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

In the Matter of Accusation Against:

OMEGA CARE PHARMACY, INC. DBA OMEGA CARE PHARMACY, EMIL BURNAZYAN, GEORGE MIKAELIAN, KEN LUNA Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 53936;

CHARLES I. CADIS
Pharmacist License No. RPH 24126;

NANCY NAGUIB R. GABALLAH
Pharmacist License No. RPH 78021

and

VARDUHI TUMIKYAN
Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 138086

Respondents

Agency Case No. 7004

OAH Case No. 2021030011

**DECISION AND ORDER** 

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

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on September 29, 2021.

It is so ORDERED on August 30, 2021.

BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Βv

Seung W. Oh, Pharm D Board President

1	ROB BONTA	
2	Attorney General of California	
	ARMANDO ZAMBRANO Supervising Deputy Attorney General	
3	MARISSA N. HAMILTON Deputy Attorney General	
4	State Bar No. 322489 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702	
5	Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 269-6701	
6 7	Facsimile: (916) 731-2126 E-mail: Marissa.Hamilton@doj.ca.gov Attorneys for Complainant	
8		
9		RE THE
10	DEPARTMENT OF C	PHARMACY ONSUMER AFFAIRS ALIFORNIA
11		<b>V-12</b> ( <b></b>
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 7004
13	OMEGA CARE PHARMACY INC., DBA	OAH No. 2021030011
14	OMEGA CARE PHARMACY, EMIL BURNAZYAN, GEORGE MIKAELIAN,	STIPULATED SURRENDER OF
15	KEN LUNA 4611 Van Nuys Blvd.	LICENSE AND ORDER AS TO RESPONDENT OMEGA CARE
16	Sherman Oaks, CA 91403	PHARMACY INC., PHARMACY PERMIT NO. PHY 53936 <u>ONLY</u>
17	Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 53936,	
18	CHARLES I. CADIS 26901 Monet Ln. Valencia, CA 91355	
19	Pharmacist License No. RPH 24126,	
20	NANCY NAGUIB R. GABALLAH	
21	400 E. Stocker St. Apt. 10 Glendale, CA 91207	
22	Pharmacist License No. RPH 78021,	
23	and	
<ul><li>24</li><li>25</li></ul>	VARDUHI TUMIKYAN 7651 Melita Ave.	
	North Hollywood, CA 91605	
<ul><li>26</li><li>27</li></ul>	Pharmacy Technician Registration No. 138086	
28	Respondents.	
		J 1

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the aboveentitled proceedings that the following matters are true:

### **PARTIES**

- Anne Sodergren (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy (Board). She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this matter by Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of California, by Marissa N. Hamilton, Deputy Attorney General.
- 2. Omega Care Pharmacy Inc., dba Omega Care Pharmacy is represented in this proceeding by attorney Tony J. Park, whose address is: 55 Cetus, 1st Floor, Irvine, CA 92618.
- 3. On or about February 1, 2016, the Board issued Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 53936 to Omega Care Pharmacy Inc., dba Omega Care Pharmacy (Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy), with Emil Burnazyan designated as the President and Secretary since February 1, 2016 and the Chief Executive Officer and 1% shareholder since February 1, 2018; George Mikaelian designated as the Treasurer, Chief Financial Officer, and 50% shareholder since February 1, 2016; Ken Luna designated as the Chief Financial Officer, Director, and 49% shareholder since February 1, 2016. The Pharmacy Permit expired on February 1, 2020, and has not been renewed.

#### **JURISDICTION**

4. Accusation No. 7004 was filed before the Board, and is currently pending against Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy on December 15, 2020. Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy timely filed its Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 7004 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference.

### **ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS**

5. Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 7004. Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy also has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order.

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- 6. Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy is fully aware of its 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 it; the right to present evidence and to testify on its 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 Omega Care Pharmacy voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

### **CULPABILITY**

- 8. Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy understands that the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 7004, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline upon its Pharmacy Permit.
- 9. For the purpose of resolving the Accusation without the expense and uncertainty of further proceedings, Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy agrees that, at a hearing, Complainant could establish a factual basis for the charges in the Accusation and that those charges constitute cause for discipline. Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy hereby gives up its right to contest that cause for discipline exists based on those charges.
- 10. Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy understands that by signing this stipulation it enables the Board to issue an order accepting the surrender of their Pharmacy Permit without further process.

#### **CONTINGENCY**

11. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board. Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and surrender, without notice to or participation by Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy or its counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy understands and agrees that they may not withdraw its 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 Surrender 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.

- 12. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile copies of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order, including PDF and facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 13. This Stipulated Surrender of License and 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 Surrender of License and 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.
- 14. 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 Order:

#### **ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 53936, issued to Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy Inc., dba Omega Care Pharmacy, is surrendered and accepted by the Board.

