

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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

**RAJ LUNAGARIA, INC. dba WHITE CROSS PHARMACY
RAVJI L. LUNAGARIA, OWNER,
Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 39991; and**

**LASR ENTERPRISES, INC., dba WHITE CROSS PHARMACY #1
RAVJI L. LUNAGARIA, RAJ RAKHOLIA AND SAMEER K. RAKHOLIA,
OWNERS,
Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 50793; and**

**LASR ENTERPRISES, INC., dba WHITE CROSS PHARMACY #1
RAVJI L. LUNAGARIA, RAJ RAKHOLIA AND SAMEER K. RAKHOLIA,
OWNERS,
Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 55765; and**

**RSS PHARMACY ASSOCIATES, LLC dba COLE'S VILLAGE PHARMACY
RAVJI L. LUNAGARIA, SAMEER K. RAKHOLIA AND SAMIR A. PATEL,
OWNERS,
Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 55630; and**

**NILESHKUMAR BATUKBHAI VAGHANI,
Pharmacist License No. RPH 70111; and**

**RAVJI L. LUNAGARIA,
Pharmacist License No. RPH 44144; and**

**SAMEER K. RAKHOLIA,
Pharmacist License No. RPH 64946; and**

**NIRALI MRUDANGK SHAH,
Pharmacist License No. RPH 73997; and**

**SAMIR A. PATEL,
Pharmacist License No. RPH 70613; and**

**SHANE L. JEROMINSKI,
Pharmacist License No. RPH 60543;**

and

**RAJ RAKHOLIA,
Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 64078,
Intern Pharmacist Registration No. INT 41728,**

Respondents.

Agency Case No. 6336, 6773, and 6775

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on July 25, 2022.

It is so ORDERED on August 24, 2022.

BOARD OF PHARMACY
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Seung W. Oh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Seung" and last name "Oh" clearly visible.

Seung W. Oh, Pharm.D.
Board President

1 ROB BONTA
Attorney General of California
2 GREGORY J. SALUTE
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
3 NICOLE R. TRAMA
Deputy Attorney General
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Attorneys for Complainant

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

13 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 6336, 6773, and 6775

14 **RAJ LUNAGARIA, INC.**
15 **DBA WHITE CROSS PHARMACY**
16 **RAVJI L. LUNAGARIA, OWNER**
17 **602 Main Street**
18 **Brawley, CA 92227**

19 **Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 39991**

20 **LASR ENTERPRISES, INC.,**
21 **DBA WHITE CROSS PHARMACY #1**
22 **RAVJI L. LUNAGARIA, RAJ RAKHOLIA**
23 **AND SAMEER K. RAKHOLIA, OWNERS**
24 **21445 N. Sunrise Way, Ste. 100**
25 **Palm Springs, CA 92262**

26 **Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 50793**

27 **LASR ENTERPRISES, INC.,**
28 **DBA WHITE CROSS PHARMACY #1**
RAVJI L. LUNAGARIA, RAJ RAKHOLIA
AND SAMEER K. RAKHOLIA, OWNERS
1717 East Vista Chino, Ste. B2
Palm Springs, CA 92262

Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 55765

STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND
DISCIPLINARY ORDER AS TO
NILESHKUMAR BATUKBHAI
VAGHANI ONLY

**RSS PHARMACY ASSOCIATES, LLC
DBA COLE'S VILLAGE PHARMACY
RAVJI L. LUNAGARIA, SAMEER K.
RAKHOLIA AND SAMIR A. PATEL,
OWNERS
223 East 3rd Street
Corona, CA 92879**

Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 55630

**NILESHKUMAR BATUKBHAI
VAGHANI
19411 Norwich Dr.
Riverside, CA 92508**

Pharmacist License No. RPH 70111

**RAVJI L. LUNAGARIA
P.O. Box 17458
Anaheim, CA 92817**

Pharmacist License No. RPH 44144

**SAMEER K. RAKHOLIA
P.O. Box 861
Brawley, CA 92227**

Pharmacist License No. RPH 64946

**NIRALI MRUDANGK SHAH
26630 Barton Rd., #212
Redlands, CA 92373**

Pharmacist License No. RPH 73997

**SAMIR A. PATEL
6648 Paseo Fino Street
Eastvale, CA 92880**

Pharmacist License No. RPH 70613

**SHANE L. JEROMINSKI
83652 Himilaya Drive
Indio, CA 92203**

Pharmacist License No. RPH 60543

**RAJ RAKHOLIA
830 S. Peralta Hills Drive
Anaheim, CA 95207**

Pharmacy Technician Registration No.

1 **TCH 64078**

2 **Intern Pharmacist Registration No. INT**
3 **41728**

4 Respondents.

5 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-
6 entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:

7 **PARTIES**

8 1. Anne Sodergren (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy
9 (Board). She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this matter by
10 Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of California, by Nicole R. Trama, Deputy Attorney
11 General.

12 2. Nileshkumar Batukbhai Vaghani (Respondent Vaghani) is represented in this
13 proceeding by attorney Ivan Petrzela, Esq., whose address is: California Pharmacy Lawyers,
14 9090 Irvine Center Drive, Irvine, CA 92618.

15 3. On or about October 18, 2013, the Board issued Pharmacist License Number RPH
16 70111 to Respondent Vaghani. The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times
17 relevant to the charges brought in Second Amended Accusation No. 6336, 6773, and 6775, and
18 will expire on November 30, 2022, unless renewed.

19 **JURISDICTION**

20 4. Second Amended Accusation No. 6336, 6773, and 6775 was filed before the Board
21 and is currently pending against Respondent Vaghani. The Accusation and all other statutorily
22 required documents were properly served on Respondent Vaghani on May 7, 2019. Respondent
23 Vaghani timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. Subsequently, on May 19,
24 2022, Second Amended Accusation No. 6336, 6773, and 6775 was filed before the Board. A
25 copy of Second Amended Accusation No. 6336, 6773, and 6775 was filed before the Board is
26 attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

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28 ///

5. A copy of Second Amended Accusation No. 6336, 6773, and 6775 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

6. Respondent Vaghani has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Second Amended Accusation No. 6336, 6773, and 6775. Respondent Vaghani has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.

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

8. Respondent Vaghani voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

9. Respondent Vaghani understands and agrees that the charges and allegations in Second Amended Accusation No. 6336, 6773, and 6775, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline upon its Pharmacist License.

10. For the purpose of resolving the Second Amended Accusation No. 6336, 6773, and 6775, without the expense and uncertainty of further proceedings, Respondent Vaghani agrees that, at a hearing, Complainant could establish a factual basis for the charges in the Second Amended Accusation No. 6336, 6773, and that Respondent Vaghani hereby gives up his right to contest those charges.

11. Respondent Vaghani agrees that his Pharmacist License is subject to discipline and he agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

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CONTINGENCY

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

13. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including PDF and facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.

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

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

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DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Pharmacist License Number RPH 70111 issued to Respondent Nileshkumar Batukbhai Vaghani is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent Vaghani is placed on probation for three (3) years on the following terms and conditions:

1. Obey All Laws

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

Respondent Vaghani shall report any of the following occurrences to the Board, in writing, within seventy- two (72) hours of such occurrence:

an arrest or issuance of a criminal complaint for violation of any provision of the

Pharmacy Law, state and federal food and drug laws, or state and federal controlled substances laws

a plea of guilty, or nolo contendere, no contest, or similar, in any state or federal

criminal proceeding to any criminal complaint, information or indictment

a conviction of any crime

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

Respondent Vaghani's license or which is related to the practice of pharmacy or the manufacturing, obtaining, handling, distributing, billing, or charging for any drug, device or controlled substance.

Failure to timely report such occurrence shall be considered a violation of probation.

2. Report to the Board

Respondent Vaghani shall report to the Board quarterly, on a schedule as directed by the Board or its designee. The report shall be made either in person or in writing, as directed. Among other requirements, Respondent Vaghani shall state in each report under penalty of perjury whether there has been compliance with all the terms and conditions of probation.

Failure to submit timely reports in a form as directed shall be considered a violation of probation. Any period(s) of delinquency in submission of reports as directed may be added to the

1 total period of probation. Moreover, if the final probation report is not made as directed,
2 probation shall be automatically extended until such time as the final report is made and accepted
3 by the Board.

4 **3. Interview with the Board**

5 Upon receipt of reasonable prior notice, Respondent Vaghani shall appear in person for
6 interviews with the Board or its designee, at such intervals and locations as are determined by the
7 Board or its designee. Failure to appear for any scheduled interview without prior notification to
8 Board staff, or failure to appear for two (2) or more scheduled interviews with the Board or its
9 designee during the period of probation, shall be considered a violation of probation.

10 **4. Cooperate with Board Staff**

11 Respondent Vaghani shall timely cooperate with the Board's inspection program and with
12 the Board's monitoring and investigation of Respondent Vaghani's compliance with the terms and
13 conditions of Entity probation, including but not limited to: timely responses to requests for
14 information by Board staff; timely compliance with directives from Board staff regarding
15 requirements of any term or condition of probation; and timely completion of documentation
16 pertaining to a term or condition of probation. Failure to timely cooperate shall be considered a
17 violation of probation.

18 **5. Continuing Education**

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

21 **6. Reporting of Employment and Notice to Employers**

22 During the period of probation, Respondent Vaghani shall notify all present and prospective
23 employers of the Decision in case numbers 6336, 6773, and 6775, and the terms, conditions and
24 restrictions imposed on Respondent Vaghani by the Decision, as follows:

25 Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Decision, and within ten (10) days of
26 undertaking any new employment, Respondent Vaghani shall report to the Board in writing the
27 name, physical address, and mailing address of each of his employer(s), and the name(s) and
28 telephone number(s) of all of his direct supervisor(s), as well as any pharmacist(s)-in- charge,

1 designated representative(s)-in-charge, responsible manager, or other compliance supervisor(s)
2 and the work schedule, if known. Respondent Vaghani shall also include the reason(s) for
3 leaving the prior employment. Respondent Vaghani shall sign and return to the Board a written
4 consent authorizing the Board or its designee to communicate with all of Respondent Vaghani's
5 employer(s) and supervisor(s), and authorizing those employer(s) or supervisor(s) to
6 communicate with the Board or its designee, concerning Respondent Vaghani's work status,
7 performance, and monitoring. Failure to comply with the requirements or deadlines of this
8 condition shall be considered a violation of probation.

