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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

SUPERIOR PHARMACY,
Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 48287; and

SUPERIOR PHARMACY II,
Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 49215; and

MARGARITA KHLGHATYAN,
Pharmacist License No. RPH 64079; and

SUREN PETOYAN,
Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 43450 &
Designated Representative No. EXC 20715; and

NIVA PHARMACEUTICALS INC., SUREN PETOYAN AND LUCY DANIELIAN, OWNERS,
Wholesaler License No. WLS 6239; and

MIHRAN STEPANYAN,
Designated Representative No. EXC 22480 &
Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 79133,

Respondents

Agency Case No. 5513 and 5514

DECISION AND ORDER AS TO MARGARITA KHLGHATYAN ONLY (CASE No. 5513 AND 5514)

PAGE 1

OAH No. 2020080528

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 June 9, 2021.

It is so ORDERED on May 10, 2021.

BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Ay n Ligge

Ву

Greg Lippe Board President

1	XAVIER BECERRA	
2	Attorney General of California DIANN SOKOLOFF	
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General SHAWN P. COOK	
4	Supervising Deputy Attorney General VINODHINI RAMAGOPAL	
5	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 240534	
6	300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013	
7	Telephone: (213) 269-6270 Facsimile: (916) 731-2126	
8	Attorneys for Complainant	
9	BEFOR	
10	BOARD OF P DEPARTMENT OF CO	
11	STATE OF CA	ALIFORNIA
12		
13	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 5513 and 5514
14	SUPERIOR PHARMACY	OAH No. 2020080528
15	11755 Victory Blvd., Ste. 100A North Hollywood, CA 91606	
16	Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 48287	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER AS TO MARGARITA KHLGHATYAN ONLY
17	SUPERIOR PHARMACY II	WARGARITA KHLGHATTAN ONLT
18	11755 Victory Blvd., Suite 102 North Hollywood, CA 91606	
19	Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 49215	
20	MARGARITA KHLGHATYAN	
21	574 E. Palm Ave. #101 Burbank, CA 91501	
22	Pharmacist License No. RPH 64079	
23	SUREN PETOYAN	
24	574 E. Palm Ave. #101 Burbank, CA 91501	
25	Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH	
26	43450 Designated Representative No. EXC 20715	
27		
28		

1 2	NIVA PHARMACEUTICALS INC., SUREN PETOYAN AND LUCY DANIELIAN, OWNERS 1602 Victory Blvd. Glendale, CA 91201
3	Wholesaler License No. WLS 6239
5	MIHRAN STEPANYAN 16350 Ventura Blvd., D272 Encino, CA 91436
6 7	Designated Representative No. EXC 22480 Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 79133
8	Respondents.
9	
10	
11	THE IC HEDEDAY CHINAL ARED AND A CREED I 11 to 1
12	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-
13	entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:
14	<u>PARTIES</u>
15	1. Anne Sodergren (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy
16	(Board). She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this matter by
17	Xavier Becerra, Attorney General of the State of California, by Vinodhini Ramagopal, Deputy
18	Attorney General.
19	2. Respondent Margarita Khlghatyan (Respondent Khlghatyan) is represented in this
20	proceeding by attorney Susan Yu, whose address is: Susan Yu Law Group, APC, 550 S. Hope
21	Street, Suite 1775, Los Angeles, CA 90071.
22	3. On or about July 23, 2010, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacist License
23	Number RPH 64079 to Margarita Khlghatyan (Respondent Khlghatyan). The pharmacist license
24	was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in the First Amended
25	Accusation and will expire on December 31, 2021, unless renewed.
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JURISDICTION

- 4. First Amended Accusation No. 5513 and 5514 was filed before the Board, and is currently pending against Respondent Khlghatyan. The First Amended Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent Khlghatyan on January 13, 2021. Respondent Khlghatyan timely filed its Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation.
- 5. A copy of First Amended Accusation No. 5513 and 5514 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 6. Respondent Khlghatyan has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 5513 and 5514. Respondent Khlghatyan has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 7. Respondent Khlghatyan is fully aware of its legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against them; the right to present evidence and to testify on its 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 Khlghatyan voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

- 9. Respondent Khlghatyan admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 5513 and 5514.
- 10. Respondent Khlghatyan agrees that her Pharmacist License Number RPH 64079 is subject to discipline and she agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

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CONTINGENCY

- 11. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board of Pharmacy. Respondent Khlghatyan 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 Khlghatyan or her counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent Khlghatyan understands and agrees that she may not withdraw her 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 Pharmacist License Number RPH 64079 issued to Respondent Margarita Khlghatyan is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent Khlghatyan is placed on probation for 5 years on the following terms and conditions:

1. Obey All Laws

Respondent Khlghatyan shall obey all state and federal laws and regulations.

Respondent Khlghatyan 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 contendere, no contest, or similar, in any state or federal criminal proceeding to any criminal complaint, information or indictment a conviction of any crime

the filing of a disciplinary pleading, issuance of a citation, or initiation of another administrative action filed by any state or federal agency which involves

Respondent Khlghatyan's 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 Khlghatyan 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 Khlghatyan 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 Khlghatyan 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 staff, or failure to appear for 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 Khlghatyan shall timely cooperate with the Board's inspection program and with the Board's monitoring and investigation of Respondent Khlghatyan's compliance with the terms and conditions of her probation, including but not limited to: timely responses to requests for information by Board staff; timely compliance with directives from Board staff regarding requirements of any term or condition of probation; and timely completion of documentation pertaining to a term or condition of probation. Failure to timely cooperate shall be considered a violation of probation.

5. Continuing Education

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

6. Reporting of Employment and Notice to Employers

During the period of probation, Respondent Khlghatyan shall notify all present and prospective employers of the decision in case number 5513 and 5514 and the terms, conditions and restrictions imposed on Respondent Khlghatyan by the decision, as follows:

Within 30 days of the effective date of this decision, and within 10 days of undertaking any new employment, Respondent Khlghatyan shall report to the Board in writing the name, physical address, and mailing address of each of her employer(s), and the name(s) and telephone number(s) of all of her direct supervisor(s), as well as any pharmacist(s)-in- charge, designated representative(s)-in-charge, responsible manager, or other compliance supervisor(s) and the work schedule, if known. Respondent Khlghatyan shall also include the reason(s) for leaving the prior employment. Respondent Khlghatyan shall sign and return to the Board a written consent authorizing the Board or its designee to communicate with all of Respondent Khlghatyan's employer(s) and supervisor(s), and authorizing those employer(s) or supervisor(s) to communicate with the Board or its designee, concerning Respondent Khlghatyan's work status,

performance, and monitoring. Failure to comply with the requirements or deadlines of this condition shall be considered a violation of probation.

