1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	NIVA PHARMACEUTICALS INC., SUREN PETOYAN AND LUCY DANIELIAN, OWNERS 1602 Victory Blvd. Glendale, CA 91201  Wholesaler License No. WLS 6239  MIHRAN STEPANYAN 16350 Ventura Blvd., D272 Encino, CA 91436  Designated Representative No. EXC 22480 Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 79133
10	Program dants
11	Respondents.
12	
13	FINDINGS OF FACT
14	1. On or about August 26, 2019, Complainant Anne Sodergren, in her official capacity
15	as the Interim Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs,
16	filed Accusation No. 5513 and 5514 against Niva Pharmaceuticals Inc. with Suren Petoyan and
17	Lucy Danielian as owners (Respondent Niva), and Mihran Stepanyan (Respondent Stepanyan),
18	before the Board of Pharmacy. (Accusation attached as Exhibit A.)
19	2. On or about July 30, 2013, the Board issued Original Wholesale Permit Number WLS
20	6239 to Respondent Niva with Suren Petoyan designated as President and the owner of fifty
21	percent of the outstanding shares and Lucy Danielian as designated Director and the owner of
22	fifty percent of the outstanding shares. The Original Wholesale Permit was in full force and effect
23	at all times relevant to the charges brought herein, expired on October 16, 2015, and has not been
24	renewed.
25	3. On or about December 20, 2007, the Board issued Pharmacy Technician Registration
26	Number TCH 79133 to Respondent Stepanyan. The Pharmacy Technician Registration was in
27	full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expired on
28	September 30, 2019.

- 4. On or about December 6, 2013, the Board of Pharmacy issued Designated Representative Number EXC 22480 to Respondent Stepanyan. The Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on December 1, 2019, unless renewed.
- 5. On or about August 29, 2019, Respondent Niva was served by Certified and First Class Mail copies of the Accusation No. 5513 and 5514, Statement to Respondent, Notice of Defense, Request for Discovery, and Discovery Statutes (Government Code sections 11507.5, 11507.6, and 11507.7) at Respondent Niva's address of record which, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4100, is required to be reported and maintained with the Board. Respondent Niva's address of record was and is: 1602 Victory Blvd. Glendale, CA 91201.
- 6. On or about August 29, 2019, Respondent Stepanyan was served by Certified and First Class Mail copies of the Accusation No. 5513 and 5514, Statement to Respondent, Notice of Defense, Request for Discovery, and Discovery Statutes (Government Code sections 11507.5, 11507.6, and 11507.7) at Respondent Stepanyan's address of record which, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4100, is required to be reported and maintained with the Board. Respondent Stepanyan's address of record was and is: Mihran Stepanyan, 16350 Ventura Blvd., D272, Encino, CA 91436.
- 7. On or about September 11, 2019, the Certified Mail of Accusation No. 5513 and 5514, Statement to Respondent, Notice of Defense, Request for Discovery, and Discovery Statutes (Government Code sections 11507.5, 11507.6, and 11507.7) served to Respondent Stepanyan's address of record was returned to the Office of the Attorney General, marked "Forward time EXP RTN to SEND." The forwarding address included on the return to sender label stated Respondent Stepanyan's forwarding address was: 1730 Capistrano Circle, Glendale CA, 91208-1907.
- 8. On or about September 17, 2019, Respondent Stepanyan was served all of the same documents outlined in the preceding paragraph at the forwarding address for Respondent Stepanyan which was: 1730 Capistrano Circle, Glendale, CA 91208-1907.