- 1. The surrender of Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy's Pharmacy Permit and the acceptance of the surrendered license by the Board shall constitute the imposition of discipline against Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy. This stipulation constitutes a record of the discipline and shall become a part of Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy's license history with the Board.
- 2. Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy shall lose all rights and privileges as a Pharmacy in California as of the effective date of the Board's Decision and Order.
- 3. Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy shall cause to be delivered to the Board its pocket license and, if one was issued, its wall certificate on or before the effective date of the Decision and Order.

1	ACCEPTANCE
2	I have carefully read the above Stipulated Surrender of License and Order and have fully
3	discussed it with my attorney. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my
4	Pharmacy Permit. I enter into this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order voluntarily,
5	knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of
6	Pharmacy.
7	
8	DATED:
9	OMEGA CARE PHARMACY INC., DBA OMEGA CARE PHARMACY
10	Respondent
11	By: Print Name
12	Time Name
13	
14	
15	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy the terms and
16	conditions and other matters contained in this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I
17	approve its form and content.
18	
19	DATED:
20	TONY J. PARK Attorney for Respondent Omega Care
21	Pharmacy
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	///

# **ACCEPTANCE**

1	
2	I have carefully read the above Stipulated Surrender of License and Order and have fully
3	discussed it with my attorney. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my
4	Pharmacy Permit. I enter into this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order voluntarily,
5	knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of
6	Pharmacy.
7	
8	DATED: 07-07-21  OMEGA CARE PHARMACY INC., DBA
9	OMEGA CARE PHARMACY
10	Respondent
11	By: GEORGE Millaelian, Print Name
12	
13	
14	
15	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy the terms and
16	conditions and other matters contained in this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I
17	approve its form and content.
18	
19	DATED:
20	TONY J. PARK Attorney for Respondent Omega Care
21	Pharmacy
22	
23	
24	///
25	<i>///</i>
26	
27	<i>///</i>

1			ACCEPTANCE
2	I have carefully read the above Stipulated Surrender of License and Order and have fully		
3	discussed it	with my attorney. I understa	and the stipulation and the effect it will have on my
4	Pharmacy Po	ermit. I enter into this Stipul	lated Surrender of License and Order voluntarily,
5	knowingly, a	and intelligently, and agree to	o be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of
6	Pharmacy.		
7			
8	DATED:		
9			OMEGA CARE PHARMACY INC., DBA OMEGA CARE PHARMACY
10			Respondent
11			By:Print Name
12			
13			
14			
15	I have	read and fully discussed wit	th Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy the terms and
16	conditions as	nd other matters contained in	n this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I
17	approve its f	form and content.	
18			
19	DATED:	07/07/2021	TONY J. PARK
20			Attorney for Respondent Omega Care
21			Pharmacy
22	///		
23	///		
24	///		
25	///		
26	///		
27	///		
28	///		
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1	<u> </u>	ENDORSEMENT				
2	The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully submitted					
3	for consideration by the Board of Pharm	for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy of the Department of Consumer Affairs.				
4	DATED:	Respectfully submitted,				
5		ROB BONTA				
6		Attorney General of California ARMANDO ZAMBRANO Supervising Deputy Attorney General				
7 8						
9		Marissa N. Hamilton				
10		Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant				
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1			<u>ENDORSEMENT</u>
2	The fore	going Stipulated Sur	rrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully submitted
3	for consideration	on by the Board of F	Pharmacy of the Department of Consumer Affairs.
4	DATED:	July 8, 2021	Respectfully submitted,
5			ROB BONTA
6			Attorney General of California ARMANDO ZAMBRANO Supervising Deputy Attorney General
7			
8			Marissa M. Hamilton
9			Marissa N. Hamilton Deputy Attorney General
10			Attorneys for Complainant
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# **Exhibit A**

Accusation No. 7004

1		
1	XAVIER BECERRA	
2	Attorney General of California ARMANDO ZAMBRANO	
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General MARISSA N. HAMILTON	
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 322489	
5	300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013	
6	Telephone: (213) 269-6701 Facsimile: (916) 731-2126	
	Attorneys for Complainant	
7	BEFORE	THE
8	BOARD OF PH	IARMACY
9	DEPARTMENT OF CO STATE OF CA	
10		
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 7004
12	OMEGA CARE PHARMACY INC., DBA	
13	OMEGA CARE PHARMACY, EMIL BURNAZYAN, GEORGE MIKAELIAN,	ACCUSATION
14	KEN LUNA 4611 Van Nuys Blvd.	
15	Sherman Oaks, CA 91403	
16	Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 53936,	
17	CHARLES I. CADIS 26901 Monet Ln.	
1 /	Valencia, CA 91355	
18	Pharmacist-In-Charge	
19	Pharmacist License No. RPH 24126,	
20	NANCY NAGUIB R. GABALLAH 400 E. Stocker St. Apt. 10	
21	Glendale, CA 91207	
22	Pharmacist License No. RPH 78021,	
23	and	
24	VARDUHI TUMIKYAN 7651 Melita Ave.	
25	North Hollywood, CA 91605	
26	Pharmacy Technician Registration No. TCH 138086	
27	Respondents.	
28		
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#### **PARTIES**

