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8	BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY
9	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA
10	
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 3969
12	JOHN WAITO NG 43857 Cameron Hills Drive
13	Fremont, CA 94539 Pharmacist License No. RPH 33438
14	Respondent.
15	
16	Complainant alleges:
17	<u>PARTIES</u> e
18	1.e Virginia Herold (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official capacitye
19	as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs.
20	2.e On or about October 10, 1979, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacist Licensee
21	Number RPH 33438 to John Waito Ng (Respondent). The Pharmacist License was in full force
22	and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on October 31, 2012,
23	unless renewed.
24	JURISDICTION
25	3.e This Accusation is brought before the Board of Pharmacy (Board), Department of e
26	Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All references are to the Business
27	and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise indicated.
28	

- 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.
- 7. 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.

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

- 8. 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.
- (g) Knowingly making or signing any certificate or other document that falsely represents the existence or nonexistence of a state of facts.
- (j) The violation of any of the statutes of this state, 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.

- 9. 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.
- 10. Section 4060 of the Code, in pertinent part, prohibits possession of any controlled substance, except that furnished upon the prescription of an authorized prescriber.
- 11. Section 4063 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that no prescription for a dangerous drug may be refilled except upon authorization of the prescriber.
 - 12. Section 4324(a) of the Code provides:

"Every person who signs the name of another, or of a fictitious person, or falsely makes, alters, forges, utters, publishes, passes, or attempts to pass, as genuine, any prescription for any drugs is guilty of forgery and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison, or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than one year."

- 13. Health and Safety Code section 11158 provides, in pertinent part, that except under certain conditions, no controlled substance classified in Schedule III, IV, or V may be dispensed without a prescription meeting the requirements of Health & Safety Code, § 11500 et seq.
- 14. Health and Safety Code section 11171 provides that no person shall prescribe, administer, or furnish a controlled substance except under the conditions and in the manner provided by the Uniform Controlled Substances Act [Health & Safety Code, § 11000 et seq.].
- 15. 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.
- 16. Health and Safety Code section 11350, in pertinent part, makes it unlawful to possess any narcotic drug listed in Schedules III-V, absent a valid prescription.
- 17. Health and Safety Code section 11352, in pertinent part, makes it unlawful to sell, transport, furnish, administer, or give away, any controlled substance classified in Schedule III, IV, or V which is a narcotic drug, unless upon written prescription of a authorized prescriber.
 - 18. Health and Safety Code section 11368 provides:

"Every person who forges or alters a prescription or who issues or utters an altered prescription, or who issues or utters a prescription bearing a forged or fictitious signature for any narcotic drug, or who obtains any narcotic drug by any forged, fictitious, or altered prescription, or who has in possession any narcotic drug secured by a forged, fictitious, or altered prescription, shall be punished by imprisonment in the county jail for not less than six months nor more than one year, or in the state prison."

19. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the 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.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES / DANGEROUS DRUGS

20. 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."

21. 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."

- 22. Azithromycin is a generic for Zithromax, a dangerous drug as designated by Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is an antibiotic.
- 23. Robitussin AC Syrup is a brand name for guaifenesen with codeine syrup, which is a Schedule V controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11058(c)(1) and a dangerous drug as designated by Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is a cough medication.

- 24. Promethazine/Codeine is a generic for Phenergan with codeine, which is a Schedule V controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11058(c)(1) and a dangerous drug as designated by Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is a cough medication.
- 25. Desonide 0.05% Cream is a dangerous drug as designated by Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is used for dermatitis.
- 26. Fluorometholone 0.1% Opthalmic Suspension is a dangerous drug as designated by Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is used for eye inflammation.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 27. On or about May 12, 2010, while working at Walgreens Pharmacy located on DeCoto Road in Fremont, California, Respondent complained of a cough to his co-workers. He took a bottle of over the counter Robitussin from the Walgreens stock and used it while he was working. Subsequently, Respondent wrote up a prescription for the antibiotic azithromycin for himself which he claimed had been telephoned in from his dentist, "Dr. K." The pharmacy manager, J.K., thought it odd that a dentist would phone in an antibiotic prescription for cough symptoms. J.K. called the dentist's office to confirm that the prescription was legitimate; the dentist's office told her that no prescription had been called in for Respondent.
- 28. J.K. subsequently investigated prescriptions that Respondent had filled for his wife which had allegedly been phoned in by "Dr. G." J.K. discovered that the following prescriptions filled for Respondent's wife were not authorized by Dr. G. and that Respondent had fraudulently written and filled them:
 - a. May 1, 2009 Robitussin AC Syrup, 240 mls
 - b. June 7, 2009 Promethazine/Codeine 240 mls
 - c. July 13, 2009 Desonide 0.05% Cream
 - d. November 17, 2008 Desonide 0.05% Cream
 - e. February 11, 2009 Azithromycin 250 mg, #12
 - f. March 25, 2010 Azithromycin 250 mg, #12
 - g. June 3, 2009 Fluorometholone 0.1% Opthalmic Suspension 5ml

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FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Dispensing/Administering/Furnishing Pursuant to Invalid Prescription(s))

34. Respondent is subject to discipline under section 4301 (j) and/or (o) of the Code, in that Respondent, as described in paragraphs 27, 28 and 29 above, dispensed/administered/ furnished, attempted or assisted or abetted dispensing/administering/furnishing, or conspired to dispense/administer/furnish, controlled substance prescriptions not meeting requirements of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, in violation of Health and Safety Code section(s) 11158 and/or 11171.

SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(False or Fraudulent Procurement of Controlled Substance(s)/Prescription(s))

35. Respondent is subject to discipline under section 4301 (j) and/or (o) of the Code, in that Respondent, as described in paragraphs 27, 28 and 29 above, obtained/attempted to obtain and/or assisted in or abetted and/or conspired to obtain controlled substances, procured/attempted to procure, assisted in or abetted, and/or conspired to procure administration of or prescriptions for controlled substances, by fraud, deceit, subterfuge misrepresentation, or concealment of fact, in violation of Health and Safety Code section 11173, subdivision (a).

SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Forgery of Prescription(s))

36. Respondent is subject to discipline under section 4301 (j) and/or (o) of the Code, in that Respondent, as described in paragraphs 27, 28 and 29 above, signed the name of another, or falsely made, altered, forged, uttered, published, passed, or attempted to pass, as genuine, a prescription for controlled substances, or obtained a narcotic drug by a forged, fictitious, or altered prescription, or had in his possession a narcotic drug secured by a forged, fictitious, or altered prescription, in violation of section 4324 and Health and Safety Code section 11168.

EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct)

37. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 4301 of the Code in that Respondent, by way of the conduct described in paragraphs 27, 28 and 29 above, engaged in

1	"unprofessional conduct" not becoming the profession of pharmacy.
2	<u>PRAYER</u>
3	WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged,
4	and that following the hearing, the Board of Pharmacy issue a decision:
5	1. Revoking or suspending Pharmacist License Number RPH 33438, issued to John
6	Waito Ng;
7	2. Ordering John Waito Ng to pay the Board of Pharmacy the reasonable costs of the
8	investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section
9	125.3; and
10	3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.
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13	DATED: 6/6/11 (mainia Verda)
14	VIRGINIA HEROLD Executive Officer
15	Board of Pharmacy Department of Consumer Affairs
16	State of California Complainant
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