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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 6190

ISMAEL ANGUIANO Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 48246,

OAH No. 2018021064

Respondent.

## **DECISION AND ORDER**

The attached Proposed Decision of the Administrative Law Judge 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 October 18, 2018.

It is so ORDERED on September 18, 2018.

BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

By

Victor Law, R.Ph. Board President

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In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

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ISMAEL ANGUIANO

OAH No. 2018021064

Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 48246,

Respondent.

## PROPOSED DECISION

Administrative Law Judge Roy W. Hewitt, Office of Administrative Hearings, State of California, heard this matter in San Diego, California, on July 10, 2018.

Deputy Attorney General Desiree I. Kellogg represented complainant, Virginia Herold, Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy (board), Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California.

Respondent, Ismael Anguiano, represented himself.

The matter was submitted on July 10, 2018.

#### FACTUAL FINDINGS

- 1. On September 17, 2003, the board issued to respondent Pharmacy Technician Registration Number TCH 48246. Respondent's registration was in full force and effect at all relevant times.
- 2. On December 1, 2017, complainant, while acting in her official capacity as the Executive Officer for the board, filed an accusation against respondent. Respondent timely requested a hearing and the instant hearing ensued.

The accusation was based on the criminal convictions set forth in the following Factual Findings.

## Respondent's Criminal Convictions

- 3. On June 27, 2006, in Los Angeles County Superior Court, respondent was convicted of violating California Vehicle Code section 2002, subdivision (a) (hit and run driving), a misdemeanor.
- 4. On April 10, 2017, in Orange County Superior Court, respondent was convicted of violating California Vehicle Code sections 23152, subdivision (a) (driving under the influence of alcohol) and 23152, subdivision (b) (driving with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 percent or higher), both misdemeanors. Additionally, respondent admitted that his BAC was .20 percent or more, which was a special enhancement.

As a result of the 2017 conviction and admission, respondent was placed on informal probation for a period of five years.

## Disciplinary Considerations

- 5. On June 27, 2008, in Los Angeles County Superior Court, respondent was convicted of violating California Vehicle Code section 23152, subdivision (b) (driving with a BAC of .08 percent or higher<sup>1</sup>), a misdemeanor. Respondent admitted a special enhancement based on previous convictions of driving under the influence of alcohol on October 18, 2000, and December 17, 2001. As a result of his 2008 conviction and the enhancement, respondent was placed on summary probation for five years and ordered to complete an 18-month second offender alcohol program.
- 6. On December 17, 2001, in Los Angeles County Superior Court, respondent was convicted of violating California Vehicle Code section 23152, subdivision (b) (driving with a BAC of .08 percent or higher), a misdemeanor. As a result of that conviction, respondent was placed on summary probation for three years and was required to complete an 18-month alcohol and drug program.
- 7. On October 18, 2000, in Los Angeles County Superior Court, respondent was convicted of violating California Vehicle Code section 23152, subdivision (a) (driving under the influence of alcohol), a misdemeanor. As a result of that conviction, respondent was placed on summary probation for three years and was required to complete a three-month first offender alcohol program.
- 8. On January 30, 2002, in Los Angeles County Superior Court, respondent was convicted of violating California Vehicle Code section 23103, subdivision (a) (reckless driving), a misdemeanor. As a result of that conviction, respondent was placed on summary probation for three years.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Respondent's BAC was determined to be 0.15 percent.

9. In a March 4, 2003, letter to the board, which was submitted in conjunction with his application for licensure, respondent wrote: "I have learned my lessons and have paid for my mistakes. I'm no longer an alcohol drinker." (Exh. 10)

## Respondent's Testimony and Documentary Evidence

- 10. Respondent's testimony is summarized as follows: he is still on probation as a result of his April 10, 2017, DUI conviction<sup>2</sup>; his 2017 conviction resulted from conduct that took place on February 27, 2017, and respondent claims to "be sober since February 25, 2017"; he asserted that he is not an alcoholic, "I just drank beer on weekends and have never used drugs"; he has had no "relapses since February 27, 2017"; he is not working a 12-Step program; he has no sponsor; "I am not a criminal, I have never had a felony in my life"; "drinking has never affected my job, I was just a weekend drinker"; and, "there are plenty of others in the health care business who drink, it was just never documented."
- 11. Respondent presented documentary evidence of having attended the following rehabilitation programs: School Ten, Inc.; Face-to-Face; and Self-Help; however given respondent's testimony, it was clear that respondent did not embrace the information he received when he attended the programs.