- 1. Anne Sodergren (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs.
- 2. On or about February 1, 2016, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 53936 to Omega Care Pharmacy Inc., dba Omega Care Pharmacy (Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy or Pharmacy), with Emil Burnazyan designated as the President and Secretary since February 1, 2016 and the Chief Executive Officer and 1% shareholder since February 1, 2018; George Mikaelian designated as the Treasurer, Chief Financial Officer, and 50% shareholder since February 1, 2016; Ken Luna designated as the Chief Financial Officer, Director, and 49% shareholder since February 1, 2016; and Charles I. Cadis designated as the Pharmacist-In-Charge since February 1, 2018. The Pharmacy Permit expired on February 1, 2020, and has not been renewed.
- 3. On or about August 13, 1965, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacist License Number RPH 24126 to Charles I. Cadis (Respondent Cadis). The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on February 28, 2021, unless renewed.
- 4. On or about December 4, 2017, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacist License Number RPH 78021 to Nancy Naguib R. Gaballah (Respondent Gaballah). The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on September 30, 2021, unless renewed.
- 5. On or about January 8, 2015, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacy Technician Registration Number TCH 138086 to Varduhi Tumikyan (Respondent Tumikyan). The Pharmacy Technician Registration was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on December 31, 2020, unless renewed.

#### **JURISDICTION**

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

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Respondent Gaballah that the Pharmacy only fills approximately fifty-five prescriptions a day, and that the majority of the prescriptions are mailed to patients.

- 34. In response to Board Inspector J.F.'s questions regarding how Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy obtains the prescriptions, Respondent Gaballah and Respondent Tumikyan described the process as entailing a combination of electronically faxed prescriptions stored in the pharmacy's computer system, Digital Rx, and a refill listing that Pharmacy staff receives from the Pharmacy's main office. Pharmacy staff would receive a daily e-mail from the Pharmacy's main office containing the processed prescriptions, and the Pharmacy staff would then print out the prescription labels and dispense the medication. Respondent Gaballah and Respondent Tumikyan indicated that the billing of prescriptions is done off-site at the Pharmacy's main office. When questioned about the address of the Pharmacy's main office, neither Respondent Gaballah nor Respondent Tumikyan could provide Board Inspector J.F. an address, and they further stated that they only communicated with the Pharmacy's main office via e-mail or phone.
- 35. During the inspection, a patient, C.L., called Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy inquiring as to why C.L. had received a refill of medication when C.L. had not requested it. When questioned about the Pharmacy's policy on prescription refills, Respondent Gaballah and Respondent Tumikyan stated that all patients were automatically placed onto automatic refills. Board Inspector J.F. reviewed the prescription information for patient C.L. on the Pharmacy's computer and discovered that patient C.L.'s initial prescription originated from a preprinted multiple check-off prescription blank. The form had general categories checked with an electronically-generated "X" and prepopulated prescription medications, quantities, and directions listed with most of the listed medications separated by "or". The form appeared to allow the Pharmacy to choose which medication to dispense. The form itself did not indicate how many prescription items were originally marked by the provider. Moreover, all of the items in the "Topical Pain" category had computer-generated refills. Additionally, it appeared that an individual had systematically gone through each prescription medication to determine if the prescription item would be covered by patient C.L.'s insurance and wrote in notes corresponding to commonly known pharmacy phrases, such as "not covered" and "below cost".

- 36. Board Inspector J.F. is familiar with this type of preprinted multiple check-off prescription blank as often being utilized by marketing groups that seek out patients on certain types of insurance plans and conduct telephone interviews to get the patients to agree to try medications with extremely high insurance reimbursement rates that are then filled by associated networks of pharmacies.
- 37. Board Inspector J.F. reviewed Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy's dispensing history for patient C.L.'s prescriptions and determined that the Pharmacy was collecting nearly \$1,000 on each medication refill. The following Table 1 reflects a summary of the dispensing history for patient C.L.'s prescriptions:

### Table 1:

Medication Name and Prescription Details	Date Pharmacy Dispensed Medication	Cost	Amount Insurance Paid	Amount Patient Paid
Carbinoxamine maleate 6mg tablets, 60 qty, 15- day supply	10/20/2018	\$1,905.00	\$2,853.64	\$0.00
Triamcinolone acetate spray 0.147mg, 400grams, 30-day supply	10/20/2018	\$600.00	\$1,890.11	\$10.00
Carbinoxamine maleate 6mg tablets, 60 qty, 15- day supply	11/19/2018	\$1,905.00	\$2,853.64	\$0.00
Triamcinolone acetate spray 0.147mg, 400grams, 30-day supply	11/19/2018	\$820.00	\$1,890.11	\$10.00
Carbinoxamine maleate 6mg tablets, 60 qty, 15- day supply	1/11/2019	\$1,920.00	\$2,853.64	\$0.00
Triamcinolone acetate spray 0.147mg, 400grams, 30-day supply	1/11/2019	\$820.00	\$1,890.11	\$10.00