Within 30 days of the effective date of this decision, and within 15 days of Respondent Khlghatyan undertaking any new employment, Respondent Khlghatyan shall cause (a) her direct supervisor, (b) her pharmacist-in-charge, designated representative-in-charge, responsible manager, or other compliance supervisor, and (c) the owner or owner representative of her employer, to report to the Board in writing acknowledging that the listed individual(s) has/have read the decision in case number 5513 and 5514, and terms and conditions imposed thereby. If one person serves in more than one role described in (a), (b), or (c), the acknowledgment shall so state. It shall be the Respondent Khlghatyan's responsibility to ensure that these acknowledgment(s) are timely submitted to the Board. In the event of a change in the person(s) serving the role(s) described in (a), (b), or (c) during the term of probation, Respondent Khlghatyan shall cause the person(s) taking over the role(s) to report to the Board in writing within 15 days of the change acknowledging that she has read the decision in case number 5513 and 5514, and the terms and conditions imposed thereby.

If Respondent Khlghatyan works for or is employed by or through an employment service, Respondent Khlghatyan must notify the person(s) described in (a), (b), and (c) above at every entity licensed by the Board of the decision in case number 5513 and 5514, and the terms and conditions imposed thereby in advance of Respondent Khlghatyan commencing work at such licensed entity. A record of this notification must be provided to the Board upon request.

Furthermore, within 30 days of the effective date of this decision, and within 15 days of Respondent Khlghatyan undertaking any new employment by or through an employment service, Respondent Khlghatyan shall cause the person(s) described in (a), (b), and (c) above at the employment service to report to the Board in writing acknowledging that she has read the decision in case number, and the terms and conditions imposed thereby. It shall be Respondent Khlghatyan's responsibility to ensure that these acknowledgment(s) are timely submitted to the Board.

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

"Employment" within the meaning of this provision includes any full-time, part-time, temporary, relief, or employment/management service position as a Pharmacist, or any position for which a Pharmacist is a requirement or criterion for employment, whether the Respondent Khlghatyan is an employee, independent contractor or volunteer.

7. Notification of Change(s) in Name, Address(es), or Phone Number(s)

Respondent Khlghatyan shall further notify the Board in writing within 10 days of any change in name, residence address, mailing address, e-mail address or phone number.

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

8. Restrictions on Supervision and Oversight of Licensed Facilities

During the period of probation, Respondent Khlghatyan shall not supervise any intern pharmacist, be the pharmacist-in-charge, designated representative-in-charge, responsible manager or other compliance supervisor of any entity licensed by the Board, nor serve as a consultant. Assumption of any such unauthorized supervision responsibilities shall be considered a violation of probation.

9. Reimbursement of Board Costs

As a condition precedent to successful completion of probation, Respondent Khlghatyan shall be jointly and severally liable with Respondent Superior and Respondent Superior II in paying to the Board its costs of investigation and prosecution in the amount of \$40,000.00. Respondent Khlghatyan shall be permitted to pay these costs in a payment plan approved by the Board or its designee, so long as full payment is completed no later than 1 year prior to the end date of probation.

10. **Probation Monitoring Costs**

Respondent Khlghatyan 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.

11. Status of License

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

If Respondent Khlghatyan's Pharmacist 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 Khlghatyan's license shall be subject to all terms and conditions of this probation not previously satisfied.

12. License Surrender While on Probation/Suspension

Following the effective date of this decision, should Respondent Khlghatyan cease practice due to retirement or health, or be otherwise unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of probation, Respondent Khlghatyan may relinquish her license, including any indicia of licensure issued by the Board, along with a request to surrender the license. The Board or its designee shall have the discretion whether to accept the surrender or take any other action it deems appropriate and reasonable. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender of the license, Respondent Khlghatyan 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 Khlghatyan's license history with the Board.

Upon acceptance of the surrender, Respondent Khlghatyan shall relinquish her pocket and/or wall license, including any indicia of licensure not previously provided to the Board within 10 days of notification by the Board that the surrender is accepted if not already provided. Respondent Khlghatyan may not reapply for any license from the Board for 3 years from the effective date of the surrender. Respondent Khlghatyan 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.

13. Practice Requirement – Extension of Probation

Except during periods of suspension, Respondent Khlghatyan shall, at all times while on probation, be employed as a Pharmacist in California for a minimum of 80 hours per calendar

month. Any month during which this minimum is not met shall extend the period of probation by one month. During any such period of insufficient employment, Respondent Khlghatyan must nonetheless comply with all terms and conditions of probation, unless Respondent Khlghatyan receives a waiver in writing from the Board or its designee.

If Respondent Khlghatyan does not practice as a Pharmacist in California for the minimum number of hours in any calendar month, for any reason (including vacation), Respondent Khlghatyan shall notify the Board in writing within 10 days of the conclusion of that calendar month. This notification shall include at least: the date(s), location(s), and hours of last practice; the reason(s) for the interruption or reduction in practice; and the anticipated date(s) on which Respondent Khlghatyan will resume practice at the required level. Respondent Khlghatyan shall further notify the Board in writing within 10 days following the next calendar month during which Respondent Khlghatyan practices as a Pharmacist in California for the minimum of hours. Any failure to timely provide such notification(s) shall be considered a violation of probation.

It is a violation of probation for Respondent Khlghatyan's probation to be extended pursuant to the provisions of this condition for a total period, counting consecutive and non-consecutive months, exceeding 36 months. The Board or its designee may post a notice of the extended probation period on its website.

14. **Violation of Probation**

If Respondent Khlghatyan has not complied with any term or condition of probation, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction over Respondent Khlghatyan, and the Board shall provide notice to Respondent Khlghatyan that 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. The Board or its designee may post a notice of the extended probation period on its website.

If Respondent Khlghatyan violates probation in any respect, the Board, after giving Respondent Khlghatyan notice and an opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. If a petition to revoke probation or an accusation is

filed against Respondent Khlghatyan during probation, or the preparation of an accusation or petition to revoke probation is requested from the Office of the Attorney General, 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.