9 Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Decision, and within fifteen (15) days of
10 Respondent Vaghani undertaking any new employment, Respondent Vaghani shall cause (a) his
11 direct supervisor, (b) his pharmacist-in-charge, designated representative-in-charge, responsible
12 manager, or other compliance supervisor, and (c) the owner or owner representative of his
13 employer, to report to the Board in writing acknowledging that the listed individual(s) has/have
14 read the Decision in case numbers 6336, 6773, and 6775, and terms and conditions imposed
15 thereby. If one person serves in more than one role described in (a), (b), or (c), the
16 acknowledgment shall so state. It shall be the Respondent Vaghani's responsibility to ensure that
17 these acknowledgment(s) are timely submitted to the Board. In the event of a change in the
18 person(s) serving the role(s) described in (a), (b), or (c) during the term of probation, Respondent
19 Vaghani shall cause the person(s) taking over the role(s) to report to the Board in writing within
20 fifteen (15) days of the change acknowledging that he or she has read the Decision in case
21 numbers 6336, 6773, and 6775, and the terms and conditions imposed thereby.

22 If Respondent Vaghani works for or is employed by or through an employment service,
23 Respondent Vaghani must notify the person(s) described in (a), (b), and (c) above at every entity
24 licensed by the Board of the Decision in case numbers 6336, 6773, and 6775, and the terms and
25 conditions imposed thereby in advance of Respondent Vaghani commencing work at such
26 licensed entity. A record of this notification must be provided to the Board upon request.

27 Furthermore, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Decision, and within fifteen
28 (15) days of Respondent Vaghani undertaking any new employment by or through an

1 employment service, Respondent Vaghani shall cause the person(s) described in (a), (b), and (c)
2 above at the employment service to report to the Board in writing acknowledging that he or she
3 has read the Decision in case number, and the terms and conditions imposed thereby. It shall be
4 Respondent Vaghani's responsibility to ensure that these acknowledgment(s) are timely
5 submitted to the Board.

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

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

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

14 Respondent Vaghani shall further notify the Board in writing within ten (10) days of any
15 change in name, residence address, mailing address, e-mail address or phone number.

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

18 **8. Restrictions on Supervision and Oversight of Licensed Facilities**

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

24 **9. Reimbursement of Board Costs**

25 As a condition precedent to successful completion of probation, Respondent Vaghani shall
26 pay to the Board its costs of investigation and prosecution in the amount of \$4,331. Respondent
27 Vaghani shall make said payments as follows: Ten (10) equal payments of \$433.10 per month
28 beginning thirty (30) days from the effective date of the Decision and Order.

1 There shall be no deviation from this schedule absent prior written approval by the Board or
2 its designee. Failure to pay costs by the deadline(s) as directed shall be considered a violation of
3 probation.

4 Respondent Vaghani shall be permitted to pay these costs in a payment plan approved by
5 the Board or its designee, so long as full payment is completed no later than one (1) year prior to
6 the end date of probation.

7 **10. Probation Monitoring Costs**

8 Respondent Vaghani shall pay any costs associated with probation monitoring as
9 determined by the Board each and every year of probation. Such costs shall be payable to the
10 Board on a schedule as directed by the Board or its designee. Failure to pay such costs by the
11 deadline(s) as directed shall be considered a violation of probation.

12 **11. Status of License**

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

17 If Respondent Vaghani's Pharmacist License expires or is cancelled by operation of law or
18 otherwise at any time during the period of probation, including any extensions thereof due to
19 tolling or otherwise, upon renewal or reapplication Respondent Vaghani's license shall be subject
20 to all terms and conditions of this probation not previously satisfied.

21 **12. License Surrender While on Probation/Suspension**

22 Following the effective date of this Decision, should Respondent Vaghani cease practice
23 due to retirement or health, or be otherwise unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of
24 probation, Respondent Vaghani may relinquish his Pharmacist License, including any indicia of
25 licensure issued by the Board, along with a request to surrender the license. The Board or its
26 designee shall have the discretion whether to accept the surrender or take any other action it
27 deems appropriate and reasonable. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender of the license,
28 Respondent Vaghani will no longer be subject to the terms and conditions of probation. This

surrender constitutes a record of discipline and shall become a part of the Respondent Vaghani's license history with the Board.

Upon acceptance of the surrender, Respondent Vaghani shall relinquish his pocket and/or wall license, including any indicia of licensure not previously provided to the Board within ten (10) days of notification by the Board that the surrender is accepted if not already provided. Respondent Vaghani may not reapply for any license from the Board for three (3) years from the effective date of the surrender. Respondent Vaghani shall meet all requirements applicable to the license sought as of the date the application for that license is submitted to the Board, including any outstanding costs.

13. Practice Requirement – Extension of Probation

Except during periods of suspension, Respondent Vaghani shall, at all times while on probation, be employed as a pharmacist in California for a minimum of one-hundred (100) hours per calendar month. Any month during which this minimum is not met shall extend the period of probation by one month. During any such period of insufficient employment, Respondent Vaghani must nonetheless comply with all terms and conditions of probation, unless Respondent Vaghani receives a waiver in writing from the Board or its designee.

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

It is a violation of probation for Respondent Vaghani's probation to be extended pursuant to the provisions of this condition for a total period, counting consecutive and non-consecutive

1 months, exceeding thirty-six (36) months. The Board or its designee may post a notice of the
2 extended probation period on its website.

3 **14. Violation of Probation**

4 If Respondent Vaghani has not complied with any term or condition of probation, the Board
5 shall have continuing jurisdiction over Respondent Vaghani, and the Board shall provide notice to
6 Respondent Vaghani that probation shall automatically be extended, until all terms and conditions
7 have been satisfied or the Board has taken other action as deemed appropriate to treat the failure
8 to comply as a violation of probation, to terminate probation, and to impose the penalty that was
9 stayed. The Board or its designee may post a notice of the extended probation period on its
10 website.

11 If Respondent Vaghani violates probation in any respect, the Board, after giving
12 Respondent Vaghani notice and an opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out
13 the disciplinary Order that was stayed. If a petition to revoke probation or accusation is filed
14 against Respondent Vaghani during probation, or the preparation of an accusation or petition to
15 revoke probation is requested from the Office of the Attorney General, the Board shall have
16 continuing jurisdiction and the period of probation shall be automatically extended until the
17 petition to revoke probation or accusation is heard and decided, and the charges and allegations in
18 Second Amended Accusation No. 6336, 6773 shall be deemed true and correct.

19 **15. Completion of Probation**

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

22 **16. Remedial Education**

23 Within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent Vaghani shall
24 submit to the Board or its designee, for prior approval, an appropriate program of remedial
25 education related to pharmacy law and operations. The program of remedial education shall
26 consist of at least six (6) hours per year with 50% live or in-person at Respondent Vaghani's own
27 expense. All remedial education shall be in addition to, and shall not be credited toward,
28 continuing education (CE) courses used for license renewal purposes for pharmacists.

1 Failure to timely submit for approval or complete the approved remedial education shall be
2 considered a violation of probation. The period of probation will be automatically extended until
3 such remedial education is successfully completed and written proof, in a form acceptable to the
4 Board, is provided to the Board or its designee.

5 Following the completion of each course, the Board or its designee may require the
6 Respondent Vaghani, at his own expense, to take an approved examination to test the Respondent
7 Vaghani's knowledge of the course. If the Respondent Vaghani does not achieve a passing score
8 on the examination that course shall not count towards satisfaction of this term. Respondent
9 Vaghani shall take another course approved by the Board in the same subject area.

10 **17. Ethics Course**

11 Within sixty (60) calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent Vaghani
12 shall enroll in a course in ethics, at Respondent Vaghani's expense, approved in advance by the
13 Board or its designee that complies with Title 16 California Code of Regulations section 1773.5.
14 Respondent Vaghani shall provide proof of enrollment upon request. Within five (5) days of
15 completion, Respondent Vaghani shall submit a copy of the certificate of completion to the Board
16 or its designee. Failure to timely enroll in an approved ethics course, to initiate the course during
17 the first year of probation, to successfully complete it before the end of the second year of
18 probation, or to timely submit proof of completion to the Board or its designee, shall be
19 considered a violation of probation. Respondent Vaghani shall be given credit for the live portion
20 of the ethics course that was completed within twelve (12) months prior to the effective date of
21 this Decision and Order, so long as Respondent Vaghani provides sufficient documentation
22 confirming completion of that portion of the course.

23 **18. No Ownership or Management of Licensed Premises**

24 Respondent Vaghani shall not own, have any legal or beneficial interest in, nor serve as a
25 manager, administrator, member, officer, director, trustee, associate, or partner of any business,
26 firm, partnership, or corporation currently or hereinafter licensed by the Board. Respondent
27 Vaghani shall sell or transfer any legal or beneficial interest in any entity licensed by the Board
28 within ninety (90) days following the effective date of this Decision and shall immediately

thereafter provide written proof thereof to the Board. Failure to timely divest any legal or beneficial interest(s) or provide documentation thereof shall be considered a violation of probation.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Ivan Petrzelka, Esq. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Pharmacist License. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Pharmacy.

DATED: _____

NILESHKUMAR BATUKBHAI VAGHANI
Respondent

I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Niles Batukbhai Vaghani the terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I approve its form and content.