38. Board Inspector J.F. proceeded to review Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy's dispensing history for patient S.O. and determined that patient S.O.'s original prescription was also from a preprinted multiple check-off prescription blank. The following Table 2 reflects a summary of the dispensing history for patient S.O.'s prescriptions:

#### **Table 2:**

Medication Name	Date Pharmacy Dispensed Medication	Cost	Amount Insurance Paid	Amount Patient Paid
Chlorzoxazone 250mg	9/28/2018	\$1,100.40	\$2,407.12	\$0.00
Lidocaine/tetracaine cream	9/28/2018	\$1,176.00	\$3,257.43	\$25.00
Doxepin 5% cream	9/28/2018	\$1,296.00	\$1,472.21	\$5.00
Lidocaine/tetracaine cream	10/29/2018	\$1,176.00	\$3,257.43	\$25.00
Lidocaine/tetracaine cream	11/25/2018	\$1,176.00	\$3,257.43	\$25.00
Doxepin 5% cream	11/26/2018	\$1,296.00	\$1,472.21	\$5.00

- 39. Upon request, Board Inspector J.F. was provided with a copy of the daily emails the Pharmacy staff received from the Pharmacy's main office containing the manifest of prescriptions processed for February 18-19, 2019.
- 40. While reviewing Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy's past inspection reports, Board Inspector J.F. determined that Board Inspector B.M. had conducted a routine inspection at Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy on or about November 29, 2018. During the November 29, 2018 routine inspection, Board Inspector B.M. issued the Pharmacy an Order of Correction for Business and Professions Code section 4076, subdivision (a)(11)(A) (absence of the physical description of the medication on the prescription label).
- 41. Upon inspection of one of Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy's recent prescription labels, Board Inspector J.F. determined that the Pharmacy had not complied with the November 29, 2018 Order of Correction, as the Pharmacy had not corrected the issue related to the absence of the physical description of the medication on the prescription label.

- 42. Board Inspector J.F. next reviewed Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy's active drug stock shelves and noticed that almost every single active drug stock bottle had a quantity written on the bottle or a tag with a quantity attached to the bottle. Board Inspector J.F. discovered approximately six medication bottles that had quantities written on them that exceeded the original stock bottle quantity as labeled by the manufacturer. Board Inspector J.F. questioned Respondent Gaballah and Respondent Tumikyan as to why the bottles were labeled in this manner and why some of the bottles were overfilled. Respondent Gaballah and Respondent Tumikyan indicated that the bottles were labeled when the inventory was recently taken and the staff decided to put back all of the medication that was dispensed in bubble packs to a large hospice that cancelled their order. Board Inspector J.F. informed Respondent Gaballah and Respondent Tumikyan that the Pharmacy could not place medication previously dispensed into bubble packs back into active drug stock bottles that were not the original source bottles of that medication.
- 43. Board Inspector J.F. located a large number of assorted bottles and creams bearing prescription labels that appeared to originate from a pharmacy named One Stop Pharmacy located in Sugarland, Texas. When Board Inspector J.F. inquired as to how Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy was acquiring medications from an out of state pharmacy, Respondent Gaballah and Respondent Tumikyan provided Board Inspector J.F. with documentation showing the transfer of medication to and from various out of state pharmacies, including:
  - One Stop Pharmacy located in Sugarland, Texas;
  - Eagle Lake Pharmacy located in Lakeland, Florida;
  - Wilson County Pharmacy located in Floresville, Texas; and
  - Sam's Pharmacy located in Houston, Texas.
- 44. Board Inspector J.F. noted that the majority of the types of medications being transferred between Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy and the out of state pharmacies corresponded to the types of medications listed on the various preprinted multiple check-off prescription blanks Board Inspector J.F. had reviewed, among the largest assortment including:
  - Doxepin 5% cream;

prescriptions dispensed by Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy between November 1, 2017 and November 1, 2018. Also included were identical, undated written statements of Respondent Cadis and Respondent Tumikyan, which stated that the Pharmacy does not conduct direct/indirect marketing, has no agreements with any marketing companies, and that the Pharmacy's prescriptions are received via fax and e-script from the physicians. This is contradictory to the information obtained by Board Inspector J.F. during the on-site inspection, which indicated that the processing of prescriptions occurs off-site at the Pharmacy's main office location.

