

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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

**SATENIK KARNIK ZARBHANELIAN,
Pharmacist License No. RPH 57561,**

Respondent

Agency Case No. 6333

OAH NO. 2019010171

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Surrender of License 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 April 15, 2020.

It is so ORDERED on March 16, 2020.

BOARD OF PHARMACY
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Lippe", is written over the printed name and title.

By

Greg Lippe
Board President

1 XAVIER BECERRA
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2 LINDA L. SUN
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7 *Attorneys for Complainant*

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

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

13 **SATENIK KARNIK ZARBHANELIAN**
14 **8430 Sheffield Road**
San Gabriel, CA 91775
15 **Pharmacist License No. RPH 57561**

16 Respondent.

Case No. 6333

OAH No. 2019010171

**STIPULATED SURRENDER OF
LICENSE AND ORDER**

17
18
19 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-
20 entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:

21 **PARTIES**

22 1. Anne Sodergren ("Complainant") is the Interim Executive Officer of the Board of
23 Pharmacy (Board). She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in
24 this matter by Xavier Becerra, Attorney General of the State of California, by Lisa A. Miller,
25 Deputy Attorney General.

26 2. Satenik Karnik Zarbhanelian ("Respondent") is represented in this proceeding by
27 attorney Armond Marcarian, whose address is: 21650 Oxnard Street, Suite 1980, Woodland
28 Hills, CA 91367.

1 3. On or about September 6, 2005, the Board issued Pharmacist License No. RPH 57561
2 to Respondent. The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the
3 charges brought in Accusation No. 6333 and expired on September 30, 2019.

4 **JURISDICTION**

5 4. Accusation No. 6333 was filed before the Board, and is currently pending against
6 Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served
7 on Respondent on October 25, 2018. Respondent timely filed her Notice of Defense contesting
8 the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 6333 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by
9 reference.

10 **ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS**

11 5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the
12 charges and allegations in Accusation No. 6333. Respondent also has carefully read, fully
13 discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Surrender of License and
14 Order.

15 6. Respondent is fully aware of her legal rights in this matter, including the right to a
16 hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to confront and cross-examine
17 the witnesses against her; the right to present evidence and to testify on her own behalf; the right
18 to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of
19 documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other
20 rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.

21 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and
22 every right set forth above.

23 **CULPABILITY**

24 8. Respondent understands that the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 6333,
25 if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline upon her Pharmacist License.

26 9. For the purpose of resolving the Accusation without the expense and uncertainty
27 of further proceedings, Respondent agrees that, at a hearing, Complainant could establish a
28 factual basis for the charges in the Accusation and that those charges constitute cause for

1 discipline. Respondent hereby gives up her right to contest that cause for discipline exists based
2 on those charges.

3 10. Respondent understands that by signing this stipulation she enables the Board to
4 issue an order accepting the surrender of her Pharmacist License without further process.

5 **CONTINGENCY**

6 8. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board. Respondent understands
7 and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board may communicate directly
8 with the Board regarding this stipulation and surrender, without notice to or participation by
9 Respondent or her counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that
10 she may not withdraw her agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board
11 considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order,
12 the Stipulated Surrender and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this
13 paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not
14 be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.

15 9. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile
16 copies of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order, including PDF and facsimile signatures
17 thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.

18 10. This Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is intended by the parties to be an
19 integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of their agreement.
20 It supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, discussions,
21 negotiations, and commitments (written or oral). This Stipulated Surrender of License and Order
22 may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing
23 executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties.

24 11. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that
25 the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Order:

26 **ORDER**

27 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Pharmacist License No. RPH 57561, issued to Respondent
28 Satenik Karnik Zarbhanlian, is surrendered and accepted by the Board.

1 1. The surrender of Respondent's Pharmacist License and the acceptance of the
2 surrendered license by the Board shall constitute the imposition of discipline against Respondent.
3 This stipulation constitutes a record of the discipline and shall become a part of Respondent's
4 license history with the Board.

5 2. Respondent shall lose all rights and privileges as a pharmacist in California as of the
6 effective date of the Board's Decision and Order.

7 3. Respondent shall cause to be delivered to the Board her pocket license and, if one was
8 issued, her wall certificate on or before the effective date of the Decision and Order.