DATED: _____

IVAN PETRZELKA, ESQ.
Attorney for Respondent

ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy.

DATED: _____

Respectfully submitted,

ROB BONTA
Attorney General of California
GREGORY J. SALUTE
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

NICOLE R. TRAMA
Deputy Attorney General
Attorneys for Complainant

thereafter provide written proof thereof to the Board. Failure to timely divest any legal or beneficial interest(s) or provide documentation thereof shall be considered a violation of probation.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Ivan Petrzelka, Esq. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Pharmacist License. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Pharmacy.

DATED: 05/24/2022



NILESHKUMAR BATUKBHAI VAGHANI
Respondent

I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Niles Batukbhai Vaghani the terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I approve its form and content.

DATED: May 24, 2022



IVAN PETRZELKA, ESQ.
Attorney for Respondent

ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy.

DATED: 5/25/2022

Respectfully submitted,

ROB BONTA
Attorney General of California
GREGORY J. SALUTE
Supervising Deputy Attorney General



NICOLE R. TRAMA
Deputy Attorney General
Attorneys for Complainant

Exhibit A

Second Amended Accusation No. 6336, 6773, and 6775

1 ROB BONTA
Attorney General of California
2 GREGORY J. SALUTE
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
3 NICOLE R. TRAMA
Deputy Attorney General
4 State Bar No. 263607
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6 San Diego, CA 92186-5266
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7 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061
Attorneys for Complainant

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9 **BEFORE THE**
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17 **LASR ENTERPRISES, INC.,**
DBA WHITE CROSS PHARMACY #1
18 **RAVJI L. LUNAGARIA, RAJ RAKHOLIA**
AND SAMEER K. RAKHOLIA, OWNERS
19 **21445 N. Sunrise Way, Ste. 100**
20 **Palm Springs, CA 92262**

21 **Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 50793**

22 **LASR ENTERPRISES, INC.,**
DBA WHITE CROSS PHARMACY #1
23 **RAVJI L. LUNAGARIA, RAJ RAKHOLIA**
AND SAMEER K. RAKHOLIA, OWNERS
24 **1717 East Vista Chino, Ste. B2**
Palm Springs, CA 92262

25 **Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 55765**
26
27
28

Case Nos. 6336, 6773 and 6775

SECOND AMENDED ACCUSATION

**RSS PHARMACY ASSOCIATES, LLC
DBA COLE'S VILLAGE PHARMACY
RAVJI L. LUNAGARIA, SAMEER K.
RAKHOLIA AND SAMIR A. PATEL,
OWNERS**

**223 East 3rd Street
Corona, CA 92879**

Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 55630

**NILESHKUMAR BATUKBHAI
VAGHANI**

**19411 Norwich Dr.
Riverside, CA 92508**

Pharmacist License No. RPH 70111

RAVJI L. LUNAGARIA

**P.O. Box 17458
Anaheim, CA 92817**

Pharmacist License No. RPH 44144

SAMEER K. RAKHOLIA

**P.O. Box 861
Brawley, CA 92227**

Pharmacist License No. RPH 64946

NIRALI MRUDANGK SHAH

**26630 Barton Rd., #212
Redlands, CA 92373**

Pharmacist License No. RPH 73997

SAMIR A. PATEL

**6648 Paseo Fino Street
Eastvale, CA 92880**

Pharmacist License No. RPH 70613

SHANE L. JEROMINSKI

**83652 Himilaya Drive
Indio, CA 92203**

Pharmacist License No. RPH 60543

RAJ RAKHOLIA

**830 S. Peralta Hills Drive
Anaheim, CA 95207**

**Pharmacy Technician Registration No.
TCH 64078**

**Intern Pharmacist Registration No. INT
41728**

Respondents.

Complainant alleges:

PARTIES

1. Anne Sodergren (Complainant) brings this Second Amended Accusation solely in her official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs.

2. On or about April 27, 1994, the Board issued Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 39991 to Raj Lunagaria, Inc., dba White Cross Pharmacy. Ravji L. Lunagaria is the sole shareholder of Raj Lunagaria, Inc. The Pharmacy Permit was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on April 1, 2023, unless renewed (White Cross).

3. On or about April 5, 2012, the Board issued Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 50793 to LASR Enterprises, Inc., dba White Cross Pharmacy #1. Ravji L. Lunagaria was an officer and a shareholder of 60% of the outstanding shares. Raj Rakholia was an officer and a shareholder of 20% of the outstanding shares. Sameer K. Rakholia was an officer and a shareholder of 20% of the outstanding shares. On or about August 11, 2017, the Board cancelled this permit.

4. On or about August 11, 2017, the Board issued Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 55765 to LASR Enterprises, Inc., dba White Cross Pharmacy #1 for its new location. Pharmacy Permit Numbers PHY 50793 and PHY 55765 were in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein. Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 55765 will expire on August 1, 2022, unless renewed (White Cross Pharmacy #1). On or about December 31, 2017, Raj Rakholia divested his shares and Sameer K. Rakholia became an owner of 40% of the outstanding shares of White Cross Pharmacy #1.

5. On or about August 16, 2017, the Board issued Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 55630 to RSS Pharmacy Associates, LLC, dba Cole's Village Pharmacy (Cole's Village Pharmacy) with Ravji L. Lunagaria, Sameer K. Rakholia and Samir A. Patel identified as the

1 members. The Pharmacy Permit was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges
2 brought herein and will expire on August 1, 2022, unless renewed.

3 6. On or about March 8, 1991, the Board issued Pharmacist License Number RPH
4 44144 to Ravji L. Lunagaria (Lunagaria). The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at
5 all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on July 31, 2022, unless renewed.

6 7. On or about October 27, 2010, the Board issued Pharmacist License Number RPH
7 64946 to Sameer K. Rakholia (Sameer Rakholia). The Pharmacist License was in full force and
8 effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on June 30, 2022, unless
9 renewed.

10 8. On or about August 12, 2005, the Board issued Pharmacy Technician Registration
11 Number TCH 64078 to Raj Rakholia (Raj Rakholia). The Pharmacy Technician Registration was
12 in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein, expired on May 31,
13 2019 and was cancelled.

14 9. On or about November 8, 2017, the Board issued Intern Pharmacist Registration
15 Number INT 41728 to Raj Rakholia. The Intern Pharmacist Registration was in full force and
16 effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on May 31, 2022, unless
17 renewed.

18 10. On or about April 28, 2014, the Board issued Pharmacist License Number RPH
19 70613 to Samir A. Patel (Patel). The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times
20 relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on September 30, 2023, unless renewed.

21 11. On or about October 18, 2013, the Board issued Pharmacist License Number RPH
22 70111 to Nileshkumar Batukbhai Vaghani (Vaghani). The Pharmacist License was in full force
23 and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on November 30,
24 2022, unless renewed.

25 12. On or about November 6, 2015, the Board issued Pharmacist License Number RPH
26 73997 to Nirali Mrudangk Shah (Shah). The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all
27 times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on August 31, 2023, unless renewed.
28

13. On or about December 7, 2007, the Board issued Pharmacist License Number RPH 60543 to Shane Lee Jerominski (Jerominski). The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on January 31, 2023, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

14. The Second First Amended 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.

15. Section 4011 of the Code provides that the Board shall administer and enforce both the Pharmacy Law [Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4000 et seq.] and the Uniform Controlled Substances Act [Health & Safety Code, § 11000 et seq.].

16. Section 4300, subdivision (a) of the Code provides that every license issued by the Board may be suspended or revoked.

17. 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.

STATUTORY AND REGULATORY PROVISIONS

18. Section 810 of the Code states in part:

(a) It shall constitute unprofessional conduct and grounds for disciplinary action, including suspension or revocation of a license or certificate, for a health care professional to do any of the following in connection with his or her professional activities:

(1) Knowingly present or cause to be presented any false or fraudulent claim for the payment of a loss under a contract of insurance.

(2) Knowingly prepare, make, or subscribe any writing, with intent to present or use the same, or to allow it to be presented or used in support of any false or fraudulent claim.

1 (b) It shall constitute cause for revocation or suspension of a license or
2 certificate for a health care professional to engage in any conduct prohibited under
3 Section 1871.4 of the Insurance Code or Section 549 or 550 of the Penal Code.

4

5 19. Section 4063 of the Code states:

6 No prescription for any dangerous drug or dangerous device may be refilled
7 except upon authorization of the prescriber. The authorization may be given
8 orally or at the time of giving the original prescription. No prescription for any
9 dangerous drug that is a controlled substance may be designated refillable as
10 needed.

11 20. Section 4076 of the Code states in part:

12 (a) A pharmacist shall not dispense any prescription except in a container that
13 meets the requirements of state and federal law and is correctly labeled with all of
14 the following:

15 (1) Except when the prescriber or the certified nurse-midwife who functions
16 pursuant to a standardized procedure or protocol described in Section 2746.51 , the
17 nurse practitioner who functions pursuant to a standardized procedure described in
18 Section 2836.1 or protocol, the physician assistant who functions pursuant to
19 Section 3502.1 , the naturopathic doctor who functions pursuant to a standardized
20 procedure or protocol described in Section 3640.5 , or the pharmacist who
21 functions pursuant to a policy, procedure, or protocol pursuant to Section 4052.1 ,
22 4052.2 , or 4052.6 orders otherwise, either the manufacturer's trade name of the
23 drug or the generic name and the name of the manufacturer. Commonly used
24 abbreviations may be used. Preparations containing two or more active
25 ingredients may be identified by the manufacturer's trade name or the commonly
26 used name or the principal active ingredients.

27

28 21. Section 4022 of the Code states:

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

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

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

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

22. Section 4081 of the Code states in pertinent part:

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

(b) The owner, officer, and partner of any pharmacy, wholesaler, or veterinary food-animal drug retailer shall be jointly responsible, with the pharmacist-in-charge or representative-in-charge, for maintaining the records and inventory described in this section.

