1203.41 of the Penal Code. An applicant who has a conviction that has been dismissed pursuant to Section 1203.4, 1203.4a, or 1203.41 of the Penal Code shall provide proof of the dismissal."
  - 12. Section 4300, subdivision (c), states:

"The board may refuse a license to any applicant guilty of unprofessional conduct. The board may, in its sole discretion, issue a probationary license to any applicant for a license who is guilty of unprofessional conduct and who has met all other requirements for licensure. The board may issue the license subject to any terms or conditions not contrary to public policy, including, but not limited to, the following:

- "(1) Medical or psychiatric evaluation.
- "(2) Continuing medical or psychiatric treatment.
- "(3) Restriction of type or circumstances of practice.
- "(4) Continuing participation in a board-approved rehabilitation program.

"(5) Abstention from the use of alcohol or drugs.

- "(6) Random fluid testing for alcohol or drugs.
- "(7) Compliance with laws and regulations governing the practice of pharmacy."
- 13. 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:

...

"(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, of any other state, or of the United States regulating controlled substances and dangerous drugs.

...

"(I) 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 regulatory agency."
  - 14. Section 4060 states, in pertinent part:

"A person shall not 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, a physician assistant pursuant to Section 3502.1, a naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.5, or a pharmacist pursuant to Section 4052.1, 4052.2, or 4052.6. This section does not apply to the possession of any controlled substance by a manufacturer, wholesaler, third-party logistics provider, pharmacy, pharmacist, physician, podiatrist, dentist, optometrist, veterinarian, naturopathic doctor, certified nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, if in stock in containers correctly labeled with the name and address of the supplier or producer.

"This section does not authorize 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."

#### REGULATORY PROVISIONS

5. 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."

#### CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

16. Xanax, a brand name for alprazolam, is an anti-anxiety benzodiazepine and a Schedule IV controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11057, subdivision (d)(1), and is categorized as a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022.

#### FIRST CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION

#### (Conviction of a Substantially Related Crime)

- 17. Respondent's application is subject to denial under section 4300, section 4301, subdivision (I), and section 480, subdivision (a)(1), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1770, in that Respondent was convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a pharmacist. The circumstances are as follows:
- a. On or about September 30, 2002, after pleading guilty, Respondent was convicted of a misdemeanor for violating Health and Safety Code section 11377, subdivision (a) [possession of a controlled substance], in the criminal proceeding entitled *The People of the State of California v. Victor Lee* (Super. Ct. Los Angeles County, 2002, No. 2AL01291.)
- b. On or about March 25, 2002, Respondent was arrested by the Monterey Park Police Department following a traffic stop for a violation of Vehicle Code section 22350 (speeding). During a consented search of Respondent's vehicle, the controlled substance Xanax was found. Respondent then admitted to the arresting officer that he was in possession of the Xanax without a prescription, that he occasionally used Xanax without a prescription, and that he "took two Ecstacy pills on Friday afternoon."

26 | ///

27 | ///

28 ///

#### 

# 

# 

## 

## 

#### 

#### 

### 

# 

# 

# 

#### 

# 

# 

# 

# 

#### 

#### 

#### 

# 

# 

#### 

#### SECOND CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION

#### (Possession of Controlled Substances and Dangerous Drugs)

18. Respondent's application is subject to denial under section 4300, section 4301, subdivision (j), and section 480, subdivision (a)(3), in conjunction with section 4060, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that Respondent, by his own admission, was in possession of Xanax without a prescription and had recently taken Ecstacy, an illegal controlled substance. Complainant refers to, and by this reference incorporates, the allegations set forth above in paragraph 17 as though set forth fully.

#### THIRD CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION

#### (Use of Controlled Substances and Dangerous Drugs)

19. Respondent's application is subject to denial under section 4300, section 4301, subdivision (h), and section 480, subdivision (a)(3), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that Respondent, by his own admission, administered to himself the controlled substances and dangerous drugs Xanax and Ecstacy. Complainant refers to, and by this reference incorporates, the allegations set forth above in paragraph 17 as though set forth fully.

#### FOURTH CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION

#### (Unprofessional Conduct)

20. Respondent's application is subject to denial under section 4300, subdivision (c), in conjunction with section 4301 and section 480, subdivision (a)(3), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that Respondent committed acts which led to discipline against his previously issued pharmacist license. The circumstances include that Respondent's previously issued Original Pharmacist License No. RPH 55289 was placed on probation for three years on February 13, 2004, in the Board's Decision and Order in Case No. 2664. That order is now final. Respondent subsequently surrendered his pharmacist license on October 23, 2008. Complainant refers to, and by this reference incorporates, the allegations set forth above in paragraphs 17 through 19 as though set forth fully.

/	/	/

#### **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. Denying the application of Victor Lee for a Pharmacist License; and,
- 2. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

' |

VIRGINIA HERO Executive Officer

Board of Pharmacy

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California Complainant

LA2015500941 51805198.doc