9 4. Respondent may only seek a new or reinstated license from the board by way of a
10 new application for licensure. Respondent understands and agrees that if she ever files an
11 application for licensure or a petition for reinstatement in the State of California, the board shall
12 treat it as a new application for licensure shall not be eligible to petition for reinstatement of
13 licensure.

14 5. Respondent may not apply for any license, permit, or registration from the board for
15 three years from the effective date of this decision. Respondent stipulates that should she apply
16 for any license from the board on or after the effective date of this decision, all allegations set
17 forth in the accusation shall be deemed to be true, correct and admitted by respondent when the
18 board determines whether to grant or deny the application. Respondent shall satisfy all
19 requirements applicable to that license as of the date the application is submitted to the board,
20 including, but not limited to, taking and passing licensing examination(s) as well as fulfilling any
21 education or experience requirements prior to the issuance of a new license.

22 6. Respondent shall pay the agency its costs of investigation and enforcement in the
23 amount of \$37,186.25 prior to issuance of a new or reinstated license.

24 7. If Respondent should ever apply or reapply for a new license or certification, or
25 petition for reinstatement of a license, by any other health care licensing agency in the State of
26 California, all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation, No. 6333 shall be deemed
27 to be true, correct, and admitted by Respondent for the purpose of any Statement of Issues or any
28 other proceeding seeking to deny or restrict licensure.

1 **ACCEPTANCE**

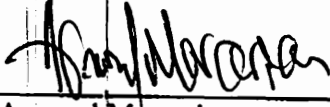
2 I have carefully read the above Stipulated Surrender of License and Order and have fully
3 discussed it with my attorney, Armond Marcarian. I understand the stipulation and the effect it
4 will have on my Pharmacist License. I enter into this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order
5 voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the
6 Board of Pharmacy.

7
8 DATED: 1/6/2020


9 SATENIK KARNIK ZARBHANELIAN
Respondent

10 I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Satenik Karnik Zarbhanelian the terms and
11 conditions and other matters contained in this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I
12 approve its form and content.

13 DATED: January 7, 2020


14 Armond Marcarian
15 Attorney for Respondent


16 **ENDORSEMENT**

17 The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully submitted
18 for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

19 DATED: 01/07/2020

Respectfully submitted,

20 XAVIER BECERRA
21 Attorney General of California
22 LINDA L. SUN
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

23 
24 LISA A. MILLER
25 Deputy Attorney General
26 Attorneys for Complainant

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Exhibit A

Accusation No. 6333

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7 *Attorneys for Complainant*

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

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

13 **SATENIK KARNIK ZARBHANELIAN**
14 **8430 Sheffield Road**
15 **San Gabriel, CA 91775**

16 **Pharmacist License No. RPH 57561**

17 Respondent.

Case No. 6333

OAH Case No.

A C C U S A T I O N

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, Department of Consumer Affairs.

23 2. On or about September 6, 2005, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacist License
24 Number RPH 57561 to Satenik Karnik Zarbanelian ("Respondent Zarbanelian"). The
25 Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein
26 and will expire on September 30, 2019, unless renewed.

27 ///

1 **JURISDICTION**

2 1. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Pharmacy (“Board”), Department of
3 Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the
4 Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.

5 **STATUTORY PROVISIONS**

6 2. Section 118, subdivision (b) provides, in pertinent part, that that expiration of a
7 license shall not deprive the Board jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary actin during the period
8 within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued, or reinstated.

9 3. Section 4300 of the Code states, in pertinent part, that every license issued by the
10 Board is subject to discipline, including suspension or revocation.

11 4. Section 4022 of the Code states:

12 "Dangerous drug" or "dangerous device" means any drug or device unsafe for self-use in
13 humans or animals, and includes the following:

14 "(a) Any drug that bears the legend: "Caution: federal law prohibits dispensing without
15 prescription," "Rx only," or words of similar import.

16 "(b) Any device that bears the statement: "Caution: federal law restricts this device to sale
17 by or on the order of a _____," "Rx only," or words of similar import, the blank to be filled
18 in with the designation of the practitioner licensed to use or order use of the device.

19 "(c) Any other drug or device that by federal or state law can be lawfully dispensed only on
20 prescription or furnished pursuant to Section 4006."