# <u>DETERMINATION OF ISSUES</u> Niva Pharmaceuticals Inc.

- Based on the foregoing findings of fact, Respondent Niva Pharmaceuticals Inc. with Suren Petoyan and Lucy Danielian as owners, has subjected its Original Wholesale Permit No. WLS 6239 to discipline.
  - 2. The agency has jurisdiction to adjudicate this case by default.
- 3. The Board of Pharmacy is authorized to revoke Respondent Niva's Original Wholesale Permit based upon the following violations alleged in the Accusation which are supported by the evidence contained in the Default Decision Investigatory Evidence Packet in this case:
- a. Respondent Niva is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j), (o), and (q);
- b. Respondent Niva is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondent violated California Code of Regulations section 1709 (c);

### Mihran Stepanyan

- 1. Based on the foregoing findings of fact, Respondent Stepanyan, has subjected his Designated Representative No. EXC 22480 and Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 79133 to discipline.
  - 2. The agency has jurisdiction to adjudicate this case by default.
- 3. The Board of Pharmacy is authorized to revoke Respondent Stepanyan's Designated Representative No. EXC 22480 and Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 79133 based upon the following violations alleged in the Accusation which are supported by the evidence contained in the Default Decision Investigatory Evidence Packet in this case:
- a. Respondent Stepanyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondent violated California Code of Regulations section 1709 (c);

1	b. Respondent Stepanyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct
2	pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (g).
3	<u>ORDER</u>
4	IT IS SO ORDERED that Original Wholesale Permit No. WLS 6239, issued to Respondent
5	Niva Pharmaceuticals Inc., with Suren Petoyan, Lucy Danielian, as the owners, is revoked.
6	IT IS SO ORDERED that Designated Representative No. EXC 22480, and Pharmacy
7	Technician Registration No. TCH 79133, issued to Respondent Stepanyan is revoked.
8	Pursuant to Government Code section 11520, subdivision (c), Respondents may serve a
9	written motion requesting that the Decision be vacated and stating the grounds relied on within
10	seven (7) days after service of the Decision on Respondents. The agency in its discretion may
11	vacate the Decision and grant a hearing on a showing of good cause, as defined in the statute.
12	This Decision shall become effective on January 30, 2020
13	It is so ORDERED December 31, 2019
14	DO A DD OF DUA DM A CV
15	BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
16	STATE OF CALIFORNIA
17	
18	By I Lippe
19	By Greg Lippe Board President
20	Board President
21	14157315.DOCX DOJ Matter ID:LA2019600146
22	Attachment:
23	Exhibit A: Accusation
24	
25	
26	
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28	6

# Exhibit A

Accusation

1	XAVIER BECERRA	
2	Attorney General of California DAVID E. BRICE	
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General KATELYN E. DOCHERTY	
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 322028	
5	1300 I Street, Suite 125 P.O. Box 944255	
6	Sacramento, CA 94244-2550 Telephone: (916) 210-6277	
7	Facsimile: (916) 327-8643 Attorneys for Complainant	
8		
9	BEFOR BOARD OF F	
10	DEPARTMENT OF CO	ONSUMER AFFAIRS
11	STATE OF C.	ALIFUKNIA
12		1
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 11755 Victory Blvd., Suite 102	ACCUSATION
18	North Hollywood, CA 91606	
19	Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 49215	
20	MARGARITA KHLGHATYAN 574 E. Palm Ave. #101	
21	Burbank, CA 91501	
22	Pharmacist License No. RPH 64079	
23	SUREN PETOYAN 574 E. Palm Ave. #101	
24	Burbank, CA 91501	
25	Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 43450	
26	Designated Representative No. EXC 20715	
27		
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1 2 3	NIVA PHARMACEUTICALS INC., SUREN PETOYAN AND LUCY DANIELIAN, OWNERS 1602 Victory Blvd.
4	Glendale, CA 91201
5	Wholesaler License No. WLS 6239
6	MIHRAN STEPANYAN 16350 Ventura Blvd., D272 Encino, CA 91436
7 8 9	Designated Representative No. EXC 22480 Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 79133
10	
11	Respondents.
12	
13	Complainant alleges:
14	PARTIES
15	1. Anne Sodergren (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity
16	as the Interim Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy (Board), Department of Consumer
17	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 herein and will
22	expire on November 1, 2019, unless renewed.
23	3. On or about November 16, 2005, 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
26	Pharmacy Permit was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein
27	and will expire on October 1, 2019, unless renewed.
28	

- 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 herein and will expire on December 31, 2019, unless renewed.
- 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 Registration 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 herein 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 herein, expired on October 16, 2015, and has not been renewed.
- 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 herein and will expire on September 30, 2019, unless renewed.
- 9. On or about December 6, 2013, the Board of Pharmacy issued Designated Representative Number EXC 22480 to Respondent Stepanyan. The Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on December 1, 2019, unless renewed

#### **JURISDICTION**

10. This Accusation is brought before the Board, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.

11.	Section 4300	of the	Code	states in	n pertinent	part

"(a) Every license issued may be suspended or revoked.