23. Section 4101(a) of the Code states:

A pharmacist may take charge of and act as the pharmacist-in-charge of a pharmacy upon application by the pharmacy and approval by the board. A pharmacist-in-charge who ceases to act as the pharmacist-in-charge of the pharmacy shall notify the board in writing within 30 days of the date of that change in status.

24. Section 4105, subdivision (a) of the Code states:

All records or other documentation of the acquisition and disposition of dangerous drugs and devices by any entity licensed by the board shall be retained on the licensed premises in a readily retrievable form.

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

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

26. Section 4201, subdivisions (f) and (j) of the Code state:

(f) Notwithstanding any other law, the pharmacy license shall authorize the holder to conduct a pharmacy. The license shall be renewed annually and shall not be transferable.

(j) For licenses referred to in subdivisions (f), (g), (h), and (i), any change in the proposed beneficial ownership interest shall be reported to the board within 30 days thereafter upon a form to be furnished by the board.

1 27. Section 4301 of the Code states in pertinent part:

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

5 ...

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

9 (g) Knowingly making or signing any certificate or other document that falsely
10 represents 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
13 United States regulating controlled substances and dangerous drugs.

14 ...

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

20 ...

21 28. Section 4306.5 states:

22 Unprofessional conduct for a pharmacist may include any of the following:

23 (a) Acts or omissions that involve, in whole or in part, the inappropriate
24 exercise of his or her education, training, or experience as a pharmacist, whether or
25 not the act or omission arises in the course of the practice of pharmacy or the
26 ownership, management, administration, or operation of a pharmacy or other entity
27 licensed by the board.

28 (b) Acts or omissions that involve, in whole or in part, the failure to
 exercise or implement his or her best professional judgment or corresponding
 responsibility with regard to the dispensing or furnishing of controlled substances,
 dangerous drugs, or dangerous devices, or with regard to the provision of services.

 (c) Acts or omissions that involve, in whole or in part, the failure to
 consult appropriate patient, prescription, and other records pertaining to the
 performance of any pharmacy function.

 (d) Acts or omissions that involve, in whole or in part, the failure to fully
 maintain and retain appropriate patient-specific information pertaining to the
 performance of any pharmacy function.

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29. Section 4307, subdivision (a) of the Code states that:

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, 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 manger, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, partner, or any other person with management or control had knowledge 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 manger, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, partner, or any other person 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.

30. Health and Safety Code section 111255 states:

Any drug or device is adulterated if it has been produced, prepared, packed, or held under conditions whereby it may have been contaminated with filth, or whereby it may have been rendered injurious to health.

31. Health and Safety Code section 111295 states:

It is unlawful for any person to manufacture, sell, deliver, hold, or offer for sale any drug or device that is adulterated.

32. Health and Safety Code section 111330 states:

Any drug or device is misbranded if its labeling is false or misleading in any particular.

33. Health and Safety Code section 111395, subdivision (c) states:

Any drug is misbranded in any of the following cases:

...

(c) The contents of the original package have been, wholly or partly, removed and replaced with other material in the package.

34. Health and Safety Code section 111440 states:

It is unlawful for any person to manufacture, sell deliver, hold or offer for sale any drug or device that is misbranded.

REGULATORY PROVISIONS

35. Section 1304.11, subdivision (b) of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations states:

Initial Inventory date. Every person required to keep records shall take an inventory of all stocks of controlled substances on hand on the date he/she first engages in the manufacture, distribution, or dispensing of controlled substances, in accordance with paragraph (e) of this section as applicable. In the event a person commences business with no controlled substances on hand, he/she shall record this fact as the initial inventory.

36. Section 1317.40, subdivision (a) of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations states:

Manufacturers, distributors, reverse distributors, narcotic treatment programs, hospitals/clinics with an on-site pharmacy, and retail pharmacies that desire to be collectors shall modify their registration to obtain authorization to be a collector in accordance with §1301.52(f) of this chapter. Authorization to be a collector is subject to renewal. If a registrant that is authorized to collect ceases activities as a collector, such registrant shall notify the Administration in accordance with §1301.52(f) of this chapter.

37. Section 1305.05, subdivision (a) of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations states:

A registrant may authorize one or more individuals, whether or not 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 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.

38. Section 1311.30, subdivision (a) of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations states:

Only the certificate holder may access or use his or digital certificate and private key.

39. Section 1707.1 of title 16, California Code of Regulations states in part:

(a) A pharmacy shall maintain medication profiles on all patients who have prescriptions filled in that pharmacy except when the pharmacist has reasonable belief that the patient will not continue to obtain prescription medications from that pharmacy.

(1) A patient medication record shall be maintained in an automated data processing or manual record mode such that the following information is readily retrievable during the pharmacy's normal operating hours.

(A) The patient's full name and address, telephone number, date of birth (or age) and gender;

(B) For each prescription dispensed by the pharmacy:

1. The name, strength, dosage form, route of administration, if other than oral, quantity and directions for use of any drug dispensed;

2. The prescriber's name and where appropriate, license number, DEA registration number or other unique identifier;

3. The date on which a drug was dispensed or refilled;

4. The prescription number for each prescription; and

5. The information required by section 1717.

....

40. Section 1707.2 of title 16, California Code of Regulations states in part:

(a) A pharmacist shall provide oral consultation to his or her patient or the patient's agent in all settings:

(1) upon request;

(2) whenever the pharmacist deems it warranted in the exercise of his or her professional judgment;

(3) whenever the prescription drug has not previously been dispensed to a patient; or

(4) whenever a prescription drug not previously dispensed to a patient in the same dosage form, strength or with the same written directions, is dispensed by the pharmacy.

(b)(1) When the patient or patient's agent is not present (including, but not limited to, a prescription drug that was shipped by mail or delivery), a pharmacy shall ensure that:

(A) the patient receives written notice of his or her right to request consultation;

(B) the patient receives written notice of the hours of availability and the telephone number from which the patient may obtain oral consultation from a pharmacist who has ready access to the patient's record; and

(C) a pharmacist shall be available (i) to speak to the patient or patient's agent during any regular hours of operation, within an average of ten (10) minutes or less, unless a return call is scheduled to occur within one business hour, (ii) for no less than six days per week, and (iii) for a minimum of 40 hours per week.

1 (2) A pharmacist is not required by this subsection to provide oral consultation
2 to an inpatient of a health care facility licensed pursuant to section 1250 of the
3 Health and Safety Code, or to an inmate of an adult correctional facility or a
4 juvenile detention facility, except upon the patient's discharge. A pharmacist is not
5 obligated to consult about discharge medications if a health facility licensed
6 pursuant to subdivision (a) or (b) of Health and Safety Code Section 1250 has
7 implemented a written policy about discharge medications which meets the
8 requirements of Business and Professions Code Section 4074.

9 (c) When oral consultation is provided, it shall include at least the following:

10 (1) directions for use and storage and the importance of compliance with
11 directions; and

12 (2) precautions and relevant warnings, including common severe side or
13 adverse effects or interactions that may be encountered.

14 (d) Whenever a pharmacist deems it warranted in the exercise of his or her
15 professional judgment, oral consultation shall also include:

16 (1) the name and description of the medication;

17 (2) the route of administration, dosage form, dosage, and duration of drug
18 therapy;

19 (3) any special directions for use and storage;

20 (4) precautions for preparation and administration by the patient, including
21 techniques for self-monitoring drug therapy;

22 (5) prescription refill information;

23 (6) therapeutic contraindications, avoidance of common severe side or adverse
24 effects or known interactions, including serious potential interactions with known
25 nonprescription medications and therapeutic contraindications and the action
26 required if such side or adverse effects or interactions or therapeutic
27 contraindications are present or occur;

28 (7) action to be taken in the event of a missed dose.

(e) Notwithstanding the requirements set forth in subsection (a) and (b), a
pharmacist is not required to provide oral consultation when a patient or the
patient's agent refuses such consultation.

41. Section 1714, subdivisions (b) and (d) of title 16, California Code of Regulations
states:

(b) 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.

(d) Each pharmacist while on duty shall be responsible for the security of the prescription department, including provisions for effective control against theft or diversion of drugs and devices, and records for such drugs and devices. Possession of a key to the pharmacy where dangerous drugs and controlled substances are stored shall be restricted to a pharmacist.

42. Section 1715.6 of title 16, California Code of Regulations states:

The owner shall report to the Board within thirty (30) days of discovery of any loss of the controlled substances, including their amounts and strengths.

43. Section 1716, of title 16, California Code of Regulations states:

Pharmacists shall not deviate from the requirements of a prescription except upon the prior consent of the prescriber or to select the drug product in accordance with Section 4073 of the Business and Professions Code.

Nothing in this regulation is intended to prohibit a pharmacist from exercising commonly-accepted pharmaceutical practice in the compounding or dispensing of a prescription.

44. Section 1761, subdivision (a) of title 16, California Code of Regulations states:

No pharmacist shall compound or dispense any prescription which contains any significant error, omission, irregularity, uncertainty, ambiguity or alteration. Upon receipt of any such prescription, the pharmacist shall contact the prescriber to obtain the information needed to validate the prescription.

....

45. Section 1718 of title 16, California Code of Regulations states:

“Current Inventory” as used in Section 4081 and 4332 of the Business and Professions Code shall be considered to include complete accountability for all dangerous drugs handled by every licensee enumerated in Section 4081 and 4332.

The controlled substances inventories required by Title 21, CFR, Section 1304 shall be available for inspection upon request for at least three years.

46. Section 1776.1(g)(2) of title 16, California Code of Regulations states:

As part of its drug take-back services, a pharmacy shall not: Accept or possess prescription drugs from skilled nursing facilities, residential care homes, health care practitioners or any other entity.

COSTS

47. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, 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

1 the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and
2 enforcement of the case.

