

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

**In the Matter of the Accusation Against:**

**CENTURY PICO PHARMACY, INC., DBA, CENTURY PICO  
PHARMACY INC., JOSEPH AMIN, BAHRAM SAMOUHA  
Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 41037;**

**HASTI ASHLYN ELAHI  
Pharmacist License No. RPH 79647;**

**SHIRIN AZIZZADEH,  
Pharmacist License No. RPH 53320;**

**BAHRAM SAMOUHA,  
Pharmacist License No. RPH 45531;**

**and**

**PARISA KHANI,  
Pharmacist License No. RPH 54486,**

**Respondents.**

**Agency Case No. 7005**

**OAH No. 2022020695**

**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 April 28, 2023.

It is so ORDERED on March 29, 2023.

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 NANCY A. KAISER  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General  
3 KEVIN J. RIGLEY  
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7

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

11 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 7005

12 **CENTURY PICO PHARMACY INC. DBA**  
13 **CENTURY PICO PHARMACY INC.,**  
14 **JOSEPH AMIN, BAHRAM SAMOUHA**  
15 **8722 Pico Blvd**  
16 **Los Angeles, CA 90035**  
17 **Permit No. PHY 41037,**

OAH No. 2022020695

**STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND**  
**DISCIPLINARY ORDER REGARDING**  
**HASTI ASHLYN ELAHI ONLY**

18 **HASTI ASHLYN ELAHI**  
19 **24378 Dino Ct.**  
20 **Calabasas, CA 91302**  
21 **Pharmacist License No. RPH 79647,**

22 **SHIRIN AZIZZADEH**  
23 **530 Evelyn Pl**  
24 **Beverly Hills, CA 90210**  
25 **Pharmacist License No. RPH 53320,**

26 **BAHRAM SAMOUHA**  
27 **311 N. Palm Dr.**  
28 **Beverly Hills, CA 90210**  
**Pharmacist License No. RPH 45531**

**And**

**PARISA KHANI**  
**P.O. BOX 16025,**  
**Beverly Hills, CA 90209**  
**Pharmacist License No. RPH 54486**

Respondents.

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

3 **PARTIES**

4 1. Anne Sodergren (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy  
5 (Board). She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this matter by  
6 Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of California, by Kevin J. Rigley, Deputy Attorney  
7 General.

8 2. Respondent Hasti Ashlyn Elahi (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by  
9 attorney Robert D. Cucher, Esq., 9454 Wilshire Blvd, Ste 600, Beverly Hills, CA 90212-2980.

10 3. On or about October 12, 2018, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacist License  
11 Number RPH 79647 to Hasti Ashlyn Elahi (Respondent Elahi). The Pharmacist License was in  
12 full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on May 31,  
13 2024, unless renewed.

14 **JURISDICTION**

15 4. Accusation No. 7005 was filed before the Board, and is currently pending against  
16 Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served  
17 on Respondent on January 22, 2021. Respondent timely filed her Notice of Defense contesting  
18 the Accusation.

19 5. A copy of Accusation No. 7005 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by  
20 reference.

21 **ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS**

22 6. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the  
23 charges and allegations in Accusation No. 7005. Respondent has also carefully read, fully  
24 discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary  
25 Order.

26 7. Respondent is fully aware of her legal rights in this matter, including the right to a  
27 hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to confront and cross-examine  
28 the witnesses against her; the right to present evidence and to testify on her own behalf; the right

1 to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of  
2 documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other  
3 rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.

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

#### 6 **CULPABILITY**

7 9. Respondent understands and agrees that the charges and allegations in Accusation  
8 No. 7005, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline upon her Pharmacist  
9 License.

10 10. For the purpose of resolving the Accusation without the expense and uncertainty of  
11 further proceedings, Respondent agrees that, at a hearing, Complainant could establish a factual  
12 basis for the charges in the Accusation, and that Respondent hereby gives up her right to contest  
13 those charges.

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

#### 16 **CONTINGENCY**

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

26 13. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile  
27 copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including PDF and facsimile  
28 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:

## DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Pharmacist License No. RPH 79647 issued to Respondent Hasti Ashlyn Elahi is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for three (3) years on the following terms and conditions:

## 1. Obey All Laws

Respondent shall obey all state and federal laws and regulations.

Respondent 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'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.

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

2 **2. Report to the Board**

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

7 Failure to submit timely reports in a form as directed shall be considered a violation of  
8 probation. Any period(s) of delinquency in submission of reports as directed may be added to the  
9 total period of probation. Moreover, if the final probation report is not made as directed,  
10 probation shall be automatically extended until such time as the final report is made and accepted  
11 by the Board.