15. Completion of Probation

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

16. Ethics Course

Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this decision, Respondent Khlghatyan shall enroll in a course in ethics, at Respondent Khlghatyan's expense, approved in advance by the Board or its designee that complies with Title 16 California Code of Regulations section 1773.5. Respondent Khlghatyan shall provide proof of enrollment upon request. Within 5 days of completion, Respondent Khlghatyan shall submit a copy of the certificate of completion to the Board or its designee. Failure to timely enroll in an approved ethics course, to initiate the course during the first year of probation, to successfully complete it before the end of the second year of probation, or to timely submit proof of completion to the Board or its designee, shall be considered a violation of probation.

17. Supervised Practice

Term 17 shall apply only during the first two years of Respondent Khlghatyan's probation. Within 30 days of the effective date of this decision, Respondent Khlghatyan shall submit to the Board or its designee, for prior approval, the name of a Pharmacist by and not on probation with the Board, to serve as Respondent Khlghatyan's practice supervisor. As part of the documentation submitted, Respondent Khlghatyan shall cause the proposed practice supervisor to report to the Board in writing acknowledging that he or she has read the decision in case number 5513 and 5514, and is familiar with the terms and conditions imposed thereby, including the level of supervision required by the Board or its designee. This level will be determined by the Board or its designee, will be communicated to the Respondent Khlghatyan on or before the effective date of this decision and shall be one of the following:

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

Respondent Khlghatyan may practice only under the required level of supervision by an approved practice supervisor. If, for any reason, including change of employment, Respondent Khlghatyan is no longer supervised at the required level by an approved practice supervisor, within 10 days of this change in supervision Respondent Khlghatyan shall submit to the Board or its designee, for prior approval, the name of a Pharmacist by and not on probation with the Board, to serve as Respondent Khlghatyan's replacement practice supervisor. As part of the documentation submitted, Respondent Khlghatyan shall cause the proposed replacement practice supervisor to report to the Board in writing acknowledging that he or she has read the decision in case number 5513 and 5514, and is familiar with the terms and conditions imposed thereby, including the level of supervision required.

Any of the following shall result in the automatic suspension of practice by a Respondent Khlghatyan and shall be considered a violation of probation:

Failure to nominate an initial practice supervisor, and to have that practice supervisor report to the Board in writing acknowledging the decision, terms and conditions, and supervision level, within 30 days;

Failure to nominate a replacement practice supervisor, and to have that practice supervisor report to the Board in writing acknowledging the decision, terms and conditions, and supervision level, within 10 days;

Practicing in the absence of an approved practice supervisor beyond the initial or replacement nomination period; or

Any failure to adhere to the required level of supervision.

Respondent Khlghatyan shall not resume practice until notified in writing by the Board or its designee.

During any suspension, Respondent Khlghatyan shall not enter any pharmacy area or any portion of the licensed premises of a wholesaler, third-party logistics provider, veterinary food-

animal drug retailer or any other distributor of drugs which is licensed by the Board, or any manufacturer, or any area where dangerous drugs and/or dangerous devices or controlled substances are maintained. Respondent Khlghatyan shall not practice pharmacy nor do any act involving drug selection, selection of stock, manufacturing, compounding, dispensing or patient consultation; nor shall Respondent Khlghatyan manage, administer, or be a consultant to any licensee of the Board, or have access to or control the ordering, distributing, manufacturing or dispensing of dangerous drugs and/or dangerous devices or controlled substances.

During any suspension, Respondent Khlghatyan shall not engage in any activity that requires the professional judgment and/or licensure as a Pharmacist. Respondent Khlghatyan shall not direct or control any aspect of the practice of pharmacy or of the manufacture, distribution, wholesaling, or retailing of dangerous drugs and/or dangerous devices or controlled substances.

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

No Ownership or Management of Licensed Premises

Respondent Khlghatyan shall not own, have any legal or beneficial interest in, nor 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 Khlghatyan shall sell or transfer any legal or beneficial interest in any entity licensed by the Board within 180 days following the date this stipulation is signed 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. ///

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1	<u>ACCEPTANCE</u>	
2	I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully	
3	discussed it with my attorney, Susan Yu. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have	
4	on my Pharmacist License. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order	
5	voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the	
6	Board of Pharmacy.	
7 8	DATED: 02/04/21 Wherees	
9	MARGARITA KHLGHATYAN Respondent	
10	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Khlghatyan, the terms and conditions and	
11	other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I approve its	
12	form and content.	
13	DATED: 02/04/21	
14	SUSAN YU Attorney for Respondent Khlghatyan	
15		
16	ENDORSEMENT	
17	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully	
18	submitted for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy.	
19	DATED: February 4, 2021 Respectfully submitted	
20		
21	XAVIER BECERRA Attorney General of California	
22	DIANN SOKOLOFF Supervising Deputy Attorney General	
23	and the same of th	
24	VINODHINI RAMAGOPAL	
25	Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant	
26		
27	LA2019600146	

Exhibit A

First Amended Accusation Nos. 5513 and 5514

1	XAVIER BECERRA	
2	Attorney General of California DIANN SOKOLOFF	
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General SHAWN P. COOK	
4	Supervising Deputy Attorney General VINODHINI RAMAGOPAL	
5	Deputy Attorney General	
	State Bar No. 240534 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702	
6	Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 269-6270	
7	Facsimile: (916) 731-2126 Attorneys for Complainant	
8		
9	BEFOR BOARD OF F	
10	DEPARTMENT OF CO	ONSUMER AFFAIRS
11	STATE OF C.	ALIFUNNIA
12		
13	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 5513
14	SUPERIOR PHARMACY	and
15	11755 Victory Blvd., Ste. 100A North Hollywood, CA 91606	Case No. 5514
16	Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 48287	
17	SUPERIOR PHARMACY II	FIRST AMENDED ACCUSATION
18	11755 Victory Blvd., Suite 102 North Hollywood, CA 91606	
19	Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 49215	
20	MARGARITA KHLGHATYAN	
21	574 E. Palm Ave. #101 Burbank, CA 91501	
22	Pharmacist License No. RPH 64079	
23	SUREN PETOYAN	
24	574 E. Palm Ave. #101 Burbank, CA 91501	
25	,	
26	Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 43450	
27	Designated Representative No. EXC 20715	
28		