3 **DRUGS**

4 48. Abilify Maintena, the brand name for aripiprazole injection, an antipsychotic
5 medication, is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022.

6 49. Advair Diskus, the brand name for fluticasone/salmeterol inhaler, is a dangerous drug
7 pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022.

8 50. Eliquis, the brand name for apixaban, is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and
9 Professions Code section 4022.

10 51. Hyzaar, the brand name for the generic losartan/hydrochlorothiazide, is a dangerous
11 drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022.

12 52. Invega Sustenna the brand name for paliperidone palmitate injection, an antipsychotic
13 medication, is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022.

14 53. Lidocaine PAK, the brand name for lidocaine ointment, is a dangerous drug pursuant
15 to Business and Professions Code section 4022.

16 54. Norco, the brand name for hydrocodone/acetaminophen, is a Schedule II controlled
17 substance pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 11055, and is a dangerous drug pursuant to
18 Business and Professions Code section 4022.

19 55. Oxycodone is a Schedule II controlled substance pursuant to Health and Safety Code
20 section 11054(b)(M) and a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section
21 4022. This is a drug of high abuse and diversion potential.

22 56. Promethazine with codeine is a Schedule V controlled substance pursuant to Health
23 and Safety Code section 111058(c)(1) and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and
24 Professions Code section 4022. This is a drug of high abuse and diversion potential.

25 57. Risperdal Consta, the brand name for risperidone injection, an antipsychotic
26 medication, is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022.

27 58. Symbicort, the brand name for budesonide/formoterol inhaler, is a dangerous drug
28 pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022.

59. Tacrolimus is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

60. Lunagaria, Raj Rakholia, and Sameer Rakholia were shareholders or members of the corporations that owned White Cross Pharmacy, White Cross Pharmacy #1 and Cole's Village Pharmacy. The Board conducted investigations of these pharmacies that revealed the following facts, unprofessional conduct and violations of law.

White Cross Pharmacy:

61. From March 24, 2014 to June 15, 2017, Vaghani was the Pharmacist-in-Charge at White Cross Pharmacy, a specialty pharmacy located in Brawley, California. On June 20, 2017, Jerominski became the Pharmacist-in-Charge of White Cross Pharmacy.

62. During an inspection of White Cross Pharmacy on about May 17, 2017, the Board Inspector observed the automated dispensing machine was labeled as containing Losartan Pot./HCTZ 100/12.5 mg (also known as Hyzaar) tablets with an expiration date of February 2017. Vaghani later informed the Inspector that the label for the medication was incorrect, and that the expiration date was actually August 2017.

63. White Cross and Vaghani did not maintain an accurate and complete medication profile for patient MF containing all of her prescriptions. Specifically, the profile contained no information about prescription number 2262780.

64. From August 18 through October 19, 2019, White Cross and Vaghani forged twenty-one prescriptions for lidocaine 5% ointment and dispensed them to nineteen patients.

65. An audit of brand and generic Norco 10/325mg for the time period of May 3, 2019 to October 15, 2021, resulted in an overage of 54 tablets of hydrocodone/acetaminophen 10/325mg. The overage demonstrated that White Cross Pharmacy and Jerominski failed to maintain a current inventory.

66. White Cross Pharmacy's policies and procedures indicated that prescriptions not picked up in 14 days would be reversed and returned to stock. However, from December 31, 2019 to December 31, 2021, there were 436 prescriptions filled and placed in the will-call section

1 waiting to be picked up for longer than 14 days (and therefore not reversed and returned to stock).
2 Of these 436 prescriptions, over 70% of them had been there longer than 365 days. Of these 436
3 prescriptions, there were also 6 prescriptions that had not been picked up, but White Cross
4 Pharmacy still subsequently refilled those 6 prescriptions. White Cross Pharmacy had received
5 over \$25,000 from insurance companies for these 436 prescriptions. It was only after a Board of
6 Pharmacy inspection and inquiry on this issue that White Cross Pharmacy reversed these
7 prescriptions.

8 67. Between July 2021 and October 2021, White Cross Pharmacy filled and dispensed 5
9 prescriptions for patient CR with the Mylan-manufactured fluticasone/salmeterol
10 250/50mcg inhaler, but labeled them with the GSK-manufactured Advair 250/50mcg brand name
11 inhaler.

12 **Cole's Village Pharmacy:**

13 68. From August 16, 2017 to July 11, 2018, Patel was the Pharmacist-in-Charge and a
14 shareholder of Cole's Village Pharmacy, a specialty pharmacy located in Corona, California.

15 69. On December 25, 2017, there was an unlawful, forcible entry into Cole's Village
16 Pharmacy. Individuals stole six bottles (2,838 mls) of promethazine with codeine from Cole's
17 Village Pharmacy's inventory of drugs. The owners and the pharmacist-in-charge did not report
18 this loss of promethazine with codeine to the Board of Pharmacy within thirty days.

19 70. From August 16, 2017 to July 11, 2018, Cole's Village Pharmacy had an overage of
20 167 tablets of the dangerous drug tacrolimus in its dangerous drug inventory and records.

21 **White Cross Pharmacy #1:**

22 71. From April 5, 2012 to August 15, 2017, Sameer Rakholia was the Pharmacist-in-
23 Charge of White Cross Pharmacy #1, a specialty pharmacy located in Palm Springs, California.
24 From August 11, 2017 to December 8, 2017 and May 25, 2018 to September 4, 2018, and after
25 the pharmacy changed locations and received a new permit number (PHY 55765), Sameer
26 Rakholia was the Pharmacist-in-Charge. From December 8, 2017 to May 25, 2018, Respondent
27 Shah was the Pharmacist-in-Charge.
28

1 72. On December 31, 2017, Raj Rakholia divested his shares of White Cross Pharmacy
2 #1, but none of the owners notified the Board of the change in beneficial ownership interest.

3 73. White Cross Pharmacy #1 accepted returns of controlled substances and dangerous
4 drugs from facilities and health care practitioners and re-dispensed those drugs to patients.

5 74. White Cross Pharmacy #1 accepted returns of dangerous drugs from patients and
6 non-patients and placed the drugs in manufacturer bottles that the drugs did not originate. For
7 example, a box of Abilify Maintena 300mg injection was found in the pharmacy that was picked
8 up by the patient on December 8, 2017 and billed to Medicare.

9 75. Pharmacy staff comingled tablets or capsules with different lot numbers and
10 expiration dates in manufacturer bottles and placed more tablets or capsules in the manufacturer
11 bottles than those bottles originally contained (overfills).

12 76. Manufacturer drug samples and returned drugs were found in the pharmacy's active
13 drug stock used to dispense drugs.

14 77. Although it accepted returns of controlled substances, White Cross Pharmacy #1 did
15 not possess a registration as a collector with the DEA and was not authorized to accept returns of
16 controlled substances.

17 78. From 2015 to 2017, White Cross Pharmacy #1 dispensed duplicate prescriptions for
18 the same patients, listing the same prescriber for an electronic and a telephone prescription,
19 without contacting the prescriber to determine if both prescriptions were valid. The telephone
20 prescriptions that White Cross Pharmacy #1 were not valid prescriptions and were not authorized
21 by the prescriber. In addition, White Cross Pharmacy #1 dispensed refills not authorized by the
22 prescriber. For example, prescription number 83935 for Atripla was authorized by Dr. P. for a
23 total of 120-day supply or for a quantity of #30 with 3 refills. However, White Cross Pharmacy
24 #1 dispensed prescription number 83935 for Atripla on February 20, 2017, May 1, 2017, July 25,
25 2017, October 16, 2017 and November 13, 2017. Therefore, a total of 330 tablets were dispensed
26 where only 120 day supply was authorized.

27 79. Respondents' proof of service logs had signatures of patients but when interviewed,
28 the patients denied signing for deliveries.

1 80. From April 23, 2018 to March 1, 2019, White Cross Pharmacy #1 had overages of
2 the following dangerous drugs in its drug inventory and records: 65 Abilify Maintena 400mg, 13
3 Invega Sustenna 234mg and 3 Risperdal Consta 50mg. From January 1, 2017 to August 10,
4 2017, White Cross Pharmacy #1 had overages of the following dangerous drugs in its drug
5 inventory and records: 8 Invega Sustenna 234mg, 19 Risperdal Consta 50mg and 12 Abilify
6 Maintena 400mg. From August 11, 2017 to April 23, 2018, White Cross Pharmacy #1 had
7 overages of the following dangerous drugs in its inventory and records: 7 Risperdal Consta 50mg
8 and 61 Abilify Maintena 400mg.

9 81. Pharmacy staff did not take an initial inventory of the stock on hand of controlled
10 substances on the date of the change in the pharmacy's location even though required by the
11 federal Controlled Substances Act.

12 82. From January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2017, White Cross Pharmacy #1 lost 11,848
13 tablets of oxycodone 30mg, a drug of high abuse and diversion potential.

14 83. White Cross Pharmacy #1's security measures to safeguard controlled substances
15 were non-existent or lax. Pharmacy staff shared a digital certificate and key when ordering
16 oxycodone and other Schedule II controlled substances. Pharmacy technicians and other staff
17 ordered and received controlled substances. Pharmacy staff stored filled controlled substance
18 prescriptions in the waiting bin or "will call" area with other prescriptions. There was no executed
19 power of attorney for ordering Schedule II controlled substances. Pharmacy staff left the
20 controlled substance cabinet open when pharmacists were busy. There was no perpetual
21 inventory log system in place for Schedule II controlled substances prior to October of 2017.
22 They did not perform a back count of inventory and verify after each controlled substance fill.
23 Pharmacy staff did not establish a separate file for documentation of controlled substance fills.

24 84. On or about May 25, 2018, Shah ceased acting as the pharmacist-in-charge of White
25 Cross Pharmacy #1 but did not notify the Board in writing that she had ceased acting as the
26 pharmacist-in-charge.