- 47. On or about March 13, 2019, Board Inspector J.F. received an email from Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy. Among the documents provided included a spreadsheet containing the Pharmacy's reported list of doctors, a copy of the Rx Reverse Distributors Inc. invoice showing the return/destruction of medications, and a copy of an updated Pharmacy prescription label showing the physical description of the medication was added. The Pharmacy failed to provide the requested physician information, stating that the Pharmacy is not comfortable releasing proprietary information to an external agency and that the Pharmacy deemed information on who sends prescriptions to the Pharmacy to be a trade secret.
- 48. Among the documents provided also included a March 12, 2019 written statement of Respondent Cadis, which stated that the prescriptions are e-faxed to the Pharmacy and the pharmacy technicians reach out to the patients for processing information. This is contradictory to the information obtained by Board Inspector J.F. during the on-site inspection, which indicated that the processing of prescriptions occurs off-site at the Pharmacy's main office location.
- 49. Among the documents provided also included a written statement of Respondent Gaballah, dated March 4, 2019 and signed March 5, 2019, which stated that the Pharmacy does not conduct direct/indirect marketing, has no agreements with any marketing companies, and that the prescriptions are received via fax and e-script from the physicians. This is contradictory to the information obtained by Board Inspector J.F. during the on-site inspection, which indicated that the processing of prescriptions occurs off-site at the Pharmacy's main office location. The submitted statement of Respondent Gaballah is identical to the written statements of Respondent

Cadis and Respondent Tumikyan that were previously submitted to Board Inspector B.M. in connection with the November 29, 2018 inspection.

- 50. Among the documents provided also included a written statement of Respondent Tumikyan, dated March 12, 2019, which stated that Respondent Tumikyan processes the prescriptions. This is contradictory to the information obtained by Board Inspector J.F. during the on-site inspection, which indicated that the processing of prescriptions occurs off-site at the Pharmacy's main office location.
- 51. After reviewing the documentation received, Board Inspector J.F. noted that Respondent Cadis is the pharmacist listed on the majority of the prescriptions filled by the Pharmacy. Respondent Gaballah is also listed as the pharmacist on some of the prescription documents. Moreover, the following individuals are listed as pharmacy technicians on the prescription documents: Laura Clark, Autumn Dubcak, Latesha Smith, and Denise Uriostegui. Respondent Tumikyan's name is not listed as a pharmacy technician on the prescription documents. Board Inspector J.F. confirmed that none of these individuals listed as pharmacy technicians on the prescription documents are located in the Board's licensing system as holding a valid pharmacy technician license in California.
- 52. After reviewing the documentation received, Board Inspector J.F. also noted several prescription documents where an individual had crossed out the normal patient co-pay amount and wrote in "0" or "\$0". Board Inspector J.F. is familiar with the practice of providing a patient with a medication and not charging the patient the assigned co-pay as a tactic utilized in order to get a patient to agree to accept a medication at no cost to the patient, while the patient's insurance is still being charged for the medication.
- 53. In furtherance of his investigation, Board Inspector J.F. reviewed the documentation received for instances where a preprinted multiple check-off prescription blank was utilized to dispense medications without the prescriber indicating the total number of prescriptions prescribed, as summarized in the following Table 3.

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Table 3:

Patient Name	Rx No(s).	Prescription Date	Doctor's Last Name
C.L.	Not referenced	10/17/2018	Y
S.O.	8466, 8467, 8468	9/25/2018	Y
M.L.	9527, 9544, 10425	11/8/2018	W
D.R.	8473	9/26/2018	Р
K.A.	8476, 8475	9/26/2018	Р
M.T.	8477, 8478, 8479, 8482, 8481	9/27/2018	R
D.J.	8482, 8483, 8484, 8485	9/27/2018	R
J.E.	8495, 8496, 8497, 8498, 8499	9/26/2018	R
L.K.	8500, 8501	9/27/2018	P
M.A.	8506, 8507, 8508, 8509, 8010	9/27/2018	С
C.V.	8512, 8513, 8514, 8515	9/27/2018	С

54. In furtherance of his investigation, Board Inspector J.F. reviewed Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy's prescription dispensing history for November 1, 2017 through November 1, 2018, and determined that Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy's prescription dispensing history is not what would be expected for a typical community retail pharmacy business, but rather it appeared that Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy was engaged in dispensing a very narrow range of medications, specifically those found on the preprinted multiple check-off prescription blanks that yield the highest insurance reimbursement rates. The following Table 4 summarizes the corresponding highest dispensed medication types and the number of each medication type dispensed by the Pharmacy during this time period:

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# Table 4:

