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. 7	BEFORE THE
8	BOARD OF PHARMACY
9	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 3333
12	ANGELINA IBARRA 244 Wisteria Drive
13	East Palo Alto, California 94303 A C C U S A T I O N
14	Pharmacy Technician License No. TCH 18088
15	Respondent.
16	Complainant alleges:
17	PARTIES
18	1. Virginia Herold (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity
19	as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs.
20	2. On or about January 4, 1996, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacy Technician
21	License Number TCH 18088 to Angelina Ibarra (Respondent). The Pharmacy Technician
22	License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will
23	expire on May 31, 2011, unless renewed.
24	JURISDICTION
25	3. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Pharmacy (Board), Department of
26	Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the
27	Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise indicated.
	Dasiness and 1 101essions Code (Code) unless otherwise material.
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- 4. Section 4011 of the Code provides that the Board shall administer and enforce both the Pharmacy Law [Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4000 et seq.] and the Uniform Controlled Substances Act [Health & Safety Code, § 11000 et seq.].
- 5. Section 4300(a) of the Code provides that every license issued by the Board may be suspended or revoked.
- 6. Section 118(b) of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the suspension, expiration, surrender, or cancellation of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued or reinstated. Section 4402(a) of the Code provides that any pharmacist license that is not renewed within three years following its expiration may not be renewed, restored, or reinstated and shall be canceled by operation of law at the end of the three-year period. Section 4402(e) of the Code provides that any other license issued by the Board may be canceled by the Board if not renewed within 60 days after its expiration, and any license canceled in this fashion may not be reissued but will instead require a new application to seek reissuance.

STATUTORY AND REGULATORY PROVISIONS

- 7. Section 4301 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board shall take action against any holder of a license who is guilty of "unprofessional conduct," defined to include, but not be limited to, any of the following:
- (f) The commission of any act involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption, whether the act is committed in the course of relations as a licensee or otherwise, and whether the act is a felony or misdemeanor or not.
- (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.

- (o) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of or conspiring to violate any provision or term of this chapter or of the applicable federal and state laws and regulations governing pharmacy, including regulations established by the board or by any other state or federal regulatory agency.
- 8. Section 4059 of the Code, in pertinent part, prohibits furnishing of any dangerous drug or dangerous device except upon the prescription of an authorized prescriber.
- 9. Section 4060 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that no person shall possess any controlled substance, except that furnished upon a valid prescription/drug order.
- 10. Section 4327 of the Code, in pertinent part, makes it unlawful, while on duty, to sell, dispense or compound any drug while under the influence of any dangerous drug.
- 11. Health and Safety Code section 11170 provides that no person shall prescribe, administer, or furnish a controlled substance for himself or herself.
- 12. Health and Safety Code section 11173, subdivision (a), provides that no person shall obtain or attempt to obtain controlled substances, or procure or attempt to procure the administration of or prescription for controlled substances, (1) by fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or subterfuge; or (2) by the concealment of a material fact.
- 13. Health and Safety Code section 11350, in pertinent part, makes it unlawful to possess any controlled substance listed in Schedule II (Health and Safety Code section 11055), subdivision (b) or (c), or any narcotic drug in Schedules III-V, absent a valid prescription.
- 14. Health and Safety Code section 11550, in pertinent part, makes it unlawful to use or be under the influence of any controlled substance in Schedule II (Health and Safety Code section 11055), subdivision (b) or (c), or any Schedule III-V narcotic drug, except when administered by or under the direction of an authorized licensee.

COST RECOVERY

administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed its reasonable costs of investigation and enforcement.

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CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES / DANGEROUS DRUGS

16. Section 4021 of the Code states:

"'Controlled substance' means any substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code."

17. Section 4022 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

"Dangerous drug' or 'dangerous device' means any drug or device unsafe for self use, except veterinary drugs that are labeled as such, and includes the following:

"(a) Any drug that bears the legend: 'Caution: federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription,' 'Rx only,' or words of similar import.

"(c) Any other drug or device that by federal or state law can be lawfully dispensed only on prescription or furnished pursuant to Section 4006."

18. Norco, Vicodin, Vicodin ES, Lortab, and Lorcet are among the brand names for compounds of varying dosages of acetaminophen (aka APAP) and hydrocodone, a Schedule III controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11056(e)(4) and dangerous drug as designated by Business and Professions Code section 4022. The varying compounds are also known generically as Hydrocodone with APAP. These are narcotic drugs.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 19. Between on or about January 8, 2007 and on or about November 4, 2008, Respondent was employed as a pharmacy technician at Anchor Drugs Pharmacy (PHY 41533) in South San Francisco, California. In that position, she had access to controlled substances / dangerous drugs.
- 20. Beginning no later than October 2008 and continuing through her termination on or about November 4, 2008, on an unknown number of occasions Respondent made use of that access to divert/steal controlled substances and dangerous drugs, including **Hydrocodone with APAP** products, and administer them to herself while on duty as a pharmacy technician. The exact number of occasions and total quantity of drugs diverted/stolen are not known, but during subsequent interviews Respondent admitted to taking and consuming at least 2-3 tablets in this manner at least 1-2 times per week, for a minimum quantity of at least 10-30 tablets.

FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Selling, Dispensing, or Compounding While Under the Influence)

25. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 4301(j) and/or (o) and section 4327 of the Code, in that as described in paragraphs 19 to 21 above, Respondent sold, dispensed or compounded one or more drugs while under the influence of a dangerous drug, and/or directly or indirectly attempted, conspired, and/or assisted in or abetted such conduct.

SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Self-Administration/Use of Controlled Substance)

26. Respondent is subject to discipline under section 4301(j) and/or (o) of the Code, and/or Health and Safety Code section(s) 11170 and/or 11550, in that Respondent, as described in paragraphs 19 to 21 above, self-administered/used, conspired to self-administer/use, and/or assisted in/abetted self-administration/use, of a controlled substance, without prescription.

SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Obtaining Controlled Substance by Fraud, Deceit or Subterfuge)

27. Respondent is subject to discipline under section 4301(j) and/or (o) of the Code, and/or Health and Safety Code section 11173(a), in that Respondent, as described in paragraphs 19 to 21 above, obtained, conspired to obtain, and/or assisted in or abetted the obtaining of a controlled substance, by fraud, deceit, subterfuge, or concealment of material fact.

EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct)

28. Respondent is subject to discipline under section 4301 of the Code in that Respondent, as described in paragraphs 19 to 27 above, engaged in unprofessional conduct.

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 License Number TCH 18088, issued to Angelina Ibarra (Respondent);

Accusation (Case No. 3333)