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

OAH No. 2019100918

In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 6676

**ALEJANDRO GAYTEN FLORES** 

11231 Tamarack Avenue Pacoima, CA 91331

Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 131379

Respondent.

#### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval 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 January 23, 2020.

It is so ORDERED on December 24, 2019.

BOARD OF PHARMACY
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Ву

Greg Lippe Board President

1	XAVIER BECERRA			
2	Attorney General of California LINDA L. SUN			
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General KIM KASRELIOVICH			
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 261766			
5	300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013			
6	Telephone: (213) 269-6444 Facsimile: (916) 731-2126			
7	E-mail: Kim.Kasreliovich@doj.ca.gov  Attorneys for Complainant			
8				
9	BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY			
10	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS			
11	STATE OF CALIFORNIA			
12				
13	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 6676		
14	ALEJANDRO GAYTEN FLORES 11231 Tamarack Avenue Pacoima, CA 91331	OAH No. 2019100918		
15		STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER FOR PUBLIC		
16	Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 131379	REPROVAL		
17	Respondent.	[Bus. & Prof. Code § 495]		
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19				
20	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-			
21	entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:			
22	<u>PARTIES</u>			
23	1. Anne Sodergren (Complainant) is the Interim Executive Officer of the Board of			
24	Pharmacy (Board). She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in			
25	this matter by Xavier Becerra, Attorney General of the State of California, by Kim Kasreliovich,			
26	Deputy Attorney General.			
27	2. Respondent Alejandro Gayten Flores (Respondent) is representing himself in this			
28	proceeding and has chosen not to exercise his right to be represented by counsel.			
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#### **JURISDICTION**

- 3. On or about April 4, 2013, the Board issued Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 131379 to Respondent. The Pharmacy Technician Registration was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 6676 and will expire on October 31, 2020, unless renewed.
- 4. Accusation No. 6676 was filed before the Board, Department of Consumer Affairs and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on August 27, 2019. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 6676 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

### **ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS**

- Respondent has carefully read, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 6676. Respondent has also carefully read, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval.
- 6. Respondent 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 be represented by counsel at his own expense; 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.
- 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

#### **CULPABILITY**

- 8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 6676.
- 9. Respondent agrees that his Pharmacy Technician Registration is subject to discipline and he agrees to be bound by the Disciplinary Order below.

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# **CONTINGENCY**

- 10. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board of Pharmacy. Respondent 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. By signing the stipulation, Respondent 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 for Public Reproval 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.
- 11. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval, including Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 12. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval 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 for Public Reproval may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties.
- 13. 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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#### DISCIPLINARYORDER

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2.1

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 131379 issued to Respondent Alejandro Gayten Flores (Respondent) shall be publicly reproved by the Board of Pharmacy under Business and Professions Code section 495 in resolution of Accusation No. 6676, attached as Exhibit A.

Cost Recovery. Respondent shall pay \$1,200 to the Board for its costs associated with the investigation and enforcement of this matter. Respondent shall be permitted to pay these costs in a payment plan approved by the Board. If Respondent fails to pay the Board costs as ordered. Respondent shall not be allowed to renew his Pharmacy Technician Registration until Respondent pays costs in full.

\* ACEPTANCE

I have carefully read the Supulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval.

I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Pharmacy Technician Registration.

I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Pharmacy.

DATED: 11/6/8019 ALEJANDRO GAYTEN FLORES Respondent

1	DISCIPLINARY ORDER		
2	IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 131379		
3	issued to Respondent Alejandro Gayten Flores (Respondent) shall be publicly reproved by the		
4	Board of Pharmacy under Business and Professions Code section 495 in resolution of Accusation		
5	No. 6676, attached as Exhibit A.		
6	Cost Recovery. Respondent shall pay \$1,200 to the Board for its costs associated with the		
7	investigation and enforcement of this matter. Respondent shall be permitted to pay these costs in		
8	a payment plan approved by the Board. If Respondent fails to pay the Board costs as ordered,		
9	Respondent shall not be allowed to renew his Pharmacy Technician Registration until Respondent		
10	pays costs in full.		
11			
12	<u>ACCEPTANCE</u>		
13	I have carefully read the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval.		
14	I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Pharmacy Technician Registration.		
15	I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval voluntarily,		
16	knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of		
17	Pharmacy.		
18			
19	DATED:		
20	ALEJANDRO GAYTEN FLORES Respondent		
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STIP SETTLEMENT & DISC ORDER FOR PUBLIC REPROVAL (6676)

# **ENDORSEMENT** The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy of the Department of Consumer Affairs. DATED: November 18, 2019 Respectfully submitted, XAVIER BECERRA Attorney General of California LINDA Ľ. SUN Supervising Deputy Attorney General Kim Kasreliovich Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant LA2019500575 53857434.docx