1 **FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

2 **(Held and Offered for Sale Misbranded Drugs against**
3 **White Cross Pharmacy and Vaghani)**

4 85. Respondents White Cross Pharmacy and Vaghani are subject to disciplinary action
5 under Code section 4301, subdivision (j) and (o) for violating Health and Safety Code section
6 111440, in that they held, or offered for sale Hyzaar, that was misbranded within the meaning of
7 Health & Safety Code section 111330, as set forth above.

8 **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

9 **(Dispensing Prescriptions That Contained a Significant Irregularity,**
10 **Uncertainty, or Ambiguity against White Cross Pharmacy and Vaghani)**

11 86. Respondents White Cross Pharmacy and Vaghani are subject to disciplinary action
12 under Code section 4301, subdivision (o), for violating California Code of Regulations, title 16,
13 section 1761, in that those Respondents dispensed prescriptions that contained significant
14 irregularities, uncertainties, or ambiguities, as set forth above.

15 **THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

16 **(Failure to Maintain Medication Profile against Respondents**
17 **White Cross Pharmacy and Vaghani)**

18 87. Respondents White Cross Pharmacy and Vaghani are subject to disciplinary action
19 under Code section 4301, subdivision (o), for violating California Code of Regulations, title 16,
20 section 1707.1, subdivision (a)(1)(B), in that those Respondents failed to maintain patient MF's
21 patient profile after filling and dispensing prescription number Rx #2262780 for lidocaine 5%, as
22 set forth above.

23 **FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

24 **(Dishonest Acts against White Cross Pharmacy and Vaghani)**

25 88. Respondents White Cross Pharmacy and Vaghani are subject to disciplinary action
26 under Code section 4301, subdivision (f) in that those Respondents committed dishonest acts by
27 creating false prescriptions and filling and dispensing those prescriptions unauthorized by the
28 prescriber, as set forth above.

1 **FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

2 **(Making Documents that Falsely Represents Facts against**
3 **White Cross Pharmacy and Vaghani)**

4 89. Respondents White Cross Pharmacy and Vaghani are subject to disciplinary action
5 under Code section 4301, subdivision (g) in that those Respondents made documents that falsely
6 represented the existence of a state of facts by creating false prescriptions for lidocaine 5%
7 ointment which were not authorized by the prescriber, as set forth above.

8 **SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

9 **(Failure to Correctly Label Prescriptions against**
10 **White Cross Pharmacy and Jerominski)**

11 90. Respondents White Cross Pharmacy and Jerominski are subject to disciplinary action
12 under Code section 4301, subdivision (o) for violation of Code section 4076, subdivision (a)(1) in
13 that Respondents dispensed five fills of a prescription for patient CR for fluticasone/salmeterol
14 250/50mcg inhaler but labeled the drugs as Advair 250/50mcg., as set forth above.

15 **SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

16 **(Failure to Maintain Current Inventory against**
17 **White Cross Pharmacy and Jerominski)**

18 91. Respondents White Cross Pharmacy and Jerominski are subject to disciplinary action
19 under Code section 4301, subdivision (o) for violating Code section 4081, subdivision (a) and
20 title 16, California Code of Regulations, section 1718, in that they did not maintain a current
21 inventory of the controlled substance, hydrocodone/acetaminophen 10/325mg, as set forth above.

22 **EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

23 **(Acts Involving Dishonesty, Fraud, Deceit or Corruption against**
24 **White Cross Pharmacy and Jerominski)**

25 92. Respondents White Cross Pharmacy and Jerominski are subject to disciplinary action
26 under Code section 4301, subdivision (f) in that those Respondents committed acts involving
27 dishonesty, fraud, deceit or corruption when they failed to reverse adjudicated prescriptions in a
28

timely basis which had not been picked up and were left in the will-call area for significant periods of time, as set forth above.

NINTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

**(Failure to Maintain Current Inventory against
Cole's Village Pharmacy, and Patel)**

93. Respondents Cole's Village Pharmacy and Patel are subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision (o), for violating Code section 4081, subdivision (a) and title 16, California Code of Regulations, section 1718, in that they did not maintain a current inventory of the dangerous drug, tacrolimus, as set forth above.

TENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Report Drug Losses against Patel, Lunagaria and Sameer Rakholia)

94. Respondents Patel, Lunagaria and Sameer Rakholia are subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision (o), for violating title 16, California Code of Regulations, section 1715.6, in that they did not report the losses of promethazine with codeine to the Board, as set forth above.

ELEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

**(Held or Offered for Sale Misbranded Drugs against White Cross Pharmacy #1,
Sameer Rakholia and Shah)**

95. Respondent White Cross Pharmacy #1 and Shah are subject to disciplinary action under Code sections 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), for violating Health and Safety Code section 111440, in that they held or offered for sale dangerous drugs that were misbranded within the meaning of Health and Safety Code sections 111330 and 111395, subdivision (c), as set forth above.

TWELFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

**(Accepted Returns of Dangerous Drugs against White Cross Pharmacy #1, Sameer
Rakholia and Shah)**

96. Respondent White Cross Pharmacy #1 and Shah are subject to disciplinary action under Code sections 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), for violating California Code of Regulations,

1 title 16, section 1776.1, subdivision (g)(2), in that they accepted or possessed prescription drugs
2 from skilled nursing facilities, residential care homes, health care practitioners or any other entity,
3 as set forth above.

4 **THIRTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

5 **(Received Returns of Controlled Substances against White Cross Pharmacy #1, Sameer
6 Rakholia and Shah)**

7 97. Respondent White Cross Pharmacy #1 and Shah are subject to disciplinary action
8 under Code section 4301, subdivision (j), for violating Code of Federal Regulations, title 21,
9 sections 1317.40, subdivision (a), in that they received returns of controlled substances even
10 though they were not registered as a collector with the Drug Enforcement Administration, as set
11 forth above.

12 **FOURTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

13 **(Held or Offered for Sale Adulterated Drugs against
14 White Cross Pharmacy #1, Shah and Sameer Rakholia)**

15 98. Respondents White Cross Pharmacy #1, Shah and Sameer Rakholia are subject to
16 disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), for violating Health and
17 Safety Code section 111295, in that they held or offered for sale dangerous drugs, that were
18 adulterated within the meaning of Health and Safety Code section 111255, as set forth above.

19 **FIFTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

20 **(Failure to Report Change in Beneficial Ownership Interest against
21 Sameer Rakholia, Raj Rakholia and Lunagaria)**

22 99. Respondents Sameer Rakholia, Raj Rakholia and Lunagaria are subject to
23 disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision (o), for violating 4201, subdivision (j),
24 in that they failed to report within thirty days a change in the proposed beneficial ownership
25 interest of White Cross Pharmacy #1, as set forth above.

SIXTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

**(Failure to Maintain Security of Drugs against
White Cross Pharmacy #1 and Sameer Rakholia)**

100. Respondents White Cross Pharmacy #1 and Sameer Rakholia are subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision (o), for violating California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1714, subdivisions (b) and (d), in that they failed to maintain the security of oxycodone 30mg, as set forth above.

SEVENTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

**(Failure to Maintain Current Inventory against White Cross Pharmacy #1,
Shah and Sameer Rakholia)**

101. Respondents White Cross Pharmacy #1, Shah and Sameer Rakholia are subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision (o), for violating Code section 4081, subdivision (a), as defined by title 16, California Code of Regulations, section 1718 and 4105, subdivision (a), in that they did not maintain a current inventory of oxycodone 30mg, Invega Sustenna 234mg, Risperdal Consta 50mg and Abilify Maintena 400mg, as set forth above.

EIGHTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

**(Failure to Execute Power of Attorney for Ordering Schedule II Controlled Substances
against White Cross Pharmacy #1, Sameer Rakholia and Shah)**

102. Respondents White Cross Pharmacy #1, Sameer Rakholia and Shah are subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), for violating Code of Federal Regulations, title 21, section 1305.05, subdivision (a), in that they failed to execute a power of attorney for ordering Schedule II controlled substances, as set forth above.

NINETEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

**(Failure to Use Individual Credentials for Ordering Controlled Substances against White
Cross Pharmacy #1, Sameer Rakholia and Shah)**

103. Respondents White Cross Pharmacy #1, Sameer Rakholia and Shah are subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), for violating Code of

1 Federal Regulations, title 21, section 1311.30, subdivision (a), in that they did not possess an
2 individual certificate and private key to order controlled substances, as set forth above.

3 **TWENTIETH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

4 **(Failure to Perform Initial Inventory against White Cross Pharmacy #1 and Sameer**
5 **Rakholia)**

6 104. Respondents White Cross Pharmacy #1 and Sameer Rakholia are subject to
7 disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision (o), for violating Code of Federal
8 Regulations, title 21, section 1304.11, subdivision (b), in that they did not perform an initial
9 controlled substance inventory upon commencing business at the new location, as set forth above.

10 **TWENTY-FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

11 **(Erroneous and Uncertain Prescriptions against White Cross Pharmacy #1 and Sameer**
12 **Rakholia)**

13 105. Respondents White Cross Pharmacy #1 and Sameer Rakholia are subject to discipline
14 under Code section 4301, subdivision (o), for violating California Code of Regulations, title 16,
15 section 1761, subdivision (a) for failing to contact the prescriber on prescriptions that were
16 erroneous or uncertain, as set forth above.

17 **TWENTY-SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

18 **(Unauthorized Refills against White Cross Pharmacy #1 and Sameer Rakholia)**

19 106. Respondents White Cross Pharmacy #1 and Sameer Rakholia are subject to discipline
20 under Code section 4301, subdivision (o), for violating Code section 4063 for dispensing refills
21 not authorized by the prescriber, as set forth above.