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"(e) The proceedings under this article shall be conducted in accordance with Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of the Government Code, and the board shall have all the powers granted therein. The action shall be final, except that the propriety of the action is subject to review by the superior court pursuant to Section 1094.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure."

#### 12. Section 4300.1 of the Code states:

"The expiration, cancellation, forfeiture, or suspension of a board-issued license by operation of law or by order or decision of the board or a court of law, the placement of a license on a retired status, or the voluntary surrender of a license by a licensee shall not deprive the board of jurisdiction to commence or proceed with any investigation of, or action or disciplinary proceeding against, the licensee or to render a decision suspending or revoking the license."

### **BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE**

### 13. 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.

#### 14. 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

1	pharmacist-in-charge or representative-in-charge, for maintaining the records and inventory described in this section.
2	
3	15. Section 4113 of the Code states in pertinent part:
4	
5	(c) The pharmacist-in-charge shall be responsible for a pharmacy's
6	compliance with all state and federal laws and regulations pertaining to the practice of pharmacy.
7	
8	16. Section 4160 of the Code states in pertinent part:
9	
10	(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
11	from the board.
12	
13	17. Section 4301 of the Code states in pertinent part:
14	The board shall take action against any holder of a license who is guilty of
15	unprofessional conduct or whose license has been issued by mistake. Unprofessional conduct shall include, but is not limited to, any of the following:
16	(c) Gross negligence.
17	
18	•••
19	(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
20	licensee or otherwise, and whether the act is a felony or misdemeanor or not.
21	(g) Knowingly making or signing any certificate or other document that
22	falsely represents the existence or nonexistence of a state of facts.
23	
24	(j) The violation of any of the statutes of this state, of any other state, or of
25	the United States regulating controlled substances and dangerous drugs.
26	
27	(o) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or
28	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.

...

### 18. 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 until the license is issued or reinstated.
- (b) "Manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, partner, or any other person with management or control of a license" as used in this section and Section 4308, may refer to a pharmacist or to any other person who serves in such capacity in or for a licensee.
- (c) The provisions of subdivision (a) may be alleged in any pleading filed pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of the Government Code. However, no order may be issued in that case except as to a person who is named in the caption, as to whom the pleading alleges the applicability of this section, and where the person has been given notice of the proceeding as required by Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of the Government Code. The authority to proceed as provided by this subdivision shall be in addition to the board's authority to proceed under Section 4339 or any other provision of law.

1	
2	(e) The temporary absence authorized by this section shall be limited to the
3	minimum period authorized for pharmacists by section 512 of Labor Code or orders of the Industrial Welfare Commission, and any meal shall be limited to 30
4	minutes. The pharmacist who is on break shall not be required to remain in the pharmacy area during the break period.
5	
6	24. California Code of Regulations, title 16, (Regulations) section 1709 states in pertinen
7	part:
8	(c) The following shall constitute a transfer of permit and require application for a change of ownership: any transfer of a beneficial interest in a business entity
9	licensed by the board, in a single transaction or in a series of transactions, to any person or entity, which transfer results in the transferee's holding 50% or more of
10	the beneficial interest in that license.
11	CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS
12	25. Code of Federal Regulations, section 1305.05 states, in pertinent part:
13	(a) A registrant may authorize one or more individuals, whether or not
14	located at his or her registered location, to issue orders for Schedule I and II controlled substances on the registrant's behalf by executing a power of attorney for each such individual, if the power of attorney is retained in the files, with
15 16 17	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.
18	<u>COST RECOVERY</u>
19	26. Section 125.3 of the Code states, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the
20	administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of
21	the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and
22	enforcement of the case.
23	FACTUAL BACKGROUND
24	SEPTEMBER 5, 2013, INSPECTION
25	27. On September 5, 2013, Board Inspector K.R. conducted inspections of Respondent
26	Superior's facility and Respondent Superior II's facility, both in North Hollywood. Respondent
27	Petoyan was present. During the inspections, the inspector found the following issues.
28	a. Respondent Superior