1	NIVA PHARMACEUTICALS INC.,
2	SUREN PETOYAN AND LUCY DANIELIAN, OWNERS
3	1602 Victory Blvd. Glendale, CA 91201
5	Wholesaler License No. WLS 6239
6	MIHRAN STEPANYAN 16350 Ventura Blvd., D272 Encino, CA 91436
8 9	Designated Representative No. EXC 22480 Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 79133
10	
11	Respondents.
12	
13	Complainant alleges:
14	PARTIES ¹²
15	1. Anne Sodergren (Complainant) brings this First Amended Accusation solely in her
16	official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy (Board), Department of
17	Consumer Affairs.
18	2. On or about November 16, 2005, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacy Permit
19	Number PHY 48287 to Superior Pharmacy (Respondent Superior) with Margarita Khlghatyan
20	designated as the Pharmacist-in-Charge, and as designated president and owner. The Pharmacy
21	Permit was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in this First
22	Amended Accusation and will expire on November 1, 2021, unless renewed.
23	3. On or about October 3, 2008, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacy Permit
24	Number PHY 49215 to Superior Pharmacy II (Respondent Superior II) with Margarita
25	Khlghatyan designated as the Pharmacist-in-Charge, and as designated president and owner. The
2627	Respondent Niva with Respondent Petoyan designated as President and owner and Respondent Danielian as designated Director and owner have defaulted on this matter. The Default Decision and Order became effective on January 30, 2020.
28	² Respondent Stepanyan has defaulted on this matter. The Default Decision and Order became effective on January 30, 2020.

Pharmacy Permit was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in this First Amended Accusation and will expire on October 1, 2021, unless renewed.

- 4. On or about July 23, 2010, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacist License number RPH 64079 to Margarita Khlghatyan (Respondent Khlghatyan). The pharmacist license was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in this First Amended Accusation and will expire on December 31, 2021, unless renewed.
- 5. On or about October 28, 2002, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacy Technician Registration Number TCH 43450 to Suren Petoyan (Respondent Petoyan). The pharmacy technician license was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in this First Amended Accusation and will expire on September 30, 2020, unless renewed.
- 6. On or about August 11, 2010, the Board of Pharmacy issued Designated Representative Number EXC 20715 to Respondent Petoyan. The Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in this First Amended Accusation and will expire on August 1, 2019, unless renewed.
- 7. On or about July 30, 2013, the Board of Pharmacy issued Original Wholesale Permit Number WLS 6239 to Niva Pharmaceuticals Inc. (Respondent Niva) with Respondent Petoyan designated as President and the owner of fifty percent of the outstanding shares and Lucy Danielian (Respondent Danielian) as designated Director and the owner of fifty percent of the outstanding shares. The Original Wholesale Permit was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in this First Amended Accusation, expired on October 16, 2015, and has not been renewed. Respondent Niva's Wholesale Permit license was revoked, effective January 30, 2020 pursuant to a decision and order.
- 8. On or about December 20, 2007, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacy Technician Registration Number TCH 79133 to Mihran Stepanyan (Respondent Stepanyan). The Pharmacy Technician Registration was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in this First Amended Accusation and expired on September 30, 2019. Respondent Stepanyan's pharmacy technician registration was revoked, effective January 30, 2020 pursuant to a decision and order.

(c) 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 of the Penal Code.

14. Section 493 of the Code states:

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in a proceeding conducted by a board within the department pursuant to law to deny an application for a license or to suspend or revoke a license or otherwise take disciplinary action against a person who holds a license, upon the ground that the applicant or the licensee has been convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of the licensee in question, the record of conviction of the crime shall be conclusive evidence of the fact that the conviction occurred, but only of that fact, and the board may inquire into the circumstances surrounding the commission of the crime in order to fix the degree of discipline or to determine if the conviction is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of the licensee in question. "As used in this section, 'license' includes 'certificate,' 'permit,' 'authority,' and 'registration.'

15. Section 4059.5 of the Code states in pertinent part:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, dangerous drugs or dangerous devices may only be ordered by an entity licensed by the board and shall be delivered to the licensed premises and signed for and received by a pharmacist. Where a licensee is permitted to operate through a designated representative, or in the case of a reverse distributor a designated representative-reverse distributor, that individual shall sign for and receive the delivery.

16. Section 4081 of the Code states:

- (a) All records of manufacture and of sale, acquisition, or disposition of dangerous drugs or dangerous devices shall be at all times during business hours open to inspection by authorized officers of the law, and shall be preserved for at least three years from the date of making. A current inventory shall be kept by every manufacturer, wholesaler, pharmacy, veterinary food-animal drug retailer, physician, dentist, podiatrist, veterinarian, laboratory, clinic, hospital, institution, or establishment holding a currently valid and unrevoked certificate, license, permit, registration, or exemption under Division 2 (commencing with Section 1200) of the Health and Safety Code or under Part 4 (commencing with Section 16000) of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code who maintains a stock of dangerous drugs or dangerous devices.
- (b) The owner, officer, and partner of any pharmacy, wholesaler, or veterinary food-animal drug retailer shall be jointly responsible, with the pharmacist-in-charge or representative-in-charge, for maintaining the records and inventory described in this section.

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1	17. Section 4113 of the Code states in pertinent part:
2	
3	(c) The pharmacist-in-charge shall be responsible for a pharmacy's
4	compliance with all state and federal laws and regulations pertaining to the practice of pharmacy.
5	
6	18. Section 4160 of the Code states in pertinent part:
7	
8	(a) A person shall not act as a wholesaler or third-party logistics provider of any dangerous drug or dangerous device unless he or she has obtained a license from the board.
9	
10	19. Section 4301 of the Code states in pertinent part:
11	
12	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.
13	Unprofessional conduct shall include, but is not limited to, any of the following:
14	(c) Gross negligence.
15	
16	(f) The commission of any act involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud,
17 18	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.
19	(g) Knowingly making or signing any certificate or other document that
20	falsely represents the existence or nonexistence of a state of facts.
21	
22	(i) The violation of any of the statutes of this state of any other state on of
23	(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.
24	
25	(l) The conviction of a crime substantially related to the qualifications,
26	functions, and duties of a licensee under this chapter. The record of conviction of a
27	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
28	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...

...

(q) Engaging in any conduct that subverts or attempts to subvert an investigation of the board.

. . .

20. Section 4307 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

- (a) Any person who has been denied a license or whose license has been revoked or is under suspension, or who has failed to renew his or her license while it was under suspension, or who has been a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, partner, or any other person with management or control of any partnership, corporation, trust, firm, or association whose application for a license has been denied or revoked, is under suspension or has been placed on probation, and while acting as the manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, partner, or any other person with management or control had knowledge of or knowingly participated in any conduct for which the license was denied, revoked, suspended, or placed on probation, shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, partner, or in any other position with management or control of a licensee as follows:
- (1) Where a probationary license is issued or where an existing license is placed on probation, this prohibition shall remain in effect for a period not to exceed five years.

