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8 **BEFORE THE**
9 **BOARD OF PHARMACY**
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

11 In the Matter of the Statement of Issues
Against:

Case No. 7998

12 **COCO YUANLIN ENG**

STATEMENT OF ISSUES

13 **Intern Pharmacist Applicant**

14 Respondent.
15

16
17 **PARTIES**

18 1. Anne Sodergren (Complainant) brings this Statement of Issues solely in her official
19 capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy (Board), Department of Consumer
20 Affairs.

21 2. On or about August 26, 2024, the Board received an application for an Intern
22 Pharmacist from Coco YuanLin Eng (Respondent). On or about August 12, 2024, Coco YuanLin
23 Eng certified under penalty of perjury to the truthfulness of all statements, answers, and
24 representations in the application. The Board denied the application on February 13, 2025.

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JURISDICTION

3. This Statement of Issues is brought before the Board under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise indicated.

4. Section 4300(c) of the Code states, in pertinent part, the board may refuse a license to any applicant guilty of unprofessional conduct.

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

5. Section 480 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code, a board may deny a license regulated by this code on the grounds that the applicant has been convicted of a crime or has been subject to formal discipline only if either of the following conditions are met:

...

(2) The applicant has been subjected to formal discipline by a licensing board in or outside California within the preceding seven years from the date of application based on professional misconduct that would have been cause for discipline before the board for which the present application is made and that is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which the present application is made. However, prior disciplinary action by a licensing board within the preceding seven years shall not be the basis for denial of a license if the basis for that disciplinary action was a conviction that has been dismissed pursuant to Section 1203.4, 1203.4a, 1203.41, 1203.42, or 1203.425 of the Penal Code or a comparable dismissal or expungement. Formal discipline that occurred earlier than seven years preceding the date of application may be grounds for denial of a license only if the formal discipline was for conduct that, if committed in this state by a physician and surgeon licensed pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 2000) of Division 2, would have constituted an act of sexual abuse, misconduct, or relations with a patient pursuant to Section 726 or sexual exploitation as defined in subdivision (a) of Section 729.

...

(e) A board may deny a license regulated by this code on the ground that the applicant knowingly made a false statement of fact that is required to be revealed in the application for the license. A board shall not deny a license based solely on an applicant's failure to disclose a fact that would not have been cause for denial of the license had it been disclosed.

...

6. Section 4301 of the Code 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 issued by mistake. Unprofessional conduct shall include, but is not limited to, any of the following:

...

(g) Knowingly making or signing any certificate or other document that falsely represents the existence or nonexistence of a state of facts.

...

(n) The revocation, suspension, or other discipline by another state of a license to practice pharmacy, operate a pharmacy, or do any other act for which a license is required by this chapter that would be grounds for revocation, suspension, or other discipline under this chapter. Any disciplinary action taken by the board pursuant to this section shall be coterminous with action taken by another state, except that the term of any discipline taken by the board may exceed that of another state, consistent with the board's enforcement guidelines. The evidence of discipline by another state is conclusive proof of unprofessional conduct.

...

REGULATORY PROVISIONS

7. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1770(a) states:

For the purpose of denial, suspension, or revocation of a personal or facility license pursuant to Section 141 or Division 1.5 (commencing with Section 475) of the Business and Professions Code, a crime, professional misconduct, or act shall be considered substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of the practice, profession, or occupation that may be performed under the license type sought or held if to a substantial degree it evidences present or potential unfitness of an applicant or licensee to perform the functions authorized by the license in a manner consistent with the public health, safety, or welfare.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION

(Discipline by Massachusetts Department of Public Health)

8. Respondent's application is subject to denial under Code sections 480(a)(2) and 4301(n), in that Respondent was disciplined by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. On or about May 6, 2022, in a disciplinary action titled *In the Matter of Coco Eng PT25569*, Case No. PHA-2020-0073, Respondent surrendered her pharmacy technician license, effective May 13, 2022.

The circumstances surrounding the discipline are that on October 8, 2020, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health filed a complaint against Respondent regarding the reported loss of controlled substances, namely Xanax (Alprazolam) due to employee theft discovered on August 21, 2020. Respondent admitted diverting controlled substances in or about

2017 and 2019 from CVS pharmacy # 1263 located in Milton, Massachusetts, while working as a pharmacy technician.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION

(False Statement of Fact on Application)

9. Respondent's application is subject to denial under Code sections 480(e) and 4301(g), in that Respondent knowingly made a false statement of fact that is required to be revealed in the application for license. On or about August 12, 2024, Respondent marked "No" to question 4B of the application indicating she has not had disciplinary action taken against a license. In fact, Respondent had disciplinary action taken against her pharmacy technician license, as alleged above in paragraph 8.

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 Coco YuanLin Eng for an Intern Pharmacist; and
2. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: 8/7/2025

Sodergren,
Anne@DCA
ANNE SODERGREN
Executive Officer
Board of Pharmacy
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California
Complainant

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