21 5. Section 4059 of the Code states, in relevant part:

22 "(a) A person may not furnish any dangerous drug, except upon the prescription of a
23 physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, veterinarian, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section
24 3640.7."

25 6. Section 4113, subdivision (c), of the Code states:

26 "The pharmacist-in-charge shall be responsible for a pharmacy s compliance with all state
27 and federal laws and regulations pertaining to the practice of pharmacy.

28 7. Section 4301 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

1 “The board shall take action against any holder of a license who is guilty of unprofessional
2 conduct or whose license has been issued by mistake. Unprofessional conduct shall include, but is
3 not limited to, any of the following:”

4 ...

5 “(f) The commission of any act involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or
6 corruption, whether the act is committed in the course of relations as a licensee or otherwise, and
7 whether the act is a felony or misdemeanor or not.”

8 ...

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

11 ...

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

14 ...

15 “(o) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the
16 violation of or conspiring to violate any provision or term of this chapter or of the applicable federal
17 and state laws and regulations governing pharmacy, including regulations established by the board
18 or by any other state or federal regulatory agency.”

19 8. Section 4324, subdivision (a) of the Code states as follows:

20 “Every person who signs the name of another, or of a fictitious person, or falsely makes,
21 alters, forges, utters, publishes, passes, or attempts to pass, as genuine, any prescription for any
22 drugs is guilty of forgery and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by imprisonment pursuant
23 to subdivision (h) of Section 1170 of the Penal Code, or by imprisonment in a county jail for not
24 more than one year.”

25 9. California Health and Safety Code section 11157, which states as follows:

26 “No person shall issue a prescription that is false or fictitious in any respect.”

27 10. California Health and Safety Code section 11350, subdivision (a), which states as
28 follows:

1 “Except as otherwise provided in this division, every person who possesses (1) any
2 controlled substance specified in subdivision (b), (c), (e), or paragraph (1) of subdivision (f) of
3 Section 11054, specified in paragraph (14), (15), or (20) of subdivision (d) of Section 11054, or
4 specified in subdivision (b) or (c) of Section 11055, or specified in subdivision (h) of Section 11056,
5 or (2) any controlled substance classified in Schedule III, IV, or V which is a narcotic drug, unless
6 upon the written prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, or veterinarian licensed to practice
7 in this state, shall be punished by imprisonment in a county jail for not more than one year, except
8 that such person shall instead be punished pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170 of the Penal
9 Code if that person has one or more prior convictions for an offense specified in clause (iv) of
10 subparagraph (C) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of Section 667 of the Penal Code or for an
11 offense requiring registration pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 290 of the Penal Code.”

12 11. California Health and Safety Code section 11150, which states as follows:

13 “No person other than a physician, dentist, podiatrist, or veterinarian, or naturopathic doctor
14 acting pursuant to Section 3640.7 of the Business and Professions Code, or pharmacist acting within
15 the scope of a project authorized under Article 1 (commencing with Section 128125) of Chapter 3
16 of Part 3 of Division 107 or within the scope of Section 4052.1, 4052.2, or 4052.6 of the Business
17 and Professions Code, a registered nurse acting within the scope of a project authorized under
18 Article 1 (commencing with Section 128125) of Chapter 3 of Part 3 of Division 107, a certified
19 nurse-midwife acting within the scope of Section 2746.51 of the Business and Professions Code, a
20 nurse practitioner acting within the scope of Section 2836.1 of the Business and Professions Code,
21 a physician assistant acting within the scope of a project authorized under Article 1 (commencing
22 with Section 128125) of Chapter 3 of Part 3 of Division 107 or Section 3502.1 of the Business and
23 Professions Code, a naturopathic doctor acting within the scope of Section 3640.5 of the Business
24 and Professions Code, or an optometrist acting within the scope of Section 3041 of the Business
25 and Professions Code, or an out-of-state prescriber acting pursuant to Section 4005 of the Business
26 and Professions Code shall write or issue a prescription.”

27 12. California Health and Safety Code section 11170, which states as follows:

28 “No person shall prescribe, administer, or furnish a controlled substance for himself.”

13. California Health and Safety Code section 11171, which states as follows:

“No person shall prescribe, administer, or furnish controlled substance except under the conditions and in the manner provided by this division.”