(2) Where the license is denied or revoked, the prohibition shall continue

for each such individual, if the power of attorney is retained in the files, with executed Forms 222 where applicable, for the same period as any order bearing the signature of the attorney. The power of attorney must be available for inspection together with other order records.

COST RECOVERY

29. Section 125.3 of the Code states, in pertinent part, 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.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

SEPTEMBER 5, 2013, INSPECTION

30. On September 5, 2013, Board Inspector K.R. conducted inspections of Respondent Superior's facility and Respondent Superior II's facility, both in North Hollywood. Respondent Petoyan was present. The inspector found the following issues:

a. Respondent Superior Facility

- 31. Inspector K.R. found multiple trays of over 680 patient prescription labels that were not filled but had been processed through a third party payer. The labels dated from July 1, 2013, to on or around September of 2013.
- 32. Respondent Superior dispenses "blister packs" of medication. Blister packs are a sheet of plastic bubbles in which one dose of medication is enclosed in each bubble. The back of the sheet of plastic bubbles is covered by foil so that one dose of the medication can be punched through the foil for use each time a dose is taken. Respondent Petoyan explained they had dispensed blister packs of medication to patients at care facilities. If the entire blister pack was not used for any reason and the remaining medication was returned to the pharmacy, Respondents would remove the remaining medication from the blister pack and return the medication to inventory to be re-dispensed to another patient.

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- 33. Inspector K.R. observed a large container in the restroom that was full of punched-out bubble pack cards. Respondent Petoyan informed the Inspector that the medications were returned by board and care facilities and reused by the pharmacy.
- 34. Inspector K.R. noticed some of the Abilify bottles on Respondent Superior's shelving appeared to have had labels removed from them.
- 35. Inspector K.R. observed employee Steven Michael Margolin (Margolin) performing tasks that require a license. Specifically, the Inspector observed Margolin setting up prescription bottles and counting medication. Margolin's pharmacist license was revoked by the Board on or around October 27, 2010.

b. Respondent Superior II Facility

- 36. Respondent Petoyan informed Inspector K.R. about his new pharmacy, Respondent Superior II, which is a "closed door" pharmacy that was opened by Respondent Khlghatyan in the same building as Respondent Superior. Respondent Petoyan stated no business had been conducted in it as of September 5, 2013.
- 37. Inspector K.R. inspected the Respondent Superior II facility and noticed the following issues.
- 38. Inspector K.R. noticed a sporadic placement of drug stock bottles and patient labeled bottles in the pharmacy. The patient labeled bottles were from another pharmacy, ASAP Pharmacy, located at 367 North Chevy Chase Drive, Unit B, Glendale, California. On some of the bottles, the patient labels had been removed. Respondent Petoyan stated the drug stock bottles from ASAP Pharmacy that were found at Respondent Superior II were actually from the Respondent Superior facility. Respondent Petoyan further stated that prior to Respondent Superior receiving its Medi-Cal license, Respondent Superior worked with ASAP Pharmacy to provide prescriptions to their patients.
- 39. Respondent Petoyan stated that if a patient needed a medication that was covered on Medi-Cal, Respondent Superior would fill the prescription for the patient and dispense it. Next the prescription information would be transferred to ASAP Pharmacy who would process, dispense and bill the prescription to Medi-Cal. ASAP Pharmacy would then "replace" the

medication that was dispensed by Respondent Superior. No explanation was provided as to why or how these drug stock bottles ended up in the Respondent Superior II facility.

- 40. Inspector K.R. noticed papers and records stored at Respondent Superior II.

 Respondent Petoyan told Inspector K.R. that Respondent Superior II was used to store some of Respondent Superior's records.
- 41. On or around September 5, 2013, Inspector K.R. obtained the following bottles of medication that had been found at Respondent Superior II's facility that had either been labeled by ASAP Pharmacy or had the residue of a patient label on the bottle.
- a. Three bottles of Abilify 10 mg were found. One bottle was RX 7173789 for patient C.J. and was filled by ASAP Pharmacy on September 19, 2012. Two bottles contained partial labeling, and 1 of the 2 bottles had been opened and only contained 59 pills.
- b. Five bottles of Seroquel XR 300 mg were found. Two of the bottles contained only partial labeling. One bottle had partial labeling from ASAP Pharmacy. Two bottles contained patient labeling from ASAP Pharmacy. The following bottles provided patient labeling and were filled by ASAP Pharmacy: RX 7163384 for patient G.C. filled on June 22, 2012, and RX 7166051 for patient L.B. filled on July 19, 2012.
- c. Seven bottles of Seroquel XR 400 mg were found. Two bottles contained partial labeling from ASAP Pharmacy. Five bottles provided patient labeling from ASAP Pharmacy. The following bottles provided patient labeling and were filled by ASAP Pharmacy: RX 7166055, for Patient D.W. filled July 19, 2012; RX 7162321 for Patient D.D. filled June 13, 2012; RX 7162674 for Patient G.G. filled July 25, 2012; RX 7162625 for Patient J.U. filled July 25, 2012; RX 7162625 for Patient J.U. filled June 22, 2012.

SEPTEMBER 23, 2013 INSPECTION

42. On September 23, 2013, Inspector K.R. conducted an inspection of ASAP Pharmacy facility, assisted by Pharmacist-in-Charge Vahe Simonian. During the inspection, the inspector found the following issues:

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- 43. Simonian told Inspector K.R. he had taken prescription transfers from Respondent Superior for Medi-Cal patients because Respondent Superior did not have its Medi-Cal license. Simonian stated that the prescriptions were either delivered to the patients or an employee of Respondent Superior would collect the prescriptions from ASAP Pharmacy
- 44. Simonian told Inspector K.R. that the transfers from Respondent Superior were transmitted by telephone or facsimile.
- 45. Simonian stated that he believed Margolin was a pharmacist because Margolin had represented himself as a pharmacist to ASAP Pharmacy.
- 46. While Inspector K.R. was at ASAP Pharmacy, the Pharmacy received a call from Margolin. Margolin requested to transfer some prescriptions to ASAP Pharmacy. Margolin told Simonian over the phone that "Omar Sheriff" had served a warrant on Respondent Superior and taken all their drug stock and they had no medications to fill prescriptions.
- 47. Simonian did not accept the transfer because he was told that Margolin is not a licensed pharmacist.
- 48. Patient M.H. had four prescriptions filled by ASAP Pharmacy on September 20, 2013. The prescriptions were transferred from Respondent Superior. The transferring pharmacist noted on each prescription was "Steve." Simonian confirmed that Margolin transferred all four of patient M.H.'s prescriptions.
- 49. Inspector K.R. found that Patient D.W.'s profile showed RX#7166055 for Seroquel XR 400 mg was filled July 19, 2012, by ASAP Pharmacy. Inspectors recovered the filled prescription bottle during an earlier inspection at Respondent Superior II's facility.
- 50. Inspector K.R. found that Patient L.B.'s profile showed RX#7166052 for Seroquel XR 300 mg was filled July 19, 2012, by ASAP Pharmacy. Inspectors recovered the filled prescription bottle during an earlier inspection at Respondent Superior II's facility.
- 51. Inspector K.R. found that Patient C.J.'s profile showed RX# 7173789 for Abilify 10 mg was filled July 19, 2012, by ASAP Pharmacy. Inspectors recovered the filled prescription bottle during an earlier inspection at Respondent Superior II's facility.

