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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 3663

#### **BRIAN JAMES POKORNY**

6220 Owensmouth Ave. #103 Woodland Hills, CA 91367

Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 11175

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 November 23, 2011.

It is so ORDERED October 24, 2011.

BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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Ву

STANLEY C. WEISSER Board President

1	KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California		
2	MARC D. GREENBAUM Supervising Deputy Attorney General		
3	STEPHEN A. MILLS Deputy Attorney General		
4	State Bar No. 54145 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702		
5	Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-2539		
6	Facsimile: (213) 897-2804		
7	Attorneys for Complainant		
8	BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
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10			
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 3663		
12	BRIAN JAMES POKORNY 6220 Owensmounth Ave. #103		
13	Woodland Hills, CA 91367 Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH LICENSE AND ORDER		
14	11175		
15	Respondent.		
16	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties in this		
17	proceeding that the following matters are true:		
18	<u>PARTIES</u>		
19	1. Virginia Herold (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy.		
20	She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this matter by Kamala		
21	D. Harris, Attorney General of the State of California, by Stephen A. Mills, Deputy Attorney		
22	General.		
23	2. Brian James Pokorny (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by attorney Lyle		
24	F. Greenberg, whose address is 6320 Canoga Avenue, Suite 1400, Woodland Hills, CA 91367-		
25	2562		
26	3. On or about December 27, 1993, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacy Technician		
27	Registration No. TCH 11175 to Brian James Pokorny. The Pharmacy Technician Registration		
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was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 3663 and will expire on October 31, 2011, unless renewed.

#### JURISDICTION

4. Accusation No. 3663 was filed before the Board of Pharmacy (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 3663 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference.

#### ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 3663. Respondent also has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, 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.
- 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

#### **CULPABILITY**

8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 3663, agrees that cause exists for discipline and hereby surrenders his Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 11175 for the Board's formal acceptance.

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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.

#### RESERVATION

10. The admissions made by Respondent herein are only for the purposes of this proceeding, or any other proceedings in which the Board of Pharmacy or other professional licensing agency\_is involved, and shall not be admissible in any other criminal or civil proceeding.

#### 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 surrender, 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 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.
- 12. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 13. This Stipulated Surrender of License and 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 Surrender of License and 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.

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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 Order:

#### ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 11175, issued to Respondent Brian James Pokorny, is surrendered and accepted by the Board of Pharmacy.

- 14. The surrender of Respondent's Pharmacy Technician Registration and the acceptance of the surrendered license by the Board shall constitute the imposition of discipline against Respondent. This stipulation constitutes a record of the discipline and shall become a part of Respondent's license history with the Board.
- 15. Respondent shall lose all rights and privileges as a Pharmacy Technician in California as of the effective date of the Board's Decision and Order.
- 16. 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.
- 17. Respondent surrenders pharmacy technician license number TCH 11175 as of the effective date of this decision. Respondent shall relinquish his or her pharmacy technician license to the board within ten (10) days of the effective date of this decision.

The surrender of respondent's license and the acceptance of the surrendered license by the board shall constitute the imposition of discipline against respondent. This decision constitutes a record of discipline and shall become a part of respondent's license history with the board.

Respondent understands and agrees that if he or she ever files an application for licensure or a petition for reinstatement in the State of California, the board shall treat it as a new application for licensure.

Respondent 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 he or she apply for any license from the board on or after the effective date of this decision, all allegations set forth in the [accusation or petition to revoke probation] shall be deemed to be true, correct and admitted by respondent when the board determines whether to grant or deny the application.

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DATED 65-26-1 STATE PERSONS TO RESPONSE TO

Tingre-read and fully discussed with Respondent Reign Turnes Polyany the terms and wondingues and other messers consistent for this Stipulated Situander of Liberise and Order. I approve its form and content.

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# **ENDORSEMENT** The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy of the Department of Consumer Affairs. Dated: June 23, 2011 Respectfully submitted, Kamala D. Harris Attorney General of California MARC D. GREENBAUM Supervising Deputy Attorney General STEPHEN A. MILLS Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant LA2010600495 Stipulation.rtf 13.