14. California Health and Safety Code section 11173, which states as follows in relevant part:

“(a) No person shall obtain or attempt to obtain controlled substances, or procure or attempt to procure the administration of or prescription for controlled substances, (1) by fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or subterfuge; or (2) by the concealment of a material fact.

(b) No person shall make a false statement in any prescription, order, report, or record, required by this division.”

REGULATORY PROVISIONS

15. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1714, subdivision (b), states:

“Each pharmacy licensed by the board shall maintain its facilities, space, fixtures, and equipment so that drugs are safely and properly prepared, maintained, secured and distributed. The pharmacy shall be of sufficient size and unobstructed area to accommodate the safe practice of pharmacy.”

COST RECOVERY

16. Section 125.3 of the Code states, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licensee found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

17. “Hydrocodone/apap 10-325” is a Schedule II controlled substance, as defined in Health and Safety Code section 11055, subdivision (b)(1)(I), and is categorized as a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022 of the Code.¹ The brand name for this narcotic drug is Norco.

¹ Hydrocodone /APAP 10-325 refers to a drug that contains 10 mg of hydrocodone and 325 mg of acetaminophen (Tylenol). APAP is an abbreviation of acetyl-para-aminophenol - the chemical name of acetaminophen.

1 18. "Oxycodone 30 mg" is a Schedule II controlled substance, as defined in Health and
2 Safety Code section 11055, subdivision (b)(1)(M), and is categorized as a dangerous drug pursuant
3 to section 4022 of the Code. The brand name for this narcotic drug is Oxy-IR 30 mg.

4 19. "Amphetamine salts" is a Schedule II controlled substance, as defined in Health and
5 Safety Code section 11055, subdivision (d)(1), and is categorized as a dangerous drug pursuant to
6 section 4022 of the Code. The brand name for this stimulant drug is Adderall 30 mg.

7 20. "Carisoprodol" is a Schedule IV controlled substance, as defined in Health and
8 Safety Code section 11057, subdivision (d), and is categorized as a dangerous drug pursuant to
9 section 4022 of the Code. It is a muscle relaxant. The brand name for this drug is Soma 350 mg.

10 21. "Metformin" is categorized as a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022 of the
11 Code. The brand name for this drug is Glucophage.

12 22. "Gabapentin" is categorized as a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022 of the
13 Code and is used for epilepsy and post-herpetic neuralgia. The brand name for this drug is
14 "Horizant."

15 23. "Icosapent Ethyl (Omega-3) is categorized as a dangerous drug pursuant to section
16 4022 of the Code and is used for elevated triglycerides. The brand name for this drug is Vascepa.

17 **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

18 24. At all times mentioned herein, Respondent Zarbhanelian was employed by Walgreens
19 where she worked as a per-diem pharmacist at various Walgreens locations, including at
20 Walgreens 6854, located at 2222 Colorado Blvd., Los Angeles, CA, and Walgreens 7832, located
21 at 3339 E Anaheim St., Long Beach, CA. She was terminated from Walgreens on November 8,
22 2017.

23 25. On or about November 22, 2017, the Board received a notification from Walgreens'
24 District Pharmacy Manager, stating that Respondent Zarbhanelian admitted to diverting
25 medications and was terminated as a result. The complaint alleged that Respondent Zarbhanelian
26 had diverted 200 tablets of amphetamine salts 30 mgs and 350 tablets of Hydrocodone/apap
27 ("HC/apap").
28

1 26. On or about December 14, 2017, the Board inspector spoke with Respondent
2 Zarbhanelian, who admitted to filling and overfilling fraudulent prescriptions, claiming that she
3 was forced to do so by strangers. She admitted to having her boyfriend bring in the prescriptions
4 and pick them up. She admitted to filling the fraudulent prescriptions many times in July, August,
5 September, and October 2017.