12 **3. Interview with the Board**

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

18 **4. Cooperate with Board Staff**

19 Respondent shall timely cooperate with the Board's inspection program and with the  
20 Board's monitoring and investigation of Respondent's compliance with the terms and conditions  
21 of her probation, including but not limited to: timely responses to requests for information by  
22 Board staff; timely compliance with directives from Board staff regarding requirements of any  
23 term or condition of probation; and timely completion of documentation pertaining to a term or  
24 condition of probation. Failure to timely cooperate shall be considered a violation of probation.

25 **5. Continuing Education**

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

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

1 During the period of probation, Respondent shall notify all present and prospective  
2 employers of the decision in case number 7005 and the terms, conditions and restrictions imposed  
3 on Respondent by the decision, as follows:

4 Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, and within ten (10) days of  
5 undertaking any new employment, Respondent shall report to the Board in writing the name,  
6 physical address, and mailing address of each of her employer(s), and the name(s) and telephone  
7 number(s) of all of her direct supervisor(s), as well as any pharmacist(s)-in-charge, designated  
8 representative(s)-in-charge, responsible manager, or other compliance supervisor(s) and the work  
9 schedule, if known. Respondent shall also include the reason(s) for leaving the prior  
10 employment. Respondent shall sign and return to the Board a written consent authorizing the  
11 Board or its designee to communicate with all of Respondent's employer(s) and supervisor(s),  
12 and authorizing those employer(s) or supervisor(s) to communicate with the Board or its  
13 designee, concerning Respondent's work status, performance, and monitoring. Failure to comply  
14 with the requirements or deadlines of this condition shall be considered a violation of probation.

15 Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, and within fifteen (15) days of  
16 Respondent undertaking any new employment, Respondent shall cause (a) her direct supervisor,  
17 (b) her pharmacist-in-charge, designated representative-in-charge, responsible manager, or other  
18 compliance supervisor, and (c) the owner or owner representative of her employer, to report to the  
19 Board in writing acknowledging that the listed individual(s) has/have read the decision in case  
20 number 7005, and terms and conditions imposed thereby. If one person serves in more than one  
21 role described in (a), (b), or (c), the acknowledgment shall so state. It shall be the Respondent's  
22 responsibility to ensure that these acknowledgment(s) are timely submitted to the Board. In the  
23 event of a change in the person(s) serving the role(s) described in (a), (b), or (c) during the term  
24 of probation, Respondent shall cause the person(s) taking over the role(s) to report to the Board in  
25 writing within fifteen (15) days of the change acknowledging that he or she has read the decision  
26 in case number 7005, and the terms and conditions imposed thereby.

27 If Respondent works for or is employed by or through an employment service, Respondent  
28 must notify the person(s) described in (a), (b), and (c) above at every entity licensed by the Board



1 of the decision in case number 7005, and the terms and conditions imposed thereby in advance of  
2 Respondent commencing work at such licensed entity. A record of this notification must be  
3 provided to the Board upon request.

4 Furthermore, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, and within fifteen  
5 (15) days of Respondent undertaking any new employment by or through an employment service,  
6 Respondent shall cause the person(s) described in (a), (b), and (c) above at the employment  
7 service to report to the Board in writing acknowledging that he or she has read the decision in  
8 case number, and the terms and conditions imposed thereby. It shall be Respondent's  
9 responsibility to ensure that these acknowledgment(s) are timely submitted to the Board.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

27 **9. Reimbursement of Board Costs**

28 As a condition precedent to successful completion of probation, Respondent shall pay to the

Board its costs of investigation and prosecution in the amount of \$4,000. Respondent shall make said payments as follows:

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

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

#### **10. Probation Monitoring Costs**

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

#### **11. Status of License**

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

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

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

Following the effective date of this decision, should Respondent cease practice due to retirement or health, or be otherwise unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of probation, Respondent may relinquish her license, including any indicia of licensure issued by the Board, along with a request to surrender the license. The Board or its designee shall have the discretion

1 whether to accept the surrender or take any other action it deems appropriate and reasonable.

2 Upon formal acceptance of the surrender of the license, Respondent will no longer be subject to  
3 the terms and conditions of probation. This surrender constitutes a record of discipline and shall  
4 become a part of the Respondent's license history with the Board.

5 Upon acceptance of the surrender, Respondent shall relinquish her pocket and/or wall  
6 license, including any indicia of licensure not previously provided to the Board within ten (10)  
7 days of notification by the Board that the surrender is accepted if not already provided.

8 Respondent may not reapply for any license from the Board for three (3) years from the effective  
9 date of the surrender. Respondent shall meet all requirements applicable to the license sought as  
10 of the date the application for that license is submitted to the Board, including any outstanding  
11 costs.