Exhibit A

Accusation No. 3663

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1	EDMUND G. BROWN JR.		
2	Attorney General of California  MARC D. GREENBAUM  Separation Departs Attorney Consul		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General STEPHEN A. MILLS		
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 54145		
5	300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013	,	
6	TELEPHONE: (213) 897-2539 FACSIMILE: (213) 897-2804		
7	Attorneys for Complainant		
8	BEFORE THE		
9	BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
10	STATE OF CALIFO	RNIA	
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 3663	
12	BRIAN JAMES POKORNY		
13	6220 Owensmounth Ave. #103 Woodland Hills, CA 91367	ACCUSATION	
14	Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 11175		
15	. Respondent.		
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18	Complainant alleges:		
19	PARTIES	•	
20	1. Virginia Herold (Complainant) brings this A	ccusation solely in her official capacity	
21	as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs (Board).		
22	2. On or about December 27, 1993, the Board is	ssued Pharmacy Technician Registration	
23	No. TCH 11175 to Brian James Pokorny (Respondent). The Pharmacy Technician Registration		
24	was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on		
25	October 31, 2011, unless renewed.		
26	JURISDICTIO	<u>N</u>	
27	3. This Accusation is brought before the Board under the authority of the following		
28	laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.		

#### STATUTORY PROVISIONS

- 4. Section 118, subdivision (b), provides 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.
- 5. Section 490 provides that a board may suspend or revoke a license on the ground that the licensee has been convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which the license was issued..
  - 6. Section 492 states:

"Notwithstanding any other provision of law, successful completion of any diversion program under the Penal Code, or successful completion of an alcohol and drug problem assessment program under Article 5 (commencing with section 23249.50) of Chapter 12 of Division 11 of the Vehicle Code, shall not prohibit any agency established under Division 2 ([Healing Arts] commencing with Section 500) of this code, or any initiative act referred to in that division, from taking disciplinary action against a licensee or from denying a license for professional misconduct, notwithstanding that evidence of that misconduct may be recorded in a record pertaining to an arrest.

"This section shall not be construed to apply to any drug diversion program operated by any agency established under Division 2 (commencing with Section 500) of this code, or any initiative act referred to in that division."

7. Section 4059, subdivision (a), states:

"A person may not furnish any dangerous drug, except upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, veterinarian, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.7. A person may not furnish any dangerous device, except upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, veterinarian, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.7."

8. Section 4060 states:

"No person shall 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, or a physician assistant pursuant to Section 3502.1, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.5, or a pharmacist pursuant to either subparagraph (D) of paragraph (4) of, or clause (iv) of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (5) of, subdivision (a) of Section 4052. This section shall not apply to the possession of any controlled substance by a manufacturer, wholesaler, pharmacy, pharmacist, physician, podiatrist, dentist, optometrist, veterinarian, naturopathic doctor, certified nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, when in stock in containers correctly labeled with the name and address of the supplier or producer.

"Nothing in this section authorizes 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."

- 9. Section 4300, subdivision (a), states that "[e]very license issued may be suspended or revoked."
  - 10. 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:

"(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.
- "(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

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"(j) The violation of any of the statutes of this state, or any other state, or of the United States regulating controlled substances and dangerous drugs.

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"(k) The conviction of more than one misdemeanor or any felony involving the use, consumption, or self-administration of any dangerous drug or alcoholic beverage, or any combination of those substances.

(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

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

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

or dangerous drugs, to determine if the conviction is of an offense substantially related to the

of this provision. The board may take action when the time for appeal has elapsed, or the

guilty, or setting aside the verdict of guilty, or dismissing the accusation, information, or

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8 "(1) 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

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indictment.

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"(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

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#### **REGULATORY PROVISIONS**

11. 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."

#### **COST RECOVERY**

12. Section 125.3 provides 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 / DANGEROUS DRUGS

Norco and Vicodin are trade names for the narcotic substance hydrocodone or 13. dihydrocodeinone with the non-narcotic substance acetaminophen. They are Schedule III controlled substances pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 11056(e)(4), and are dangerous drugs within the meaning of section 4022.

#### DE SOTO PHARMACY

14. In and between the years 2004 through April 13, 2009, Respondent was employed as a pharmacy technician at De Soto Pharmacy and Soda Shoppe, 20914 Roscoe Boulevard, Canoga Park, California 91304 (De Soto Pharmacy). In or about April 2009, De Soto Pharmacy initiated an internal pharmacy investigation regarding pharmacy losses. On or about April 11, 2009, Respondent was viewed via video surveillance removing from pharmacy shelves and premises a 500 count bottle of Norco and taking it out to his vehicle. On or about April 13, 2009, Respondent was confronted and admitted to the theft. On or about April 19, 2009, De Soto Pharmacy completed its inventory of Hydrocodone, Norco and Vicodin, losses and reported the loss to police and Federal Drug Enforcement Administration. De Soto's filed "Report of Theft or

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Loss of Controlled Substances" acknowledged losses of 43,000 tablets of Norco and 62,000 tablets of Vicodin ES, on and between May 27, 2007 and April 15, 2009.

#### FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### (Conviction of Substantially Related Crime)

- Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under sections 490 and 4301, subdivision (I), in that on or about September 9, 2009, Respondent sustained a conviction of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a registered pharmacy technician, as follows:
- On or about September 9, 2009, after pleading guilty, Respondent was convicted of the interlineated felony count of violating Health and Safety Code section 11377(a) [possession of a controlled substance] in the criminal proceeding entitled The People of the State of California v. Brian James Pokorny (Super, Ct. Los Angeles County, 2009, No. LA062013). The Court placed Respondent on Deferred Entry of Judgment for 18 months.
- The circumstances underlying the conviction are that on or about April 13, 2009, Respondent admitted to taking, while employed and on-duty as a pharmacy technician at De Soto Pharmacy without a valid prescription, a pharmacy stock 500 tablet bottle of Norco, a controlled substance and dangerous drug, out to his parked vehicle before the pharmacy's time of closing on or about April 11, 2009.

#### SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### (Felony Drug Conviction)

Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 4301, subdivision (k), on 16. the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about September 9, 2009, Respondent was convicted of a felony involving the use, consumption, or self-administration of controlled substances and dangerous drugs. Complainant refers to and by this reference incorporates the allegations set forth above in paragraph 15, subparagraphs a and b, inclusive, as though set forth fully.

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#### THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### (Unlawful Possession of Controlled Substances)

17. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 4301, subdivision (j), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, for violating sections 4059, subdivision (a), and 4060 and Health and Safety Code section 11377, subdivision (a), in that on or about April 11, 2009, he possessed and / or furnished to himself 500 tablets of Norco, a controlled substance and dangerous drug, without a valid prescription. Complainant refers to and by this reference incorporates the allegations set forth above in paragraphs 14 - 16, inclusive, as though set forth fully.

#### FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### (Dangerous Use of Drugs / Unlawful Furnishing)

18. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 4301, subdivision (h), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about April 11, 2009, Respondent used dangerous drugs to the extent or in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to or the public when he furnished himself and possessed 500 tablets of Norco, a controlled substance and dangerous drug, without a valid prescription. Complainant refers to and by this reference incorporates the allegations set forth above in paragraphs 14 - 17, inclusive, as though set forth fully.

#### FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

### (Making False Pharmacy Records)

19. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 4301, subdivision (g), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about April 11, 2009, Respondent created a false state of facts in pharmacy records by taking without a valid prescription 500 tablets of Norco. Complainant refers to and by this reference incorporates the allegations set forth above in paragraphs 14-18, inclusive, as though set forth fully.

#### SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### (Acts Involving Moral Turpitude, Dishonesty, Fraud, Deceit, or Corruption)

20. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 4301, subdivision (f), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that Respondent committed acts involving moral

1	turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption. Complainant refers to and by this reference		
2	incorporates the allegations set forth above in paragraphs 14 – 19, inclusive, as though set forth		
3	fully.		
4	SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE		
5	(Unprofessional Conduct / Violating Pharmacy Law)		
6	21. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 4301, subdivision (o), in		
7	that Respondent committed acts of unprofessional conduct violating pharmacy law. Complainant		
8	refers to and by this reference incorporates the allegations set forth above in paragraphs 14 - 20,		
9	inclusive, as though set forth fully.		
10	<u>PRAYER</u>		
11	WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged,		
12	and that following the hearing, the Board issue a decision:		
13	1. Revoking or suspending Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 11175, issued		
14	to Respondent;		
15	2. Ordering Respondent to pay the Board the reasonable costs of the investigation and		
16	enforcement of this case, pursuant to section 125.3; and		
17	3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.		
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19	10/5/10		
20	DATED: 10/5/10 VIRGINIA HEROLD		
21	Executive Officer Board of Pharmacy		
22	Department of Consumer Affairs State of California		
23	Complainant LA2010600495		
24	07/21/2010dmm 50700031.doc		
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