6 27. On or about January 9, 2018, the Board inspector investigated Respondent
7 Zarbhanelian's conduct at Walgreens 6854. The Board inspector spoke with the PIC, Julie San
8 ("San"), and Walgreens' District Loss Prevention Manager. In the course of her investigation, the
9 inspector determined that San performed an accurate audit on October 9, 2017, of the HC/apap
10 inventory. On or about October 19, 2017, San notified the Loss Prevention Manager of a
11 shortage of 150 tablets of HC/apap 10/325 mg. San's review of the dispensing records after
12 October 9, 2017, revealed that on October 10, 2017, a prescription of 150 tablets of HC/apap (Rx
13 775286) was filled for a new patient. Upon viewing the surveillance video and records, San
14 observed that Respondent Zarbhanelian dispensed Rx 775286 and a prescription for 200 tablets of
15 amphetamine salts 30 mgs (Rx 775285) to another new patient. Both prescriptions were picked up
16 by a driver in a black Mercedes at the drive-through window, and were paid for in cash.
17 Additionally, in the surveillance video, Respondent Zarbhanelian was observed dispensing the
18 HC/apap in a 60-dram vial instead of a 30-dram vial. The latter is the accurate container size for
19 150 tablets.

20 28. Additionally, Respondent Zarbhanelian wrote a note on Rx 775286 that she had
21 verified the prescription on October 10, 2017, at 5 p.m. San informed the Board inspector that
22 she had been working with Respondent Zarbhanelian at 5 p.m. on October 10, 2017 and that
23 Respondent Zarbhanelian had not spoken to anyone at a prescriber's office at that time.
24 Moreover, the Board inspector determined via surveillance video that the prescriptions were
25 dropped off at the pharmacy after 8 p.m., making Respondent Zarbhanelian's 5 p.m. verification
26 impossible.

27 29. Subsequent to the Loss Prevention Manager's discovery of the HC/apap shortage at
28 Walgreens 6854, he reviewed Respondent Zarbhanelian's upcoming assignments at Walgreens

1 stores. Upon finding out that Respondent Zarbanelian was scheduled to work at Walgreens 7832
2 on October 28, 2017, and Walgreens 6124 on November 5, 2017, he contacted Walgreens 7832's
3 PIC, Jansen Filio ("Filio"), and asked her to conduct a complete Schedule II controlled substances
4 audit prior to closing on October 27, 2017. Filio complied and then conducted another controlled
5 substance audit on October 29, 2017.

6 30. On October 27, 2017, when Filio audited all Schedule II controlled substances, she
7 determined that the actual on-hand stock of for amphetamine salts 30 mg was 308 tablets. On
8 October 29, 2017, Filio conducted her second audit and determined that there were only 8 tablets
9 of amphetamine 30 mg. On October 28, 2017, Respondent Zarbanelian processed a prescription
10 for 200 tablets (Rx 1190831) of amphetamine 30 mg and documented on the prescription that it
11 was verified by the prescriber's office. Thus, there was a shortage of 100 amphetamine salts 30
12 mg tablets. All controlled substances including amphetamine 30 mg were stored in locked
13 cabinets, accessible only to a pharmacist. Filio determined that since Respondent Zarbanelian
14 was the only pharmacist on duty during the time period in which the tablets were taken, she was
15 the only person who could have removed the 100 tablets.

16 31. Filio informed the Board inspector of two suspicious prescriptions processed and
17 verified by Respondent Zarbanelian on October 28, 2017. One was Rx 1190831, described
18 above, and the other, Rx 1190754, was for 30 tablets of metformin 500 mg. Both prescriptions
19 were prescribed to patient CE. Respondent Zarbanelian received cash payments for both
20 prescriptions. Surveillance video and pharmacy records from October 28, 2017, revealed that Rx
21 1190831 was picked up by a driver in a black Mercedes. Filio informed the Board inspector that
22 she was suspicious of the prescriptions for patient CE because patient CE was an unfamiliar
23 patient and Rx 1190831 was not from the style of prescription pad used by Dr. NR. Filio
24 contacted Dr. NR's office, who informed her that Rx 1190831 was fraudulent.

25 32. On November 5, 2017, the Loss Prevention Manager interviewed Respondent
26 Zarbanelian at Walgreens 6124, with the Walgreens District Pharmacy Manager present as a
27 witness. Respondent Zarbanelian admitted to dispensing fraudulent prescriptions over a year and
28 filling prescriptions with extra tablets in the two months prior to the interview. Respondent was

suspended and then terminated on November 15, 2017. Walgreens filed police reports with Los Angeles Police Department (case no. 17-1108003561) and Long Beach Police Department (case no. 17-68210).