2 3		Prescription Medication	Number of Prescriptions Pharmacy Dispensed Between 11/1/2017 – 11/1/2018
4		CALCIPOTRIENE 0.005% GLMK 120GM	26
5		CALCIPOTRIENE 0.005% GLMK 120GM (JP)	109
3		CARBINOXAMINE MALEATE 6MG ORAL	58
6		TABLET 20CT	36
7		CHLORZOXAZONE 250MG TABLET	48
,		(SOLUBIOMIX)	+0
8		CHLORZOXAZONE 250MG TABLET	201
9		(SOLUBIOMIX) (JP)	201
		CLOBETASOL PROP OINT 60GM (TARO) (JP)	92
10		DOXEPIN 5% CREAM 45GM	94
11		DOXEPIN 5% CREAM 45GM (JP)	176
		FENOPREN CALCIUM 200MG	29
12		FENOPROFEN CALICUM 200MG (JP)	76
13		FLUOCINONIDE 0.1% CREAM 120GM (GLMK)	23
		FLUOCINONIDE 0.1% CREAM 120GM	31
14		(GLMK) (JP)	
15		FLUOCINONIDE 0.1% CREAM 120GM (IPG)	57
1.0		FLURANDRENOLIDE 0.05% LOTION	55
16		120ML (JP)	
17		LIDOCAINE / PRILOCAINE 2.5% / 2.5%	64
1.0		CREAM (IMPAX)	<u> </u>
18		LIDOCAINE / PRILOCAINE 2.5% / 2.5%	131
19		CREAM (IMPAX) (JP)	
20		LIDOCAINE / PRILOCAINE CREAM 30GM (JP)	117
20		LIDOCAINE 5% 50GM (AMNEAL)	78
21		LIDOCAINE 5% 50GM (AMNEAL) (JP)	119
22		LIDOCAINE 5% 50GM (GLENMARK)	43
<i>4</i> 4		NAPROXEN SODIUM CR 375MG	31
23		NAPROXEN SODIUM CR 375MG (JP)	29
TRIAMCINALONE ACET SPAY 0.147MG /		124	
∠ <del>-1</del>		1MG 100GM	
25		XYZBAC TABLETS	33
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55. In furtherance of his investigation, on or about May 19, 2020 through May 27, 2020, Board Inspector J.F. attempted to contact 9 patients regarding their interactions with Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy. The following Table 5 reflects a summary of the responses received:

### Table 5:

Patient Name	Date of Interview by Board Inspector J.F.	Patient Received Phone Call from Marketer (Y/N); Explanation	Patient Requested Medications be Sent (Y/N); Explanation	Doctor's Last Name Utilized on Prescription
S.O. 5/19/2020 Y ther Pat		Y - Caller identified themselves as a nurse; Patient did not recall speaking to doctor	N - Patient brought medications to primary care doctor for advice	Y
M.A.	Y - Cold call; Patient did not know who she was speaking with; back several ti back several ti and tried call information already; Patient was supposedly help in resolving		N - Patient tried to send medications back several times and tried calling Pharmacy and got no help in resolving the issue	R
S.W.	5/19/2020	Y - Caller stated they were from a Wellness Center and had Patient's information already; Patient was supposedly transferred to doctor	N - Patient only received one shipment; Patient refused second shipment and reported incident to her insurance company	Y
M.G.	5/27/2020	Unknown	Unknown	В

56. In furtherance of his investigation, in or about May 2020, Board Inspector J.F. researched the prescribers associated with the Pharmacy's prescription documents to validate their contact information and attempted to contact the prescribers regarding their interactions with Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy. The following Table 6 reflects a summary of the physicians listed as the Pharmacy's prescribers and their responses:

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Doctor's Last Name	Date of Contact by Board Inspector J.F.	Doctor's Contact Info as Listed by Pharmacy	Internet and/or Doctor Confirmed Contact Info	Doctor's Initial Comments re: Pharmacy Prescriptions	Doctor's Additional Info or Comments re: Pharmacy Prescriptions
Y	5/19/2020	Redding, CA	Santa Monica, CA & Loma Linda, CA	Stated it sounds like someone is fraudulently using his name as those are not his patients and he does not have an office in Redding, CA	Stated he serviced those patients through 24/7 Call- A-Doc; Telemedicine patients
R	5/19/2020	Redding, CA	Clovis, CA	Did not recognize any of the patients, but did participate in telemedicine.  Now all patients are in Texas	Confirmed the patients were telemedicine patients
С	5/21/2020; 5/27/2020	Irvine, CA	Irvine, CA	Used to do ortho- spine, now with a cosmetic group; Did telemedicine with Locum Tenens USA	Did not recognize any of the prescriptions sent for his review
P	5/21/2020	Redding, CA	Cincinnati, OH	Pediatric specialist and does not see or have adult clients; Has participated in some telemedicine but only in surrounding Tri- State area in Ohio	N/A – No further response provided
В	N/A – Retired in 2015; unable to contact	Redding, CA	St. Paul, MN	N/A - Retired in 2015; unable to contact	N/A - Retired in 2015; unable to contact
///	GA CAPE DHA		18		

# AS TO RESPONDENT OMEGA CARE PHARMACY

### **FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

# (Failure to Correct Pharmacy Prescription Label – Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy)

57. Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4076, subdivision (a)(11)(A), in that on or about February 20, 2019, an inspection at Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy revealed that the Pharmacy's prescription medication labels had not been updated to display the physical description of the dispensed medication in compliance with an Order of Correction issued during a prior inspection of the Pharmacy on or about November 29, 2018. Complainant incorporates by reference paragraphs 40-41 and 45 above as though fully set forth herein.

# SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# (Unlicensed Off-Site Activity – Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy)

58. Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4110, subdivision (a), in that on or about February 20, 2019, an inspection at Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy revealed that the Pharmacy's prescription documents were being processed at an undisclosed off-site location and were being sent via e-mail to Pharmacy staff members for label printing and dispensing. Complainant incorporates by reference paragraphs 33-39 and 45 above as though fully set forth herein.

# THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# (Dispensing Prescription Medications from Erroneous or Uncertain Prescriptions – Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy)

59. Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1761, subdivision (a), in that on or about February 20, 2019, an inspection at Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy revealed that the Pharmacy dispensed erroneous or uncertain prescriptions utilizing preprinted multiple check-off prescription blanks that did not indicate the number of prescriptions authorized by the prescriber and allowed the Pharmacy staff to choose which medications were dispensed. In addition, the prescriber contact information contained on the

preprinted multiple check-off forms did not correspond to the actual contact information for the prescriber. Complainant incorporates by reference paragraphs 33-39, 45, and 51-56 as though fully set forth herein.

#### FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# (Utilizing Preprinted Multiple Check-Off Prescription Blanks – Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy)

60. Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1717.3, subdivision (b), in that on or about February 20, 2019, an inspection at Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy revealed that the Pharmacy dispensed prescription medications utilizing preprinted multiple check-off prescription blanks that did not indicate the number of prescriptions authorized by the prescriber and allowed the Pharmacy staff to choose which medications were dispensed. Complainant incorporates by reference paragraphs 33-39, 45, and 51-56 as though fully set forth herein.

# FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# (Exchanging Medication Inventory with Out of State Pharmacies – Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy)

61. Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy is subject to disciplinary action under Code sections 4160, subdivision (a), and 4126.5, subdivision (a), in that on or about February 20, 2019, an inspection at Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy revealed that the Pharmacy was exchanging medication inventory with other pharmacies located in Texas and Florida, while not licensed by the Board to act as a wholesaler or third-party logistics provider or to alleviate a temporary shortage. Complainant incorporates by reference paragraphs 43-45 as though fully set forth herein.

#### **SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

#### (Unprofessional Conduct – Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy)

62. Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy is subject to disciplinary action under Code sections 4301, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct. Complainant incorporates by reference paragraphs 33-56 as though fully set forth herein.

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### **SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

# (Failure to Correct Pharmacy Prescription Label – Respondent Cadis)

63. Respondent Cadis is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4076, subdivision (a)(11)(A), in conjunction with Code section 4113, subdivision (c), in that on or about February 20, 2019, an inspection at Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy, where Respondent Cadis served as Pharmacist-In-Charge during the relevant period, revealed that the Pharmacy's prescription medication labels had not been updated to display the physical description of the dispensed medication in compliance with an Order of Correction issued during a prior inspection of the Pharmacy on or about November 29, 2018. Complainant incorporates by reference paragraphs 40-41 and 45 above as though fully set forth herein.

# EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# (Unlicensed Off-Site Activity – Respondent Cadis)

64. Respondent Cadis is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4110, subdivision (a), in conjunction with Code section 4113, subdivision (c), in that on or about February 20, 2019, an inspection at Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy, where Respondent Cadis served as the Pharmacist-In-Charge during the relevant period, revealed that the Pharmacy's prescription documents were being processed at an undisclosed off-site location and were being sent via e-mail to Pharmacy staff members for label printing and dispensing. Complainant incorporates by reference paragraphs 33-39 and 45 above as though fully set forth herein.

# NINTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# ( Dispensing Prescription Medications from Erroneous or

# **Uncertain Prescriptions – Respondent Cadis)**

65. Respondent Cadis is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in conjunction with Code section 4113, subdivision (c), and California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1761, subdivision (a), in that on or about February 20, 2019, an inspection at Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy, where Respondent Cadis served as the Pharmacist-In-Charge during the relevant period, revealed that the Pharmacy dispensed erroneous

or uncertain prescriptions utilizing preprinted multiple check-off prescription blanks that did not indicate the number of prescriptions authorized by the prescriber and allowed the Pharmacy staff to choose which medications were dispensed. In addition, the prescriber contact information contained on the preprinted multiple check-off forms did not correspond to the actual contact information for the prescriber. Complainant incorporates by reference paragraphs 33-39, 45, and 51-56 as though fully set forth herein.

#### TENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

### (Utilizing Preprinted Multiple Check-Off Prescription Blanks – Respondent Cadis)

66. Respondent Cadis is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision (o), in conjunction with Code section 4113, subdivision (c), and California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1717.3, subdivision (b), in that on or about February 20, 2019, an inspection at Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy, where Respondent Cadis served as the Pharmacist-In-Charge during the relevant period, revealed that the Pharmacy dispensed prescription medications utilizing preprinted multiple check-off prescription blanks that did not indicate the number of prescriptions authorized by the prescriber and allowed the Pharmacy staff to choose which medications were dispensed. Complainant incorporates by reference paragraphs 33-39, 45, and 51-56 as though fully set forth herein.