## Character References

12. No one appeared and testified on respondent's behalf, nor did he submit any character reference letters.

## Substantial Relationship

13. Board Inspector Christopher Woo testified that respondent's convictions involved conduct substantially related to the qualifications, functions and duties of a pharmacy technician due to the following: technicians must follow laws, regulations and rules governing drugs and controlled substances; technicians must be able to follow rules and regulations; and technicians must use good judgment. Respondent's history of alcohol-related convictions evidences that he would pose a danger to the public if he were to maintain his Pharmacy Technician Registration.

#### Costs

14. The reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case against respondent, recoverable by the board pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3, totaled \$2,402.50.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> His probation is due to expire in April of 2022.

## LEGAL CONCLUSIONS

- 1. Causes for discipline exist pursuant to Business and Professions Code sections 490 and 4301, based on respondent's criminal convictions for crimes substantially related to the qualifications, functions and duties of a pharmacy technician and involve act(s) that would be grounds for suspension or revocation of a pharmacy technician's registration.
- 2. Causes for discipline exist pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4301 (unprofessional conduct) based on respondent's history of his dangerous use of alcohol. The term "unprofessional conduct" used in a disciplinary statute is not limited to specific enumerated conduct set forth in the statute, but also includes conduct which breaches the rules or ethical code of a profession, or conduct which is unbecoming a member in good standing of a profession. The term should not be constricted so as to defeat the legislative purpose. (Shea v. Board of Medical Examiners (1978) 81 Cal.App.3d 564, 575.)
- 3. Mere remorse does not demonstrate rehabilitation. A truer indication of rehabilitation is presented by sustained conduct over an extended period of time. (*In re Menna* (1995) 11 Cal.4th 975, 991.) The evidentiary significance of an individual's misconduct is greatly diminished by the passage of time and by the absence of similar, more recent misconduct. (*Kwasnik v. State Bar* (1990) 50 Cal.3d 1061, 1070.)
- 4. Since persons under the direct supervision of judicial or correctional authorities are required to behave in exemplary fashion, little weight is generally placed on the fact that such an individual did not commit additional crimes or continue inappropriate behavior while under supervision. (*In re Gossage* (2000) 23 Cal.4th 1080, 1099.)
- 5. The board established guidelines for assessing rehabilitation that are set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1769. Pursuant to section 1769, the following criteria are to be used:
- (1) The nature and severity of the act(s) or offense(s) under consideration as grounds for denial.
- (2) Evidence of any act(s) committed subsequent to the act(s) or crime(s) under consideration as grounds for denial under Business and Professions Code section 480.
- (3) The time that has elapsed since commission of the act(s) or crime(s) referred to in subdivision (1) or (2).
- (4) Whether the applicant has complied with any terms of parole, probation, restitution or any other sanctions lawfully imposed against the applicant.
  - (5) Evidence of rehabilitation submitted by respondent.

The above factors were considered in this case.

#### **Evaluation**

6. Rehabilitation is a process by which an individual earns back the trust of the community. It is composed of two very different modes of change. The first is attitudinal and involves the demonstration of a change of mind and heart. The second involves changes in behavior. To establish the change of mind and heart, one must come to terms with the underlying criminal behavior. One must demonstrate an awareness and understanding that the conduct at issue was wrong and that it was harmful. One must accept responsibility for actions at issue, not blaming them on others or excusing it. One must, in a word, show remorse. To establish a change in behavior, one must demonstrate a track record of consistently appropriate behavior over an extended period of time. In this way, society has the benefit of making a considered judgment with sufficient evidence.