33. In the course of the investigation, the Board inspector investigated all controlled substances Schedule II prescriptions processed by RPH Zarbhanelian in Walgreens pharmacies in 2017. After the inspector reviewed the controlled substance prescriptions, she then contacted the prescribers to determine the prescriptions' validity. The inspector determined that the following prescriptions were fraudulent:

Store Number Location	Date Dispensed	Rx Number	Patient	Drug	Quantity
6854 Los Angeles (2222 Colorado Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90041)	10/10/17	775286	AG	HC/apap 10/325 mg	150
	10/10/17	775285	RG	Amphetamine salts 30 mg	200
7832 Long Beach (3339 E Anaheim St., Long Beach, 90804)	10/28/17	1190831	CE	Amphetamine salts 30 mg	200
	10/28/17	1190754	CE	Metformin 500 mg	30
6413 Inglewood (230 N La Brea Ave., Inglewood, CA 90301)	8/5/17	1444321	BG	Amphetamine salts 30 mg	100
	8/5/17	1444326	LA	Oxycodone 30 mg	80 (Rx was for 150)
	8/5/17	1444318	AA	HC/apap 10/325 mg	180
7714 Beaumont (1400 Beaumont Ave., Beaumont CA 92223)	1/7/17	1100659	CT	Amphetamine salts 30 mg	150

	1/7/17	1100658	MT	Amphetamine salts 30 mg	150
	1/7/17	1100652	CT	Carisoprodol 350 mg	200
	1/7/17	1100678	RAR	Oxycodone 30 mg	200
	1/7/17	1100660	RTR	HC/apap 10/325 mg	180
	1/7/17	1100676	PTR	Oxycodone 30 mg	200
	1/7/17	1100594	PTR	Metformin 500 mg	30
4382 Pomona (795 E Foothill Blvd., Pomona, CA 91767)	1/27/17	1145755	DLA	Oxycodone 30 mg	200
	1/27/17	1145756	RS	Oxycodone 30 mg	180
2155 Montebello (1501 W Whittier Blvd., Montebello, CA 90640)	6/24/17	771923	MV	Oxycodone 30 mg	200
	6/24/17	771924	JF	Adderall 30 mg	200
6347 Northridge (18515 Devonshire St. Northridge, CA 91324)	1/8/17	869478	JWH	Oxycodone 30 mg	150
	1/8/17	869481	AM	Adderall 30 mg	150
	1/8/17	869480	JM	Adderall 30 mg	150

34. Subsequent to the December 14, 2017 interview of Respondent Zarbhanelian, in which she stated she was not dispensing medications at Delta Drugs, the Board inspector investigated her conduct at Delta Drugs. Based on her experience as a pharmacist and inspector, the inspector found her claim that she was not acting in a pharmacist role at Delta Drugs to be implausible. The inspector then requested a CURES² report for the pharmacy for the period of

² CURES (Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System) is the database utilized by California's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program to track Schedule II, III, and IV controlled substances.

June 1, 2016, to February 6, 2018. The report indicated that Delta Drugs transmitted 3,159 Schedule II through IV controlled substances prescriptions to CURES during this time period. After analyzing the data, the inspector identified several suspicious prescriptions that were possibly processed by Zarbanelian.

35. On May 21, 2018, the inspector visited Delta Drugs accompanied by three Drug Enforcement Administration (“DEA”) agents. The inspector then requested 28 suspicious prescriptions from Delta Drugs’ PIC, Michael Groman (“Groman”). The Groman confirmed that the prescriptions were processed by Respondent Zarbanelian. The three DEA agents and the Board inspector interviewed Respondent Zarbanelian. During the interview, she admitted to knowingly processing the fraudulent prescriptions. She stated that her boyfriend always dropped off the prescriptions and then later picked them up on her signal. Respondent Zarbanelian initially stated that she processed only six or seven prescriptions; however, when presented with the 28 prescriptions containing a total of 31 orders, Respondent Zarbanelian admitted that she had dispensed the fraudulent prescriptions and that there were more.