22 **TWENTY-THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

23 **(Variation from Prescription against White Cross Pharmacy #1 and Sameer Rakholia)**

24 107. Respondents White Cross Pharmacy #1 and Sameer Rakholia are subject to discipline
25 under Code section 4301, subdivision (o), for violating California Code of Regulations, title 16,
26 section 1716, for deviating from the requirements of a prescription by dispensing a quantity that
27 was different than what was prescribed, as set forth above.

TWENTY-FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Commission of an Act Involving Dishonesty, Fraud, Deceit, or Corruption against White Cross Pharmacy #1 and Sameer Rakholia)

108. Respondents White Cross Pharmacy #1 and Sameer Rakholia are subject to discipline under Code section 4301, subdivision (f), for commission of an act involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or corruption for creating fraudulent prescriptions, as set forth above.

TWENTY-FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Making a Document that Falsely Represents the Existence of a State of Facts against White Cross Pharmacy #1 and Sameer Rakholia)

109. Respondents White Cross Pharmacy #1 and Sameer Rakholia are subject to discipline under Code section 4301, subdivision (g), for making documents that falsely represent the existence of a state of facts in that Respondents' created prescriptions not authorized by prescribers and had signature logs from patients who denied signing for deliveries, as set forth above.

TWENTY-SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Making a Document that Falsely Represents the Existence of a State of Facts against White Cross Pharmacy #1 and Sameer Rakholia)

110. Respondents White Cross Pharmacy #1 and Sameer Rakholia are subject to discipline under Code section 4301, subdivision (g), for making documents that falsely represent the existence of a state of facts in that Respondents' created prescriptions not authorized by prescribers and had signature logs from patients who denied signing for deliveries, as set forth above.

TWENTY-SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Exercise or Implement Best Professional Judgment with Regard to Dispensing Drugs against Sameer Rakholia)

111. Respondent Sameer Rakholia is subject to discipline under Code section 4301, for violating Code section 4306.5 in that he failed to exercise or implement his best professional judgment with regard to dispensing drugs when he dispensed duplicate prescriptions for the same

1 patients listing the same prescriber for an electronic and telephone prescription without contacting
2 the prescriber to determine if both were valid, dispensed prescriptions for quantities exceeding
3 what was prescribed, created fraudulent prescriptions not authorized by the prescriber or their
4 agents, and dispensed prescription refills too early resulting in excessive doses being dispensed,
5 as set forth above.

6 **TWENTY-EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

7 **(Failure to Report Ceasing to Act as Pharmacist-in-Charge against Shah)**

8 112. Respondent Shah is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301(o), for
9 violating Code section 4101, subdivision (a), in that she did not report to the Board that she
10 ceased acting as the pharmacist-in-charge of Respondent White Cross Pharmacy #1 in writing
11 within thirty days of the date of that change in status, as set forth above.

12 **TWENTY-NINTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

13 **(Unprofessional Conduct against All Respondents)**

14 113. Respondents are subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301 for
15 unprofessional conduct in that they engaged in the activities set forth above.

16 **DISCIPLINE CONSIDERATIONS**

17 114. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, Complainant alleges that on or about
18 August 29, 2016, the Board of Pharmacy issued Citation Number CI 2016 71475 to Vaghani, and
19 ordered him to pay a \$3,000.00 fine. The Citation was based on violations of the following
20 statutes and regulations: California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1716 (variation from
21 prescription); Civil Code section 56.10(a) (unauthorized disclosure of medical information);
22 California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1711(d) (failure to complete a quality assurance
23 review); Business and Professions Code section 4077(a) (dispensing dangerous drugs in
24 incorrectly labeled container.) Vaghani paid the Citation in full, it is now final, and is
25 incorporated by reference as if fully set forth.

26 115. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, Complainant alleges that on or about
27 August 29, 2016, the Board of Pharmacy issued Citation Number CI 2014 65940 to White Cross
28 Pharmacy, and ordered payment of a \$2,500.00 fine. The Citation was based on violations of the

1 following statutes and regulations: California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1716
2 (variation from prescription); Civil Code section 56.10(a) (unauthorized disclosure of medical
3 information); California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1711(d) (failure to complete a
4 quality assurance review); Business and Professions Code section 4077(a) (dispensing dangerous
5 drugs in incorrectly labeled container.) White Cross Pharmacy paid the Citation in full, it is now
6 final, and is incorporated by reference as if fully set forth.

7 116. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, Complainant alleges that on or about
8 November 19, 2018, the Board of Pharmacy issued a Letter of Admonishment CI 2018 82005 to
9 Lunagaria. The Letter of Admonishment was based on violation of the following statutes and
10 regulations: Business and Professions Code section 4315 and Health and Safety Code section
11 11165(d). Lunagaria failed to comply in that specifically on June 19, 2018, he was Pharmacist-in-
12 Charge of White Cross Pharmacy #2, which first signed up to enable CURES transmissions on
13 July 2, 2018 but had filled a prescription for a testosterone cypionate 200mg/ml injection on June
14 19, 2018. Failure to report to CURES on at least a weekly basis is a violation of Health and Safety
15 Code section 11165(d). Lunagaria did not contest the Letter of Admonishment, and it became
16 final on December 19, 2018.

17 117. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, Complainant alleges that on or about
18 November 19, 2018, the Board of Pharmacy issued a Letter of Admonishment CI 2018 82004 to
19 Sameer Rakholia. The Letter of Admonishment was based on violation of the following statutes
20 and regulations: Business and Professions Code section 4315 and Health and Safety Code section
21 11165(d). Sameer Rakholia failed to comply, in that specifically on May 16, 2018, he was the
22 Pharmacist-in-Charge of White Cross Pharmacy #1 (License No. PHY 55765), which first signed
23 up to enable CURES transmissions on July 2, 2018 but had filled a prescription for a testosterone
24 cypionate 200mg/ml injection on May 16, 2018. Failure to report to CURES on at least a weekly
25 basis is a violation of Health and Safety Code section 11165(d). Sameer Rakholia did not contest
26 the Letter of Admonishment, and it became final on December 19, 2018.

27 118. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, Complainant alleges that on or about
28 July 26, 2021, the Board of Pharmacy issued Citation Number CI 2020 92011 to Shane Lee

Jerominski. The Citation was based on violations of the following statutes and regulations:
California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1714, subdivision (b) (maintain facilities);
Business and Professions Code section 4169, subdivision (a)(2) (selling misbranded drugs);
Health and Safety Code sections 111440 and 111420 (selling misbranded drugs). Specifically, on
July 29, 2020, Jerominski as the PIC of White Cross Pharmacy, purchased Biktarvy lot number
CCXKVA from Safe Chain Solutions with a fraudulent Transaction Information pedigree and
which was dispensed as prescription RX #2441472 to a patient although no Biktarvy was
provided or contained. Jerominski did not appeal the Citation and it is now final.

OTHER MATTERS

119. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit Number
PHY 39991 issued to Raj Lunagaria, Inc., dba White Cross Pharmacy, Raj Lunagaria, Inc., dba
White Cross 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
Number PHY 39991 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 39991 is
reinstated if it is revoked.

120. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit Number
PHY 50793 issued to LASR Enterprises, Inc., dba White Cross Pharmacy #1, LASR Enterprises,
Inc., dba White Cross Pharmacy #1 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 50793 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 50793
is reinstated if it is revoked.

121. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit Number
PHY 55765 issued to LASR Enterprises, Inc., dba White Cross Pharmacy #1, LASR Enterprises,
Inc., dba White Cross Pharmacy #1, 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 55765 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 55765
is reinstated if it is revoked.

1 122. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit Number
2 PHY 55630 issued to RSS Pharmacy Associates, LLC, dba Cole's Village Pharmacy, RSS
3 Pharmacy Associates, LLC, dba Cole's Village Pharmacy shall be prohibited from serving as a
4 manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for
5 five years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 55630 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy
6 Permit Number PHY 55630 is reinstated if it is revoked.

7 123. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit
8 Numbers PHY 50793 and/or PHY 55765 issued to LASR Enterprises, Inc., dba White Cross
9 Pharmacy #1 while Ravji L. Lunagaria has been an officer and owner and had knowledge of or
10 knowingly participated in any conduct for which the licensee was disciplined, Ravji L. Lunagaria
11 shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director,
12 associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit Numbers PHY 50793 and/or
13 PHY 55765 are placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Numbers PHY 50793 and/or PHY
14 55765 are reinstated if they are revoked.

15 124. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit
16 Numbers PHY 50793 and/or PHY 55765 issued to LASR Enterprises, Inc., dba White Cross
17 Pharmacy #1 while Raj Rakholia has been an officer and owner and had knowledge of or
18 knowingly participated in any conduct for which the licensee was disciplined, Raj Rakholia shall
19 be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director,
20 associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit Numbers PHY 50793 and/or
21 PHY 55765 are placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Numbers PHY 50793 and/or PHY
22 55765 are reinstated if they are revoked.

23 125. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit
24 Numbers PHY 50793 and/or PHY 55765 issued to LASR Enterprises, Inc., dba White Cross
25 Pharmacy #1 while Sameer K. Rakholia has been an officer and owner and had knowledge of or
26 knowingly participated in any conduct for which the licensee was disciplined, Sameer K.
27 Rakholia shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer,
28 director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY

1 50793 and PHY 55765 are placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Numbers PHY 50793
2 and PHY 55765 are reinstated if they are revoked.

3 126. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit
4 Number PHY 55630 issued to RSS Pharmacy Associates, LLC, dba Cole's Village Pharmacy
5 while Samir A. Patel has been an officer and owner and had knowledge of or knowingly
6 participated in any conduct for which the licensee was disciplined, Samir A. Patel shall be
7 prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate,
8 or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 55630 is placed on
9 probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 55630 is reinstated if it is revoked.