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- 52. Inspector K.R. found that Patient J.U.'s profile showed RX# 7162565 for Seroquel XR 400 mg was filled on June 22, 2012, and July 24, 2012, by ASAP Pharmacy. Inspectors recovered the filled prescription bottles during an earlier inspection at Respondent Superior II's facility. ASAP's prescription record indicated the prescription was transferred by "Maggie."
- 53. Inspector K.R. found that Patient D.D.'s profile showed RX# 7162321 for Seroquel XR 400 mg was filled June 13, 2012, by ASAP Pharmacy. Inspectors recovered the filled prescription bottle during an earlier inspection at Respondent Superior II's facility.
- 54. Inspector K.R. found that Patient G.G.'s profile showed RX# 7162674 for Seroquel XR 400 mg was filled June 13, 2012, by ASAP Pharmacy. Inspectors recovered the filled prescription bottle during an earlier inspection at Respondent Superior II's facility.
- 55. Simonian was unware that Respondent Superior was also dispensing the prescriptions to the patients and that Respondent Superior collected the drugs that ASAP Pharmacy had dispensed to the patient in order to prevent a patient from having double the amount of drugs than was actually originally prescribed. Simonian further stated that he had never done any business with Respondent Superior II.

OCTOBER 27, 2014 INSPECTION

- 56. On October 27, 2014, Inspector S.B. conducted an inspection of Respondent Niva's facility in Glendale. Respondent Petoyan, Respondent Danelian, and Respondent Stepanyan were all present. The inspectors found the following issues:
- 57. When Inspector S.B. first arrived at Respondent Niva Pharmacy, it was closed.

 Inspector S.B. contacted owner Respondent Petoyan. Respondent Petoyan, Respondent Danelian and Respondent Stepanyan arrived at Respondent Niva's facility thirty minutes later.
- 58. Inspector S.B. noticed that Respondent Niva's facility was empty, and that there were no drugs or records on site.
- 59. Respondent Petoyan, Respondent Danelian and Respondent Stepanyan informed Inspector S.B. that Respondent Niva's facility had been closed since January 22, 2014.

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- 60. Respondent Danelian and Respondent Petoyan stated that Respondent Niva's facility did not conduct any business after obtaining its license in July 30, 2013, which is the reason why Respondent Petoyan decided to sell Respondent Niva to Respondent Stepanyan.
- 61. On or around January 22, 2014, Respondent Stepanyan bought 100% of Respondent Niva Pharmacy. To date, the Board has not received a change of ownership form regarding the sale.
- 62. On or around July 1, 2014, Respondent Stepanyan filed a renewal for Respondent Niva Pharmacy. The renewal form showed Respondent Stepanyan signed under penalty of perjury that he was the President of Niva.

February 24, 2016 INSPECTION

63. On February 24, 2016, Inspectors K.R and M.K. conducted an inspection of Respondent Superior and Respondent Superior II's facility, assisted by Respondent Petoyan and Respondent Khlghatyan. The inspectors found the following issues:

a. Respondent Superior:

- 64. Upon entering Respondent Superior's facility at approximately 11:10 a.m., Inspectors K.R. and M.K. observed Margolin behind the counter of the pharmacy in the prescription filling area. He informed the inspectors that he was not a pharmacist and that the pharmacist left for lunch at 10:45 a.m. The pharmacist, Respondent Khlghatyan, arrived back at the pharmacy at approximately 11:40 a.m. During the time Respondent Khlghatyan was gone there was no pharmacist in Respondent Superior's facility.
- 65. Respondent Khlghatyan provided the inspectors with a copy of the policy and procedure for pharmacy operations during temporary absence of a pharmacist. The policy stated meal periods to be limited to 30 minutes.
- 66. Inspector K.R. observed medication packages in Respondent Superior's restroom trash. These medication packages included bubble packs from the following other pharmacies: Rose Pharmacy, Trinity Care Pharmacy, and ASAP Pharmacy. Respondent Petoyan stated the

the DEA.

Respondents allowed unlicensed pharmacy staff to receive and sign for delivery of dangerous drugs, as set forth more particularly in paragraphs 67-73.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Comply with Compounding Quality Assurance)

77. Respondent Superior is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivisions (o) and (j), in that Respondent violated Health and Safety Code section 11209, subdivision (b) when Respondents allowed unlicensed pharmacy staff to receive and sign for delivery of controlled substances, as set forth more particularly in paragraphs 67-73.

FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Allowing Unlicensed Individuals to Act as a Pharmacist)

78. Respondent Superior is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondent violated Code section 4051 subdivisions (a) and (b). The circumstances are that on or about September 20, 2013, Respondents allowed Steve Margolin to transfer prescriptions over the phone for patient MH to ASAP Pharmacy, as set forth more particularly in paragraphs 43-48.

FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Maintain Acquisition and Disposition Records)

79. Respondent Superior is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondent violated Code section 4081, subdivision (a) by failing to keep for at least 3 years, and/or make available for inspection, its records of manufacture sale, acquisition, receipt, shipment, or disposition of dangerous drugs for Abilify 10 mg and Seroquel XR 300mg, as set forth in paragraphs 30-55.

SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Have a Power of Attorney)

80. Respondent Superior is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondent violated Code of Federal Regulation section 1305.05 subdivision (a). The circumstances are that on or around December 15, 2014; February 10, 2015; and February 18, 2015; Respondent allowed Margolin to order

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Schedule II controlled substances on behalf of Respondent Superior without a Power of Attorney, as set forth more particularly in paragraphs 67-68.

SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Have a Wholesaler License)

81. Respondent Superior is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondent violated Code section 4016 subdivision (a). The circumstances are that on or around February 24, 2016, inspectors discovered that Respondent Superior was acting as a reverse distributor without a wholesaler license, as set forth more particularly in paragraphs 30-73.

EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Have Licensed Pharmacy Staff Receive Dangerous Drugs)

82. Respondent Superior II is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivisions (o) and (j), in that Respondent violated Code section 4059.5, subdivision (a) when Respondent allowed unlicensed pharmacy staff to receive and sign for delivery of dangerous drugs, as set forth more particularly in paragraphs 67-73.

NINTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Comply with Compounding Quality Assurance)

83. Respondent Superior II is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivisions (o) and (j), in that Respondent violated Health and Safety Code section 11209, subdivision (b) when Respondent allowed unlicensed pharmacy staff to receive and sign for delivery of controlled substances, as set forth more particularly in paragraphs 67-73.

TENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Maintain Acquisition and Disposition Records)

Respondent Superior is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct 84. pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondent violated Code section 4081 subdivision (a) by failing to keep for at least 3 years, and/or make available for inspection, its

records of manufacture sale, acquisition, receipt, shipment, or disposition of dangerous drugs for Abilify 10 mg and Seroquel XR 300mg, as set forth in paragraphs 30-55.

ELEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Engaging in Prohibited Acts)

85. Respondent Superior II is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondents violated Code section 4169 subdivision (a)(1) and (5). The circumstances are that on or around September 5, 2013, Inspector K.R. found prescription drugs dispensed by ASAP Pharmacy to patients in Respondent Superior II's active drug stock, as set forth more particularly in paragraphs 36-41.

TWELFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Adulterated Drugs and Devices)

86. Respondent Superior II is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondents violated Health and Safety Code section 111255. The circumstances are that on or around September 5, 2013, inspectors discovered that Respondent Superior II had 5 bottles of Seroquel XR 400 mg, 2 bottles of Seroquel XR 300 mg, and 1 bottle of Abilify 10 mg with patient labels dispensed by ASAP Pharmacy on the pharmacy's shelving in active stock, as set forth more particularly in paragraphs 36-41.

Respondent Khlghatyan

Respondent Khlghatyan was pharmacist-in-charge of Respondent Superior and Respondent Superior II at all relevant times. Respondent Khlghatyan is therefore responsible under Code section 4113(c) for Respondents Superior's and Superior II's compliance with all state and federal laws and regulations pertaining to the practice of pharmacy.

THIRTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Have a Pharmacist on Duty)

87. Respondent Khlghatyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct pursuant to section 4301, subdivision (o), for violating Regulation section 1714.1(e), as

1	pharmacist-in-charge, in that Respondent Superior was without a pharmacist for greater than
2	thirty minutes. The circumstances are set forth in paragraph 75 above.
3	FOURTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
4	(Failure to Have a Licensed Pharmacy Staff Receive Dangerous Drugs)
5	88. Respondent Khlghatyan is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301,
6	subdivisions (o) and (j), as a pharmacist-in-charge, in that Respondent violated Code section
7	4059.5, subdivision (a). The circumstances are set forth in paragraphs 76 and 82 above.
8	FIFTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
9	(Failure to Comply with Compounding Quality Assurance)
10	89. Respondent Khlghatyan is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301,
11	subdivisions (o) and (j), as a pharmacist-in-charge, in that Respondent violated Health and Safety
12	Code section 11209, subdivision (b). The circumstances are set forth in paragraphs 77 and 88
13	above.
14	SIXTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
15	(Allowing Unlicensed Individuals Act as a Pharmacist)
16	90. Respondent Khlghatyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct
17	pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), as a pharmacist-in-charge, in that Respondent
18	violated Code section 4051 subdivisions (a) and (b). The circumstances are set forth in paragraph
19	78 above.
20	SEVENTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
21	(Failure to Maintain Acquisition and Disposition Records)
22	91. Respondent Khlghatyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct
23	pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), as pharmacist-in-charge, in that Respondent
24	violated Code section 4081 subdivision (a) by failing to keep for at least 3 years, and/or make
25	available for inspection, its records of manufacture sale, acquisition, receipt, shipment, or
26	disposition of dangerous drugs. The circumstances are set forth in paragraphs 79 and 84 above.
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1	EIGHTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
2	(Failure to Have a Power of Attorney)
3	92. Respondent Khlghatyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct
4	pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondent violated Code of Federal
5	Regulation section 1305.05 subdivision (a). The circumstances are set forth in paragraph 80
6	above.
7	NINETEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
8	(Failure to Have a Wholesaler License)
9	93. Respondent Khlghatyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct
10	pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondent violated Code section 4016
11	subdivision (a). The circumstances are set forth in paragraph 81 above.
12	TWENTIETH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
13	(Adulterated Drugs and Devices)
14	94. Respondent Khlghatyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct
15	pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondent violated Health and Safety
16	Code section 111255. The circumstances are set forth in paragraph 86 above.
17	TWENTY-FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
18	(Engaging in Fraud)
19	95. Respondent Khlghatyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct
20	pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (f), in that Respondent was involved in a billing fraud
21	scheme using ASAP Pharmacy prior to Respondent Superior receiving a Medi-Cal license, as set
22	forth more particularly in paragraphs 30-74.
23	
24	Respondent Petoyan
25	TWENTY-SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
26	(Engaging in Fraud)
27	96. Respondent Petoyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct
28	pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (f), in that Respondent was involved in a billing fraud
I	

scheme using ASAP Pharmacy prior to Respondent Superior receiving a Medi-Cal license, as set forth more particularly in paragraphs 30-74.

TWENTY-THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Transfer a Permit and Submit a Change of Ownership)

97. Respondent Petoyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondents violated California Code of Regulations section 1709 (c) when Respondents Petoyan, and Danielian failed to complete an application of ownership when they transferred their ownership to Respondent Stepanyan.

TWENTY-FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Conviction of a Substantially Related Crime)

98. Respondent Petoyan is subject to discipline under sections 490, 493, and 4301, subdivision (I) in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1770, in that he was convicted of a crime that is substantially related to the qualifications, duties, and functions of a pharmacy technician. On or about July 23, 2020 in a criminal proceeding entitled *USA v. Tadevosyan et al* (U.S. District Court, 2017, No3:17cr564), Respondent was convicted of one felony count of violating 18 U.S.C. § 371 [Conspiracy to engage in the unlawful wholesale distribution of drugs]. Respondent was committed to the Bureau of Prisons for a term of 12 months and 1 day. His reporting date was delayed to March 1, 2021, due to concerns regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. Upon release from incarceration, Respondent will be placed on supervised release for a term of three years under the standard conditions in force for the district (with the drug testing provision suspended) and additional special conditions. A special monetary assessment of \$100.00 was imposed and due payable immediately.