36. The Board inspector reviewed the prescriptions dispensed by Respondent Zarbanelian at Delta Drugs in 2016 and 2017. The inspector then contacted the prescribers to determine the prescriptions’ authenticity. The inspector determined that the following prescriptions processed by Respondent Zarbanelian at Delta Drugs were fraudulent:

Rx Date	Rx Number	Patient	Drug	Quantity
6/16/17	636258	EZ	Oxycodone 30 mg	300
5/23/17	635438	EZ	Oxycodone 30 mg	200
3/17/17	626469	IF	Oxycodone 30 mg	250
6/1/17	636258	GD	Oxycodone 30 mg	300
6/8/17	637241	EB	Oxycodone 30 mg	300
12/12/17	614433	EB	Oxycodone 30 mg	200
5/14/17	634194	EB	Oxycodone 30 mg	300

1	4/7/17	630601	EB	Oxycodone 30 mg	300
2	3/13/17	625608	EB	Oxycodone 30 mg	300
3	2/23/17	623108	EB	Oxycodone 30 mg	200
4	5/29/17	635765	EDV	Oxycodone 30 mg	300
5	3/13/17	625606	EDV	Oxycodone 30 mg	300
6	2/20/17	623106	EDV	Oxycodone 30 mg	250
7	12/12/16	614650	EDV	Vascepa 1 gm	120
8	12/12/16	615060	EDV	Oxycodone 30 mg	200
9	9/28/16	605430	AM	Adderall 30 mg	100
10	9/28/16	605431	LM	Adderall 30 mg	100
11	6/1/17	636942	GO	Oxycodone 30 mg	300
12	5/11/17	633651	GO	Oxycodone 30 mg	300
13	9/19/16	604634	AE	Oxycodone 30 mg	200
14	11/14/16	610941	AE	Oxycodone 30 mg	200
15	11/14/16	610942	AE	Horizant 600 mg	30
16	12/6/16	613238	AE	Oxycodone 30 mg	200
17	12/6/16	613239	AE	Horizant 600 mg	60
18	12/22/16	616033	AE	Oxycodone 30 mg	300
19	1/21/17	620155	AE	Oxycodone 30 mg	300
20	2/20/17	622820	AE	Oxycodone 30 mg	300
21	3/20/17	626637	AE	Oxycodone 30 mg	300
22	5/9/17	633169	AE	Oxycodone 30 mg	300
23	5/22/17	635564	TZ	Oxycodone 30 mg	200
24	6/3/17	637665	AE	Oxycodone 30 mg	300

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1 **FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

2 **(Unlawful Possession of a Dangerous Drug – Respondent Zarbhanelian)**

3 37. Respondent Zarbhanelian, RPH 57561, is subject to disciplinary action under sections
4 4324, subdivision (a), 4301, subdivisions (f), (j), and (o), for violating Health Safety Code
5 sections 11170, 11350, subdivision (a), in that Respondent Zarbhanelian diverted dangerous
6 drugs as follows:

7 On or about October 10, 2017, Respondent Zarbhanelian diverted 150 tablets of
8 HC/apap 10/325 mg from Walgreens 6854 located at 2222 Colorado Blvd., Los Angeles, CA.

9 On or about October 28, 2017, Respondent Zarbhanelian diverted 100 tablets of
10 amphetamine salts 30 mg from Walgreens 7832, located at 33339 E Anaheim St., Long Beach,
11 CA. Complainant refers to, and by this reference incorporates, the allegations set forth in the
12 above paragraphs 24-36 above, as though set forth fully.

13 **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

14 **(Dispensing Forged Prescription – Respondent Zarbhanelian)**

15 38. Respondent Zarbhanelian, RPH 57561, is subject to disciplinary action under sections
16 4301, subdivision (g), and 4324, subdivision (a), for violation of Health and Safety Code sections
17 11173, subdivision (a), 11150, 11157, and 11173, subdivision (b), in that Respondent
18 Zarbhanelian knowingly processed and dispensed the following fraudulent prescriptions at
19 multiple Walgreens pharmacy locations and Delta Drugs:

20 On or about January 7, 2017, Respondent Zarbhanelian knowingly processed and
21 dispensed fraudulent prescriptions at Walgreens 7714, located at 1400 Beaumont Ave., Beaumont
22 CA, consisting of: Rx 1100659 (150 tablets of amphetamine salts 30 mg); Rx 1100658 (150
23 tablets of amphetamine salts 30 mg); Rx 1100652 (200 tablets of Carisoprodol 350 mg); Rx
24 1100678 (200 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 1100660 (180 tablets of HC/apap 10/325 mg);
25 Rx 1100676 (200 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 100594 (30 tablets of Metformin 500 mg).