10 127. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit
11 Number PHY 55630 issued to RSS Pharmacy Associates, LLC, dba Cole's Village Pharmacy
12 while Ravji L. Lunagaria has been an officer and owner and had knowledge of or knowingly
13 participated in any conduct for which the licensee was disciplined, Ravji L. Lunagaria shall be
14 prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate,
15 or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 55630 is placed on
16 probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 55630 is reinstated if it is revoked.

17 128. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit
18 Number PHY 55630 issued to RSS Pharmacy Associates, LLC, dba Cole's Village Pharmacy
19 while Sameer K. Rakholia has been an officer and owner and had knowledge of or knowingly
20 participated in any conduct for which the licensee was disciplined, Sameer K. Rakholia shall be
21 prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate,
22 or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 55630 is placed on
23 probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 55630 is reinstated if it is revoked.

24 129. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacist License
25 Number RPH 70111 issued to Nileshkumar Batukbhai Vaghani, Nileshkumar Batukbhai Vaghani
26 shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director,
27 associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacist License Number RPH 70111 is
28 placed on probation or until Pharmacist License Number RPH 70111 is reinstated if it is revoked.

1 130. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacist License
2 Number RPH 44144 issued to Ravji L. Lunagaria, Ravji L. Lunagaria shall be prohibited from
3 serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a
4 licensee for five years if Pharmacist License Number RPH 44144 is placed on probation or until
5 Pharmacist License Number RPH 44144 is reinstated if it is revoked.

6 131. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacist License
7 Number RPH 64946 issued to Sameer K. Rakholia, Sameer K. Rakholia shall be prohibited from
8 serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a
9 licensee for five years if Pharmacist License Number RPH 64946 is placed on probation or until
10 Pharmacist License Number RPH 64946 is reinstated if it is revoked.

11 132. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacist License
12 Number RPH 70613 issued to Samir A. Patel, Samir A. Patel shall be prohibited from serving as
13 a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for
14 five years if Pharmacist License Number RPH 70613 is placed on probation or until Pharmacist
15 License Number RPH 70613 is reinstated if it is revoked.

16 133. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacist License
17 Number RPH 73997 issued to Nirali Mrudangk Shah, Nirali Mrudangk Shah shall be prohibited
18 from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner
19 of a licensee for five years if Pharmacist License Number RPH 73997 is placed on probation or
20 until Pharmacist License Number RPH 73997 is reinstated if it is revoked.

21 134. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Technician
22 Registration Number TCH 64078 or Intern Pharmacist Registration Number INT 41728 issued to
23 Raj Rakholia, Raj Rakholia shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner,
24 member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Technician
25 Registration Number TCH 64078 or Intern Pharmacist Registration Number INT 41728 are
26 placed on probation or until Pharmacy Technician Registration Number TCH 64078 or Intern
27 Pharmacist Registration Number INT 41728 are reinstated if it is revoked.
28

135. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacist License Number RPH 60543 issued to Shane Jerominski, Shane Jerominski shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacist License Number RPH 60543 is placed on probation or until Pharmacist License Number RPH 60543 is reinstated if it is revoked.

PRA YER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Pharmacy issue a decision:

1. Revoking or suspending Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 39991, issued to Raj Lunagaria, Inc., dba White Cross Pharmacy;
2. Revoking or suspending Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 50793, issued to LASR Enterprises, Inc., dba White Cross Pharmacy #1;
3. Revoking or suspending Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 55765, issued to LASR Enterprises, Inc., dba White Cross Pharmacy #1;
4. Revoking or suspending Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 55630, issued to RSS Pharmacy Associates, LLC, dba Cole's Village Pharmacy;
5. Revoking or suspending Pharmacist License Number RPH 70111, issued to Nileshkumar Batukbhai Vaghani;
6. Revoking or suspending Pharmacist License Number RPH 44144, issued to Ravji L. Lunagaria;
7. Revoking or suspending Pharmacist License Number RPH 64946, issued to Sameer K. Rakholia;
8. Revoking or suspending Pharmacist License Number RPH 70613, issued to Samir A. Patel;
9. Revoking or suspending Pharmacist License Number RPH 73997, issued to Nirali Mrudangk Shah;
10. Revoking or suspending Pharmacy Technician Registration Number TCH 64078, issued to Raj Rakholia;

1 11. Revoking or suspending Intern Pharmacist Registration Number INT 41728, issued to
2 Raj Rakholia;

3 12. Revoking or suspending Pharmacist License Number RPH 60543 issued to Shane
4 Jerominski;

5 13. Prohibiting White Cross Pharmacy from serving as a manager, administrator, owner,
6 member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit
7 Number PHY 39991 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 39991 is
8 reinstated if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 39991 issued to Raj Lunagaria, Inc., dba White
9 Cross Pharmacy, is revoked;

10 14. Prohibiting LASR Enterprises, Inc., dba White Cross Pharmacy #1 from serving as a
11 manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for
12 five years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 50793 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy
13 Permit Number PHY 50793 is reinstated if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 50793 issued to
14 LASR Enterprises, Inc., dba White Cross Pharmacy #1, is revoked;

15 15. Prohibiting LASR Enterprises, Inc., dba White Cross Pharmacy #1 from serving as a
16 manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for
17 five years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 55765 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy
18 Permit Number PHY 55765 is reinstated if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 55765 issued to
19 LASR Enterprises, Inc., dba White Cross Pharmacy #1, is revoked;

20 16. Prohibiting RSS Pharmacy Associates, LLC, dba Cole's Village Pharmacy from
21 serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a
22 licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 55630 is placed on probation or until
23 Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 55630 is reinstated if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 55630
24 issued to RSS Pharmacy Associates, LLC, dba Cole's Village Pharmacy is revoked;

25 17. Prohibiting Ravji L. Lunagaria from serving as a manager, administrator, owner,
26 member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit
27 Numbers PHY 50793 and/or PHY 55765 are placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit
28

1 Numbers PHY 50793 and/or 55765 are reinstated if Pharmacy Permit Numbers PHY 50793
2 and/or PHY 55765 issued to LASR Enterprises, Inc., dba White Cross Pharmacy #1 are revoked.

3 18. Prohibiting Raj Rakholia from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member,
4 officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit Numbers
5 PHY 50793 and/or PHY 55765 placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY
6 50793 and/or PHY 55765 are reinstated if Pharmacy Permit Numbers PHY 50793 and/or PHY
7 55765 issued to LASR Enterprises, Inc., dba White Cross Pharmacy #1 are revoked.

8 19. Prohibiting Sameer K. Rakholia from serving as a manager, administrator, owner,
9 member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit
10 Numbers PHY 50793 and/or PHY 55765 are placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit
11 Numbers PHY 50793 and/or PHY 55765 are reinstated if Pharmacy Permit Numbers PHY 50793
12 and/or PHY 55765 issued to LASR Enterprises, Inc., dba White Cross Pharmacy #1 are revoked.

13 20. Prohibiting Samir A. Patel from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member,
14 officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit Number
15 PHY 55630 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 55630 is reinstated if
16 Pharmacy Permit Number 55630 issued to RSS Pharmacy Associates, LLC, dba Cole's Village
17 Pharmacy is revoked.

18 21. Prohibiting Ravji L. Lunagaria from serving as a manager, administrator, owner,
19 member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit
20 Number PHY 55630 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 55630 is
21 reinstated if Pharmacy Permit Number 55630 issued to RSS Pharmacy Associates, LLC, dba
22 Cole's Village Pharmacy is revoked.

23 22. Prohibiting Sameer K. Rakholia from serving as a manager, administrator, owner,
24 member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit
25 Number PHY 55630 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 55630 is
26 reinstated if Pharmacy Permit Number 55630 issued to RSS Pharmacy Associates, LLC, dba
27 Cole's Village Pharmacy is revoked.
28

23. Prohibiting Nileshkumar Batukbhai Vaghani from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacist License Number RPH 70111 is placed on probation or until Pharmacist License Number RPH 70111 is reinstated if Pharmacist License Number RPH 70111 issued to Nileshkumar Batukbhai Vaghani is revoked;

24. Prohibiting Ravji L. Lunagaria from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacist License Number RPH 44144 is placed on probation or until Pharmacist License Number RPH 44144 is reinstated if Pharmacist License Number RPH 44144 issued to Ravji L. Lunagaria is revoked;

25. Prohibiting Sameer K. Rakholia from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacist License Number RPH 64946 is placed on probation or until Pharmacist License Number RPH 64946 is reinstated if Pharmacist License Number RPH 64946 issued to Sameer K. Rakholia is revoked;

26. Prohibiting Samir A. Patel from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacist License Number RPH 70613 is placed on probation or until Pharmacist License Number RPH 70613 is reinstated if Pharmacist License Number RPH 70613 issued to Samir A. Patel is revoked;

27. Prohibiting Nirali Mrudangk Shah from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacist License Number RPH 73997 is placed on probation or until Pharmacist License Number RPH 73997 is reinstated if Pharmacist License Number RPH 73997 issued to Nirali Mrudangk Shah is revoked;

28. Prohibiting Raj Rakholia from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacist License Number RPH 70111 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Technician License Number TCH 64078 is reinstated if Pharmacy Technician License Number TCH 64078 or Intern Registration Number INT 41728 issued to Raj Rakholia are revoked;

29. Prohibiting Shane Jerominski from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacist License

1 Number RPH 60543 is placed on probation or until Pharmacist License Number RPH 60543 is
2 reinstated if Pharmacist License Number RPH 60543 issued to Shane Jerominski is revoked;

3 30. Ordering Respondents to pay the Board of Pharmacy the reasonable costs of the
4 investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section
5 125.3; and,

6 31. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

7
8 DATED: 5/19/2022

Signature on File

9 ANNE SODERGREN
10 Executive Officer
11 Board of Pharmacy
12 Department of Consumer Affairs
13 State of California
14 *Complainant*

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