- 28. 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.
- 29. 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 then 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.
- 30. 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.
- 31. Inspector K.R. noticed some of the Abilify bottles on Respondent Superior's shelving appeared to have had labels removed from them.
- 32. Inspector K.R. observed employee Steven Michael Margolin (Margolin) performing tasks that require a license. 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

- 33. 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 from it as of September 5, 2013.
- 34. Inspector K.R. inspected Respondent Superior II, and during the inspection, the inspector noticed the following issues.

- 35. 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 that the drug stock bottles from ASAP Pharmacy that were found at Respondent Superior II, were actually from Respondent Superior. 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.
- 36. 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 Respondent Superior II.
- 37. 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.
- 38. 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 (3) 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 one of the two bottles had been opened and only contained 59 pills.
- b. Five (5) bottles of Seroquel XR 300 mg were found. Two (2) 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 (7) bottles of Seroquel XR 400 mg were found. Two bottles contained partial labeling from ASAP Pharmacy. Five (5) 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

39 On September 23, 2013, Inspector K.R. conducted an inspection of ASAP Pharmacy.

- 39. 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.
- 40. 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 pick the prescriptions up from ASAP Pharmacy
- 41. Simonian told Inspector K.R. that the transfers from Respondent Superior were transmitted by telephone or facsimile.
- 42. Simonian stated that he believed Margolin was a pharmacist because Margolin had represented himself as a pharmacist to ASAP Pharmacy.
- 43. 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 over the phone told Simonian that "Omar Sheriff" had served a warrant on Respondent Superior and taken all their drug stock and they had no medications to fill prescriptions.
- 44. Simonian did not accept the transfer because he was told that Margolin is not a licensed pharmacist.
- 45. 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.

- 46. 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.
- 47. 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.
- 48. 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.
- 49. 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."
- 50. 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.
- 51. 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.
- 52. Simonian was unware that Respondent Superior was also dispensing the prescriptions to the patients and that Respondent Superior would collect 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.

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- 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. During the inspection, the inspectors found the following issues.
- 54. 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.
- 55. Inspector S.B. noticed that Respondent Niva's facility was empty, and that there were no drugs or records on site.
- Respondent Petoyan, Respondent Danelian and Respondent Stepanyan informed Inspector S.B. that Respondent Niva's facility had been closed since January 22, 2014.
- 57. Respondent Danelian and Respondent Petoyan stated that Respondent Niva's facility did not conduct any business after obtaining its license in July 30, 2013. Respondents Danelian and Petoyan stated that this was the reason Respondent Petoyan decided to sell Respondent Niva to Respondent Stepanyan.
- 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.
- 59. On or around July 1, 2014, Respondent Stepanyan filed a renewal for Respondent Niva Pharmacy. The Renewal showed Respondent Stepanyan signed under penalty of perjury that he was the President of Niva.

### February 24, 2016, INSPECTION

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. During the inspection, the inspectors found the following issues.

#### a. Respondent Superior:

61. Upon entering Respondent Superior's facility, Inspectors K.R. and M.K. observed Margolin behind the counter of the pharmacy in the prescription filling area. He informed the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The DEA Form 222 is a triplicate form that is required by the DEA to allow the exchange of controlled substances from the registrant to another party who is also registered with the DEA.

### **Respondent Superior**

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### FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

### (Failure to have a Pharmacist on Duty)

72. Respondent Superior is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct pursuant to section 4301, subdivision (o), for violating Regulation section 1714.1(e), in that Respondent Superior was without a pharmacist for greater than thirty minutes. Respondent Khlghatyan took a break on or around February 24, 2016, leaving Respondent Superior unattended for a period of at least forty minutes, as set forth more particularly in Paragraphs 58-61.

### SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

### (Failure to have a licensed pharmacy staff receive dangerous drugs)

73. Respondent Superior is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivisions (o) and (j), in that Respondent violated Code section 4059.5, subdivision (a) when Respondents allowed unlicensed pharmacy staff to receive and sign for delivery of dangerous drugs, as set forth more particularly in paragraphs 62-68.

### THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

### (Failure to Comply with Compounding Quality Assurance)

74. 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 paragraph's 60-68.

### FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

### (Allowing Unlicensed Individuals to Act as a Pharmacist )

75. 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 37-43.

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### FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

### (Failure to Maintain Acquisition and Disposition Records)

76. 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 three 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 29-50.

### SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

### (Failure to have a Power of Attorney)

77. 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 Schedule II controlled substances on behalf of Respondent Superior with out a Power of Attorney, as set forth more particularly in Paragraphs 62-63.

### SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

### (Failure to have a Wholesaler License)

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 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 26-28 and 60-61.

### Respondent Superior II

### EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

### (Failure to have licensed pharmacy staff receive dangerous drugs)

79. 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 62-68.

### NINTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

### (Failure to Comply with Compounding Quality Assurance)

80. 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 60-68.

### TENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

### (Failure to Maintain Acquisition and Disposition Records)

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 three 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 37-50.

### **ELEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

#### (Engaging in prohibited acts)

82. 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 31-36.

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### TWELFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### (Adulterated Drugs and Devices)

83. 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

1	discovered that Respondent Superior II had five bottles of Seroquel XR 400 mg, two bottles of
2	Seroquel XR 300 mg, and one bottle of Abilify 10 mg with patient labels dispensed by ASAP
3	Pharmacy on the pharmacy's shelving in active stock, as set forth more particularly in Paragraphs
4	31-36.
5	Respondent Khlghatyan
6	Respondent Khlghatyan was pharmacist-in-charge of Respondent Superior and Respondent
7	Superior II at all relevant times. Respondent Khlghatyan is therefore responsible under Code
8	section 4113(c) for Respondents Superior and Superior II's compliance with all state and federal
9	laws and regulations pertaining to the practice of pharmacy.
10	THIRTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
11	(Failure to have a pharmacist on Duty)
12	84. Respondent Khlghatyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct
13	pursuant to section 4301, subdivision (o), for violating Regulation section 1714.1(e), as
14	pharmacist-in-charge, in that Respondent Superior was without a pharmacist for greater than
15	thirty minutes. The circumstances are set forth in paragraph 70 above.
16	FOURTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
17	(Failure to have a licensed pharmacy staff receive dangerous drugs)
18	85. Respondent Khlghatyan is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301,
19	subdivisions (o) and (j), as a pharmacist-in-charge, in that Respondent violated Code section
20	4059.5, subdivision (a). The circumstances are set forth in paragraphs 71 and 77 above.
21	FIFTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
22	(Failure to Comply with Compounding Quality Assurance)
23	86. Respondent Khlghatyan is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301,
24	subdivisions (o) and (j), as a pharmacist-in-charge, in that Respondent violated Health and Safety
25	Code section 11209, subdivision (b). The circumstances are set forth in paragraphs 72 and 78
26	above.
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#### SIXTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE 1 (Allowing unlicensed individuals Act as a Pharmacist ) 2 87. Respondent Khlghatyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct 3 pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), as a pharmacist-in-charge, in that Respondent 4 5 violated Code section 4051 subdivisions (a) and (b). The circumstances are set forth in paragraph 73 above. 6 SEVENTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE 7 (Failure to Maintain Acquisition and Disposition Records) 8 9 88. Respondent Khlghatyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), as pharmacist-in-charge, in that Respondent 10 violated Code section 4081 subdivision (a) by failing to keep for at least three years, and/or make 11 available for inspection, its records of manufacture sale, acquisition, receipt, shipment, or 12 disposition of dangerous drugs. The circumstances are set forth in paragraphs 74 and 79 above. 13 14 EIGHTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE (Failure to have a Power of Attorney) 15 89. Respondent Khlghatyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct 16 pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondent violated Code of Federal 17 Regulation section 1305.05 subdivision (a). The circumstances are set forth in paragraph 75 18 19 above. NINETEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE 20 (Failure to have a Wholesaler License) 21 90. Respondent Khlghatyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct 22 pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondent violated Code section 4016 23 24 subdivision (a). The circumstances are set forth in paragraph 75 above. /// 25 /// 26 27 /// 28 ///