Respondent Niva

TWENTY-FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Maintain Acquisition and Disposition Records)

99. Respondent Niva is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j), (o), and (q), in that Respondents failed to provide the requested

1	acquisition and disposition records requested by the board on or around September 25, 2013, as
2	set forth more particularly in paragraph 74.
3	TWENTY-SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
4	(Failure to Transfer a Permit and Submit a Change of Ownership)
5	100. Respondent Niva is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct pursuant
6	to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondent violated California Code of
7	Regulations section 1709 (c) when Respondents Petoyan, and Danielian failed to complete an
8	application of ownership when they transferred their ownership of Respondent Niva to
9	Respondent Stepanyan, as set forth more particularly in paragraphs 56-62.
10	
11	Respondent Danielian
12	TWENTY-SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
13	(Failure to Transfer a Permit and Submit a Change of Ownership)
14	101. Respondents Danielian is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct
15	pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondent violated California Code of
16	Regulations section 1709 (c) when Respondents Petoyan and Danielian failed to complete an
17	application of ownership when they transferred their ownership of Respondent Niva to
18	Respondent Stepanyan, as set forth more particularly in paragraphs 56-62.
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20	Respondent Stepanyan
21	TWENTY-EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
22	(Failure to Transfer a Permit and Submit a Change of Ownership)
23	102. Respondent Stepanyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct
24	pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondent violated California Code of
25	Regulations section 1709 (c) when Respondents Petoyan and Danielian failed to complete an
26	application of ownership when they transferred their ownership of Respondent Niva to
27	Respondent Stepanyan, as set forth more particularly in paragraphs 56-62.

TWENTY-NINTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Fraudulent completion of Renewal Form)

103. Respondent Stepanyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (g) in that on or around July 1, 2014, Respondent Stepanyan signed a wholesaler permit renewal form as the President and Owner of Respondent Niva, however there was never an application for change of ownership submitted with the Board, as set forth more particularly in paragraphs 56 to 62.

OTHER MATTERS

104. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 48287 issued to Superior Pharmacy shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for 5 years if Pharmacy Permit PHY 48287 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit PHY 48287 is reinstated if it is revoked.

105. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 48287 issued to Superior Pharmacy while Maragarita Khlghatyan has been an officer and owner and had knowledge of or knowingly participated in any conduct for which the licensee is disciplined, Maragarita Khlghatyan shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for 5 years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 48287 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 48287 is reinstated if revoked.

106. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 49215 issued to Superior Pharmacy II shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for 5 years if Pharmacy Permit PHY 49215 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit PHY 49215 is reinstated if it is revoked.

107. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 49215 issued to Superior Pharmacy II while Maragarita Khlghatyan has been an officer and owner and had knowledge of or knowingly participated in any conduct for which the licensee is

II;

disciplined, Maragarita Khlghatyan shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for 5 years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 49215 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 49215 is reinstated if revoked.

108. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Wholesaler License Number WLS 6239 issued to Niva Pharmaceuticals shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for 5 years if Wholesaler License Number WLS 6239 is placed on probation or until Wholesaler License Number WLS 6239 is reinstated if it is revoked.

109. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Wholesaler License Number WLS 6239 issued to Niva Pharmaceuticals while Suren Petoyan, Mihran Stepanyan and/or Lucy Danielian have been an officer and owner and had knowledge of or knowingly participated in any conduct for which the licensee is disciplined, Suren Petoyan, Mihran Stepanyan, and Lucy Danielian shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for 5 years if Wholesaler License Number WLS 6239 is placed on probation or until Wholesaler License Number WLS 6239 is reinstated if revoked.

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 Number PHY 48287, issued to Superior Pharmacy;
 - 2. Revoking or suspending Pharmacy Number PHY49215, issued to Superior Pharmacy
- 3. Revoking or suspending Pharmacist License Number RPH 64079, issued to Margarita Khlghatyan.;
- 4. Prohibiting Margarita Khlghatyan from serving as a manager, administrator, owner member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a license for 5 years if Pharmacy Permit

Number PHY 48287 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 48287 is reinstated if Pharmacy Permit Number 48287 issued to Superior Pharmacy is revoked;

- 5. Prohibiting Margarita Khlghatyan from serving as a manager, administrator, owner member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a license for 5 years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 49215 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 49215 is reinstated if Pharmacy Permit Number 49215 issued to Superior Pharmacy II is revoked;
- 6. Revoking or suspending Pharmacy Technician Registration Number TCH 43450, issued to Suren Petoyan;
 - 7. Revoking or suspending Certificate Number EXC 20715, issued to Suren Petoyan;
- 8. Revoking or suspending Original Wholesale Permit Number WLS 6239, issued to Niva Pharmaceuticals Inc.;
- 9. Revoking or suspending Pharmacy Technician Registration Number TCH 79133, issued to Mihran Stepanyan;
- Revoking or suspending Certificate Number EXC 22480, issued to Mihran
 Stepanyan;
- 11. Prohibiting Suren Petoyan from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for 5 years if Wholesaler License Number WLS 6239 is placed on probation or until Wholesaler License Number WLS 6239 is reinstated if Wholesaler License Number WLS 6239 issued to Niva Pharmaceuticals Inc. is revoked;
- 12. Prohibiting Lucy Danielian from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for 5 years if Wholesaler License Number WLS 6239 is placed on probation or until Wholesaler License Number WLS 6239 is reinstated if Wholesaler License Number WLS 6239 issued to Niva Pharmaceuticals Inc. is revoked;
- 13. Prohibiting Mihran Stepanyan from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for 5 years if Wholesaler License Number WLS 6239 is placed on probation or until Wholesaler License Number WLS 6239 is

1	reinstated if Wholesaler License Number WLS 6239 issued to Niva Pharmaceuticals Inc. is
2	revoked;
3	14. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.
4	. (
5	DATED: 1/13/2021 Signature on File ANNE SODERGREN
6	Executive Officer
7	Board of Pharmacy Department of Consumer Affairs State of California
8	Complainant
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FIRST AMENDED ACCUSATION