# Exhibit A

Accusation No. 6676

1	XAVIER BECERRA		
2	Attorney General of California LINDA L. SUN Supervising Deputy Attorney General KIM KASRELIOVICH		
3			
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 261766		
5	300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013		
6 7	Telephone: (213) 269-6444 Facsimile: (213) 897-2804 E-mail: Kim.Kasreliovich@doj.ca.gov Attorneys for Complainant		
8			
9	BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY		
10	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
11	STATE OF C.	ALIFORNIA	
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 6676	
13	ALEJANDRO GAYTEN FLORES	Case 110. 0070	
14	112131 Tamarack Avenue Pacoima, CA 91331	ACCUSATION	
15	Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH		
16	131379		
17	Respondent.		
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19			
20	PART		
21	1. Anne Sodergren (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity		
22	as the Interim Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs.		
23	2. On or about April 4, 2013, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacy Technician		
24	Registration Number TCH 131379 to Alejandro Gayten Flores (Respondent). The Pharmacy		
25	Technician Registration was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought		
26	herein and will expire on October 31, 2020, unless renewed.		
27	///		
28	///		
		1	

7. Section 4022 defines "dangerous drugs" as any drug that is unsafe for self-medication and which by federal or state law can be lawfully dispensed only on prescription.

#### **REGULATORY PROVISIONS**

- 8. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1707.2, states, in pertinent part:
- "(a) A pharmacist shall provide oral consultation to his or her patient or the patient's agent in all care settings:
  - (1) upon request; or
- (2) whenever the pharmacist deems it warranted in the exercise of his or her professional judgment.
- (b)(1) In addition to the obligation to consult set forth in subsection (a), a pharmacist shall provide oral consultation to his or her patient or the patient's agent in any care setting in which the patient or agent is present:
  - (A) whenever the prescription drug has not previously been dispensed to a patient; or
- (B) 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."

#### **COST RECOVERY**

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

#### **DEFINITIONS**

- 10. Prednisone: Prednisone belongs to a class of drugs known as corticosteroids.

  Prednisone is a synthetic glucocorticoid used as an anti-inflammatory and immunosuppressant which decreases inflammation and suppresses the immune system by reducing lymphatic activity. This is a dangerous drug pursuant to Code section 4022.
- 11. Duoneb: A sterile inhalation solution. Duoneb contains 2 medications, ipratropium and albuterol (albuterol is also known as salbutamol); both drugs work by relaxing the muscles around the airways.

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### FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 12. On or about January 21, 2018, Respondent was employed as a pharmacy technician at a Rite Aid Pharmacy in Canoga Park. During Respondent's shift, a patient called and requested the transfer of two prescriptions (Duoneb and Prednisone) from another Rite Aid Pharmacy location. The pharmacist spoke to the patient and explained that he would fill the prescription for Duoneb but the prescription for Prednisone was still on hold at the other store. The pharmacist told the patient that he had to wait for the other store, he was going to lunch, and both prescriptions would be ready after about 30 minutes. The pharmacist reported to Respondent the situation with the patient and went to lunch.
- 13. While the pharmacist was at lunch, the patient arrived. Respondent gave the patient the Duoneb inhaler and filled the prescription of four Prednisone tablets (50mg), in an unlabeled vial. He handwrote directions for medication use on a piece of paper and gave it to the patient. When the pharmacist returned from lunch, Respondent asked the pharmacist to mark the prescription as sold and admitted he released the medication without the pharmacist present and without consultation.

#### FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### (Unlawful Dispensing of a Dangerous Drug)

14. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 4051, subdivision (a), in that on or about January 21, 2018, Respondent filled and dispensed a new, unlabeled prescription for a dangerous drug without a pharmacist present. Complaint refers to, and by this reference incorporates paragraphs 12 and 13, as though set forth in full.

### **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

### (Dispensing an Unlabeled Prescription)

15. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 4077, subdivision (a), in that on or about January 21, 2018, Respondent filled and dispensed a new prescription without a label. Complainant refers to and by this reference incorporates the allegations set forth above in paragraphs 12 and 13, as though set forth in full.

### THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE 1 2 (Dispensing without Pharmacist Consultation) Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 4301, subdivision (o) for 16. 3 4 violating Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations, section 1707.2, subdivision (a), in that on 5 or about January 21, 2018, Respondent filled and dispensed a new prescription without a pharmacist present and therefore without a consultation. Complainant refers to and by this 6 7 reference incorporates the allegations set forth above in paragraphs 12 and 13, as though set forth in full. 8 9 FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE (Unprofessional Conduct) 10 17. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 4301, subdivisions (c), (j), 11 and (o) in that Respondent committed unprofessional conduct by filling and dispensing a new, 12 unlabeled prescription, which was for a dangerous drug, without a pharmacist present. 13 Complainant refers to and by this reference incorporates the allegations set forth above in 14 paragraphs 12 and 13, as though set forth in full. 15 16 /// 17 /// /// 18 19 /// 20 /// /// 21 22 /// 23 /// 24 /// /// 25 /// 26 27 /// 28 /// 5

## **PRAYER** 1 2 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: 3 Revoking or suspending Pharmacy Technician Registration Number TCH 131379, 1. 4 5 issued to Alejandro Gayten Flores; 2. Ordering Alejandro Gayten Flores to pay the Board of Pharmacy the reasonable costs 6 7 of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3; and, 8 3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper. 9 10 Inve Sodergran DATED: \_August 8, 2019 11 12 Interim Executive Officer Board of Pharmacy 13 Department of Consumer Affairs State of California 14 Complainant 15 16 LA2019500575 53559984.docx 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28