1	TWENTY CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
2	(Adulterated Drugs and Devices)
3	91. Respondent Khlghatyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct
4	pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondent violated Health and Safety
5	Code section 111255. The circumstances are set forth in paragraph 81 above.
6	TWENTY-SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
7	(Engaging in Fraud)
8	92. Respondent Khlghatyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct
9	pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (f), in that Respondent was involved in a billing fraud
10	scheme using ASAP Pharmacy prior to Respondent Superior receiving a Medi-Cal license, as set
11	forth more particularly in Paragraphs 25-69.
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13	Respondent Petoyan
14	TWENTY-FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
15	(Engaging in Fraud)
16	93. Respondent Petoyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct
17	pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (f), in that Respondent was involved in a billing fraud
18	scheme using ASAP Pharmacy prior to Respondent Superior receiving a Medi-Cal license, as set
19	forth more particularly in Paragraphs 25-69.
20	TWENTY-FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
21	(Failure to Transfer a Permit and Submit a Change of Ownership)
22	94. Respondent Petoyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct
23	pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondents violated California Code of
24	Regulations section 1709 (c) when Respondents Petoyan, and Danielian failed to complete an
25	application of ownership when they transferred their ownership to Respondent Stepanyan.
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### Respondent Niva 1 2 TWENTY-FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE (Failure to Maintain Acquisition and Disposition Records) 3 95. Respondent Niva is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct pursuant 4 5 to section 4301, subdivisions (j), (o), and (q), in that Respondents failed to provide the requested acquisition and disposition records requested by the board on or around September 25, 2013, as 6 7 set forth more particularly in Paragraph 69. TWENTY-SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE 8 (Failure to Transfer a Permit and Submit a Change of Ownership) 9 Respondents Niva is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct 10 96. pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondent violated California Code of 11 Regulations section 1709 (c) when Respondents Petoyan, and Danielian failed to complete an 12 application of ownership when they transferred their ownership of Respondent Niva to 13 14 Respondent Stepanyan, as set forth more particularly in Paragraphs 51-57. 15 **Respondent Danielian** 16 TWENTY-SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE 17 (Failure to Transfer a Permit and Submit a Change of Ownership) 18 Respondents Danielian is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct 19 pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondent violated California Code of 20 Regulations section 1709 (c) when Respondents Petoyan and Danielian failed to complete an 21 application of ownership when they transferred their ownership of Respondent Niva to 22 Respondent Stepanyan, as set forth more particularly in Paragraphs 51-57. 23 24 /// /// 25 /// 26 /// 27 28 /// 22

### Respondent Stepanyan

### TWENTY-EIGTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

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

98. Respondent Stepanyan is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct pursuant to section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), in that Respondent 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 of Respondent Niva to Respondent Stepanyan, as set forth more particularly in Paragraphs 51-57.

### TWENTY-NINTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

### (Fraudulent completion of Renewal Form)

99. 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 51 to 57.

#### **OTHER MATTERS**

- 100. 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 five years if Pharmacy Permit PHY 48287 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit PHY 48287 is reinstated if it is revoked.
- 101. 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 five years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 48287 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 48287 is reinstated if revoked.

102. 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 five years if Pharmacy Permit PHY 49215 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit PHY 49215 is reinstated if it is revoked.

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

104. 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 five years if Wholesaler License Number WLS 6239 is placed on probation or until Wholesaler License Number WLS 6239 is reinstated if it is revoked.

105. 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 five years if Wholesaler License Number WLS 6239 is placed on probation or until Wholesaler License Number WLS 6239 is reinstated if revoked.

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#### **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:

- 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 five 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 five 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.;
- Revoking or suspending Pharmacy Technician Registration Number TCH 79133, issued to Mihran Stepanyan;
- 10. 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 five years if Wholesaler License Number

**ACCUSATION**