### 12 13. Practice Requirement – Extension of Probation

13 Except during periods of suspension or FMLA or disability leave, Respondent shall, at all  
14 times while on probation, be employed as a pharmacist in California for a minimum of 70 hours  
15 per calendar month. Any month during which this minimum is not met shall extend the period of  
16 probation by one month. During any such period of insufficient employment, Respondent must  
17 nonetheless comply with all terms and conditions of probation, unless Respondent receives a  
18 waiver in writing from the Board or its designee. The Board's designee may modify the minimum  
19 number of hours per calendar month that Respondent is required to work while on probation.

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

1 It is a violation of probation for Respondent's probation to be extended pursuant to the  
2 provisions of this condition for a total period, counting consecutive and non-consecutive months,  
3 exceeding thirty-six (36) months. The Board or its designee may post a notice of the extended  
4 probation period on its website.

5 **14. Violation of Probation**

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

12 If Respondent violates probation in any respect, the Board, after giving Respondent notice  
13 and an opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that  
14 was stayed. If a petition to revoke probation or an accusation is filed against Respondent during  
15 probation, or the preparation of an accusation or petition to revoke probation is requested from  
16 the Office of the Attorney General, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction and the period of  
17 probation shall be automatically extended until the petition to revoke probation or accusation is  
18 heard and decided, and the charges and allegations in the Accusation shall be deemed true and  
19 correct.

20 **15. Completion of Probation**

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

23 **16. Ethics Course**

24 Within sixty (60) calendar days of the effective date of this decision, Respondent shall  
25 enroll in a course in ethics, at Respondent's expense, approved in advance by the Board or its  
26 designee that complies with Title 16 California Code of Regulations section 1773.5. Respondent  
27 shall provide proof of enrollment upon request. Within five (5) days of completion, Respondent  
28 shall submit a copy of the certificate of completion to the Board or its designee. Failure to timely

1 enroll in an approved ethics course, to initiate the course during the first year of probation, to  
2 successfully complete it before the end of the second year of probation, or to timely submit proof  
3 of completion to the Board or its designee, shall be considered a violation of probation.

4 **17. No Ownership or Management of Licensed Premises**

5 Respondent shall not own, have any legal or beneficial interest in, nor serve as a manager,  
6 administrator, member, officer, director, trustee, associate, or partner of any business, firm,  
7 partnership, or corporation currently or hereinafter licensed by the Board for a period of five (5)  
8 years from the effective date of the Decision and Order. Respondent shall sell or transfer any  
9 legal or beneficial interest in any entity licensed by the Board within ninety (90) days following  
10 the effective date of this decision and shall immediately thereafter provide written proof thereof  
11 to the Board. Failure to timely divest any legal or beneficial interest(s) or provide documentation  
12 thereof shall be considered a violation of probation.

13 **18. Board's One-Day Training Program**

14 Within the first year of probation, Respondent shall enroll in the Board's one-day, six (6)  
15 hour, training program, "Preventing Prescription Drug Abuse and Drug Diversion," at  
16 Respondent's expense. Respondent shall provide proof of enrollment upon request. Within thirty  
17 (30) days of completion, Respondent shall submit a copy of the certificate of completion to the  
18 Board or its designee. Failure to timely enroll in the training program, to initiate the training  
19 program during the first year of probation, to successfully complete it before the end of the  
20 second year of probation, or to timely submit proof of completion to the Board or its designee,  
21 shall be considered a violation of probation.

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ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Robert D. Cucher. 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: 2/3/2023

Hasti Elahi  
~~DARISA KHAN~~ Hasti Elahi  
Respondent *(RS)*

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

DATED: 2/4/2023

Robert D. Cucher  
ROBERT D. CUCHER  
Attorney for Respondent


**ENDORSEMENT**

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

DATED: February 3, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

ROB BONTA  
Attorney General of California  
NANCY A. KAISER  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

  
KEVIN J. RIGLEY  
Deputy Attorney General  
*Attorneys for Complainant*

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**Exhibit A**

**Accusation No. 7005**



1 XAVIER BECERRA  
Attorney General of California  
2 SHAWN P. COOK  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General  
3 NANCY CALERO  
Deputy Attorney General  
4 State Bar No. 261370  
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*Attorneys for Complainant*  
7

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14 **JOSEPH AMIN, BAHRAM SAMOUHA**  
**8722 Pico Blvd**  
**Los Angeles, CA 90035**

**ACCUSATION**

15 **Permit No. PHY 41037,**

16 **HASTI ASHLYN ELAHI**  
17 **313 W. California Ave, #306**  
**Glendale, CA 91203**

18 **Pharmacist License No. RPH 79647,**

19 **SHIRIN AZIZZADEH**  
20 **530 Evelyn Pl**  
**Beverly Hills, CA 90210**

21 **Pharmacist License No. RPH 53320,**

22 **BAHRAM SAMOUHA**  
23 **311 N. Palm Dr.**  
**Beverly Hills, CA 90210**

24 **Pharmacist License No. RPH 45531**

25 **And**  
26  
27  
28

**PARISA KHANI**  
**P.O. BOX 16025,**  
**Beverly Hills, CA 90209**

**Pharmacist License No. RPH 54486**

Respondents.