26 On or about January 8, 2017, Respondent Zarbhanelian knowingly processed and dispensed
27 fraudulent prescriptions at Walgreens 6347, located at 18515 Devonshire St.,
28

1 Northridge, CA, consisting of: Rx 869478 (150 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 869481 (150
2 tablets of Adderall 30 mg); Rx 869480 (150 tablets of Adderall 30 mg).

3 On or about January 27, 2017, Respondent Zarbhanelian knowingly processed and
4 dispensed fraudulent prescriptions at Walgreens 4382, located at 795 East Foothill Blvd, Pomona,
5 CA, consisting of: Rx 1145755 (200 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); and Rx 1145756 (180 tablets
6 of Oxycodone 30 mg).

7 On or about June 24, 2017, Respondent Zarbhanelian knowingly processed and
8 dispensed fraudulent prescriptions at Walgreens 2155, located at 1501 West Whittier Blvd.,
9 Montebello, CA, consisting of: Rx 771923 (200 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 771924 (200
10 tablets of Adderall 30 mg).

11 On or about August 5, 2017, Respondent Zarbhanelian knowingly processed and
12 dispensed fraudulent prescriptions at Walgreens 6413, located at 230 North La Brea Ave.,
13 Inglewood, CA, consisting of: Rx 1444321 (100 tablets of amphetamine salts 30 mg); Rx
14 1444326 (80 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); and Rx 1444318 (180 tablets of HC/apap 10/325 mg).

15 On or about October 10, 2017, Respondent Zarbhanelian knowingly processed and
16 dispensed fraudulent prescriptions at Walgreens 6854, located at 2222 Colorado Blvd., Los
17 Angeles, CA, consisting of: Rx 775285 (200 tablets of amphetamine salts 30 mg).

18 On or about October 28, 2017, Respondent Zarbhanelian knowingly processed and
19 dispensed fraudulent prescriptions at Walgreens 7832, located at 3339 East Anaheim St., Long
20 Beach, CA, consisting of: Rx 1190831 (200 tablets of amphetamine salts 30 mg); and Rx
21 1190754 (30 tablets of Metformin 500 mg).

22 39. Between the dates of September 19, 2016, and June 16, 2017, Respondent
23 Zarbhanelian knowingly processed and dispensed fraudulent prescriptions at Delta Drugs, located
24 at 437 Fernando Court, Glendale, CA, consisting of: Rx 638283 (300 tablets of Oxycodone 30
25 mg); Rx 635438 (200 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 626469 (250 tablets of Oxycodone 30
26 mg); Rx 636258 (300 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 637241 (300 tablets of Oxycodone 30
27 mg); Rx 614433 (200 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 634194 (300 tablets of Oxycodone 30
28 mg); Rx 630601 (300 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 625608 (300 tablets of Oxycodone 30

mg); Rx 623108 (200 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 635765 (300 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 625606 (300 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 623106 (250 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 614650 (120 tablets of Vascepa 1 gm); Rx 615060 (200 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 605430 (100 tablets of Adderall 30 mg); Rx 605431 (100 tablets of Adderall 30 mg); Rx 363942 (300 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 633651 (300 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 604634 (200 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 610941 (200 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 610942 (30 tablets of Horizant 600 mg); Rx 613238 (200 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 613239 (60 tablets of Horizant 600 mg); Rx 616033 (300 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 620155 (300 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 622820 (300 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 626637 (300 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 633169 (300 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 635564 (200 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg); Rx 637665 (300 tablets of Oxycodone 30 mg).

Complainant refers to, and by this reference incorporates, the allegations set forth in the above paragraphs 24-36 above, as though set forth fully.

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 Pharmacist License Number RPH 57561, issued to Satenik Karnik Zarbhanelian;
2. Ordering Satenik Karnik Zarbhanelian to pay the Board of Pharmacy the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3; and,
3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: _____

9/28/18

Virginia Herold

VIRGINIA HEROLD
Executive Officer
Board of Pharmacy
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California
Complainant

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