In this case it became readily apparent during respondent's testimony that he does not appreciate the gravity of his past misconduct or the fact that he has a problem as a result of consuming alcohol. Until he appreciates the significance of his past misconduct and takes appropriate steps to address his alcoholism, it is not in the best interests of the public to allow him to retain his Pharmacy Technician Registration. Allowing him to remain registered as a pharmacy technician, even on a probationary basis, poses a threat to public safety.

#### **ORDER**

- 1. Respondent Ismael Anguiano's Pharmacy Technician License No. TCH 48246 is revoked.
  - 2. Respondent shall pay to the board \$2,402.50, as cost recovery (See Finding 14).

Dated: July 31, 2018

Roy Hewilt

ROY W. HEWITT Administrative Law Judge Office of Administrative Hearings

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8	BEFORE THE	
9	BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS	
10	STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
11		
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 6190
13	ISMAEL ANGUIANO 2755 W. Ball Road #4	ACCUSATION
14	Anaheim, CA 92804	
15	Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 48246	
16		
17	Respondent.	
18		
19	Complainant alleges:	
20	PARTIES	
21	1. Virginia Herold (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity	
22	as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs.	
23	2. On or about September 17, 2003, the Board issued Pharmacy Technician Registration	
24	Number TCH 48246 to Ismael Anguiano (Respondent). The Pharmacy Technician Registration	
25	was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on	
26	August 31, 2019, unless renewed.	
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3. This Accusation is brought before the Board under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise indicated.

- 4. Section 4300(a) of the Code states "Every license issued may be suspended or revoked."
- 5. Section 4300.1 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration, cancellation, forfeiture, suspension, or voluntary surrender of a Board-issued license or registration shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to commence or proceed with a disciplinary proceeding, or to render a decision suspending or revoking the license or registration.

### STATUTORY PROVISIONS

6. Section 482 of the Code states:

Each board under the provisions of this code shall develop criteria to evaluate the rehabilitation of a person when:

- (a) Considering the denial of a license by the board under Section 480; or
- (b) Considering suspension or revocation of a license under Section 490.

Each board shall take into account all competent evidence of rehabilitation furnished by the applicant or licensee.

- 7. Section 490 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that a board may suspend or revoke a license on the ground that the licensee has been convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which the license was issued.
  - 8. 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.

b. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was granted summary probation for

# SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

24 months, and was ordered to complete a work program, and pay fees, fines and restitution.

# (April 10, 2017 Criminal Convictions for DUI on February 25, 2017)

- 14. Respondent has subjected his registration to discipline under sections 490 and 4301(1) of the Code in that he was convicted of crimes that are substantially related to the qualifications, duties, and functions of a pharmacy technician. The circumstances are as follows:
- a. On April 10, 2017, in a criminal proceeding entitled *People of the State of California v. Ismael Anguiano*, in Orange County Superior Court, case number 17NM04895, Respondent was convicted on his plea of guilty to violating Vehicle Code section 23152(a), driving under the influence of alcohol; and Vehicle Code section 23152(b), driving with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or more, misdemeanors. Respondent admitted, and the court found true the allegation that he was previously convicted of the same offenses within the previous ten years, as described in paragraph 17, below. In his plea agreement, Respondent admitted that his BAC was .20 percent or more.
- b. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was granted informal probation for five years, and sentenced to serve 45 days in the Orange County Jail's Supervised Electronic Confinement, with pre-custody credit for one day. Respondent was further ordered to complete an 18-month Multiple Offender Alcohol Program, pay fines, fees and restitution, and comply with the DUI probation terms.
- c. The facts that led to the conviction are that at 2:00 a.m., on or about February 25, 2017, patrol officers with the Anaheim Police Department were dispatched to investigate a driver (Respondent) who had fallen asleep in his vehicle in the #1 northbound lane of a major intersection. The officers observed that the vehicle's engine was running, the gear was in "drive," and Respondent's foot was on the brake. An officer opened the driver's side door and immediately detected a strong odor of alcohol on Respondent's breath and body. The officer shook Respondent and woke him up. Respondent attempted to drive off, but the officers pulled him from his vehicle, put him face down on the street, and handcuffed him. While moving

Respondent out of the street, the officer observed that Respondent was staggering, and his speech was slurred. Respondent submitted to a series of field sobriety tests which he was unable to complete as explained and demonstrated by the officer. During booking, Respondent provided a sample of blood that was subsequently analyzed with a BAC of .20 percent.

## THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# (Dangerous Use of Alcohol)

15. Respondent has subjected his registration to disciplinary action under section 4301(h) of the Code for unprofessional conduct in that on or about February 25, 2017, as described in paragraph 14, above, Respondent operated a motor vehicle while significantly impaired by alcohol.

## **DISCIPLINARY CONSIDERATIONS**

- 16. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondent, pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1769, Complainant alleges that on or about June 27, 2008, in Los Angeles County Superior Court, case number 8BF03287, Respondent was convicted on his plea of no contest to violating Vehicle Code section 23152(b), driving with a BAC of .08 or more, a misdemeanor. Pursuant to a plea agreement, the court dismissed an additional count of driving under the influence (Veh. Code, § 23152(a)). Respondent admitted, and the court found true the allegation that he was previously convicted of the same offenses on October 18, 2000 and December 17, 2001. The court assessed Respondent's BAC was .15 percent. Respondent was granted summary probation for 60 months, and sentenced to serve 120 days in the Los Angeles Count Jail, with pre-custody credit for ten days. Respondent was further ordered to complete an 18-month Licensed Second-Offender Alcohol and Other Drug Education and Counseling Program, pay fines and fees, and comply with the DUI probation terms. On March 11, 2010, the Board issued a citation to Respondent for the DUI conviction, and assessed a \$500.00 administrative fine. The citation was completed on November 29, 2010.
- 17. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondent, pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1769, Complainant alleges that on or about October 18, 2000, in Los Angeles County Superior Court, case number 0CM06667, Respondent

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 was convicted of violating Vehicle Code section 23152(a), driving under the influence, a misdemeanor. Respondent was placed on summary probation for three years, ordered to pay applicable fines and fees and to enroll and successfully complete a three month first offender alcohol and other drug education and counseling program.

- 18. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondent, pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1769, Complainant alleges that on or about December 17, 2001, in Los Angeles County Superior Court, case number 1LL05179, Respondent was convicted of violating Vehicle Code section 23152(b), driving with a BAC of .08 percent or more, a misdemeanor. Respondent was placed on summary probation for three years, ordered to pay applicable fines and fees and to enroll and successfully complete a eighteen month alcohol and drug program.
- 19. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondent, pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1769, Complainant alleges that on or about January 30, 2002, in Los Angeles County Superior Court, case number 1WL17411, Respondent was convicted of violating Vehicle Code section 23103, subdivision (a), reckless driving, a misdemeanor. An additional count of violating Vehicle Code section 2800.1, subdivision (a), evading a police officer, was dismissed. Respondent was sentenced to pay applicable fines and fees, perform twenty days of Cal Trans work and placed on summary probation for 36 months.
- 20. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondent, pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1769, Complainant alleges that in a letter from Respondent dated March 4, 2003, which was submitted in conjunction with his application for licensure, he stated: "I have learned my lessons and have paid for my mistakes. I'm no longer an alcohol drinker."

**PRAYER** WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, 2 and that following the hearing, the Board of Pharmacy issue a decision: 3 Revoking or suspending Pharmacy Technician Registration Number TCH 48246, 1. 4 issued to Ismael Anguiano; 5 Ordering Ismael Anguiano to pay the Board of Pharmacy the reasonable costs of the 2. 6 investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 7 125.3; and, 8 3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper. 9 10 DATED: 11 12 **Executive Officer** Board of Pharmacy 13 Department of Consumer Affairs State of California 14 Complainant 15

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