#### **ELEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

# (Exchanging Medication Inventory with Out of State Pharmacies – Respondent Cadis

67. Respondent Cadis is subject to disciplinary action under Code sections 4160, subdivision (a), and 4126.5, subdivision (a), in conjunction with Code section 4113, subdivision (c), in that on or about February 20, 2019, an inspection at Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy, where Respondent Cadis served as the Pharmacist-In-Charge during the relevant period, revealed that the Pharmacy was exchanging medication inventory with other pharmacies located in Texas and Florida, while not licensed by the Board to act as a wholesaler or third-party logistics provider or to alleviate a temporary shortage. Complainant incorporates by reference paragraphs 43-45 as though fully set forth herein.

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# AS TO RESPONDENT GABALLAH

### **FOURTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

# (Unprofessional Conduct Involving Moral Turpitude, Dishonesty, Fraud, or Deceit – Respondent Gaballah)

70. Respondent Gaballah is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivisions (f) and/or (g), in that Respondent Gaballah engaged in unprofessional conduct that involved moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, or deceit when, in connection with a Board inspection of the Pharmacy conducted on February 20, 2019, the Board received a written statement of Respondent Gaballah, dated March 4, 2019 and signed March 5, 2019, that contained false statement(s), in that Respondent Gaballah stated that the prescriptions are received via e-fax or e-script from the prescribers and processed by the Pharmacy, when in actuality the prescriptions are processed at Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy's off-site main office location and then e-mailed to Pharmacy staff members for label printing and dispensing. Complainant incorporates by reference paragraph 49 above as though fully set forth herein.

#### AS TO RESPONDENT TUMIKYAN

#### FIFTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# (Unprofessional Conduct Involving Moral Turpitude, Dishonesty, Fraud, or Deceit – Respondent Tumikyan)

- 71. Respondent Tumikyan is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivisions (f) and/or (g), in that Respondent Tumikyan engaged in unprofessional conduct that involved moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, or deceit as follows:
- a. In connection with a Board inspection of the Pharmacy conducted on November 29, 2018, the Board received an undated written statement of Respondent Tumikyan that contained false statement(s), in that Respondent Tumikyan stated that the prescriptions are received via efax or e-script from the prescribers and processed by the Pharmacy, when in actuality the prescriptions are processed at Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy's off-site main office location and then e-mailed to Pharmacy staff members for label printing and dispensing.

b. In connection with a Board inspection of the Pharmacy conducted on February 20, 2019, the Board received a written statement of Respondent Tumikyan, dated March 12, 2019, that contained false statement(s), in that Respondent Tumikyan stated that the prescriptions are received via e-fax from the prescribers and processed by Respondent Tumikyan, when in actuality the prescriptions are processed at Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy's off-site main office location and then e-mailed to Pharmacy staff members for label printing and dispensing.

Complainant incorporates by reference paragraphs 46 and 50 above as though fully set forth herein.

### **DISCIPLINARY CONSIDERATIONS**

- 72. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy, Complainant alleges that on or about June 18, 2019, the Board issued Citation Number CI 2018 82934 to Respondent Omega Care Pharmacy for violations of Code sections 4113(d) and 4305. This Citation is now final and is incorporated by reference as if fully set forth.
- 73. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondent Cadis, Complainant alleges that on or about January 4, 2017, the Board issued Citation Number CI 2016 73409 to Respondent Cadis for violations of California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1761(a) and California Code of Regulations, title 21, section 1305.5(a). This Citation is now final and is incorporated by reference as if fully set forth.

# **OTHER MATTERS**

- 74. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 53936, issued to Omega Care Pharmacy Inc., dba Omega Care Pharmacy, Respondent Omega Care 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 53936 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 53936 is reinstated if it is revoked.
- 75. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 53936, issued to Omega Care Pharmacy Inc., dba Omega Care Pharmacy, while Emil Burnazyan, George Mikaelian, and/or Ken Luna have been an officer, director, and/or owner and

had knowledge of or knowingly participated in any conduct for which the licensee was disciplined, Emil Burnazyan, George Mikaelian, and/or Ken Luna 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 53936 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 53936 is reinstated if it is revoked.

- 76. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacist License Number RPH 24126, issued to Charles I. Cadis, Respondent Cadis 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 24126 is placed on probation or until Pharmacist License Number RPH 24126 is reinstated if it is revoked.
- 77. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacist License Number RPH 78021, issued to Nancy Naguib R. Gaballah, Respondent Gaballah 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 78021 is placed on probation or until Pharmacist License Number RPH 78021 is reinstated if it is revoked.
- 78. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Technician Registration Number TCH 138086, issued to Varduhi Tumikyan, Respondent Tumikyan shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Technician Registration Number TCH 138086 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Technician Registration Number TCH 138086 is reinstated if it is revoked.

#### **PRAYER**

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

- Revoking or suspending Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 53936, issued to Omega
   Care Pharmacy Inc., dba Omega Care Pharmacy;
- 2. Revoking or suspending Pharmacist License Number RPH 24126, issued to Charles I. Cadis;