### **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 October 24, 1995, the Board of Pharmacy issued Permit Number PHY 41037 to Century Pico Pharmacy Inc. dba Century Pico Pharmacy Inc., Joseph Amin, Bahram Samouha (Respondent Pico). The Permit was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on October 1, 2021.

3. On or about October 12, 2018, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacist License Number RPH 79647 to Hasti Ashlyn Elahi (Respondent Elahi). The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on May 31, 2022, unless renewed.

4. On or about March 20, 2002, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacist License Number RPH 53320 to Shirin Azizzadeh (Respondent Azizzadeh). The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on August 31, 2021, unless renewed.

5. On or about August 14, 1992, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacist License Number RPH 45531 to Bahram Samouha (Respondent Samouha). The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on August 31, 2022, unless renewed.

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6. On or about April 25, 2003, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacist License Number RPH 54486 to Parisa Khani (Respondent Khani). The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on March 31, 2021, unless renewed.

### **JURISDICTION**

7. 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.

8. Section 118, subdivision (b), of the Code provides that the suspension/ expiration/ surrender/ cancellation of a license shall not deprive the Board/Registrar/Director of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued or reinstated.

9. Section 4300 of the Code states:

(a) Every license issued may be suspended or revoked.

(b) The board shall discipline the holder of any license issued by the board, whose default has been entered or whose case has been heard by the board and found guilty, by any of the following methods:

(1) Suspending judgment.

(2) Placing him or her upon probation.

(3) Suspending his or her right to practice for a period not exceeding one year.

(4) Revoking his or her license.

(5) Taking any other action in relation to disciplining him or her as the board in its discretion may deem proper.

...

(e) The proceedings under this article shall be conducted in accordance with Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of the Government Code, and the board shall have all the powers granted therein. The action shall be final, except that the propriety of the action is subject to review by the superior court pursuant to Section 1094.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

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10. 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.

11. Section 4307 of the Code states:

(a) 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, trust, 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 manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, partner, or any other person with management or control had knowledge of 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 manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, partner, or in any other position 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.

(b) Manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, partner, or any other person with management or control of a license as used in this section and Section 4308, may refer to a pharmacist or to any other person who serves in such capacity in or for a licensee.

(c) The provisions of subdivision (a) may be alleged in any pleading filed pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of the Government Code. However, no order may be issued in that case except as to a person who is named in the caption, as to whom the pleading alleges the applicability of this section, and where the person has been given notice of the proceeding as required by Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of the Government Code. The authority to proceed as provided by this subdivision shall be in addition to the board's authority to proceed under Section 4339 or any other provision of law.

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**STATUTORY PROVISIONS**

12. Section 4301 of the Code states:

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

...

(c) Gross negligence.

(d) The clearly excessive furnishing of controlled substances in violation of subdivision (a) of Section 11153 of the Health and Safety Code.

...

13. 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.

14. Section 4306.5 of the Code states in pertinent part, unprofessional conduct for a pharmacist may include any of the following:

(a) Acts or omissions that involve, in whole or in part, the inappropriate exercise of his or her education,

(b) Training, or experience as a pharmacist, whether or not the act or omission arises in the course of the practice of pharmacy or the ownership, management, administration, or operation of a pharmacy or other entity licensed by the Board

(c) Acts or omissions that involve, in whole or in part, the failure to exercise or implement his or her best

(d) 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

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(e) 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

(f) 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.

15. Health and Safety Code section 11152 states:

No Person shall write, issue, fill, compound, or dispense a prescription that does not conform to this division

16. Health and Safety Code section 11153 states in pertinent part:

(a) A prescription for a controlled substance shall only be issued for a legitimate medical purpose by an individual practitioner acting in the usual course of his or her professional practice. The responsibility for the proper prescribing and dispensing of controlled substances is upon the prescribing practitioner, but a corresponding responsibility rests with the pharmacist who fills the prescription. Except as authorized by this division, the following are not legal prescriptions:

(1) An order purporting to be a prescription which is issued not in the usual course of professional treatment or in legitimate and authorized research; or

(2) An order for an addict or habitual user of controlled substances, which is issued not in the course of professional treatment or as part of an authorized narcotic treatment program, for the purpose of providing the user with controlled substances, sufficient to keep him or her comfortable by maintaining customary use.

17. Health and Safety Code section 11164 states in pertinent part:

No person shall prescribe a controlled substance, nor shall any person fill, compound, or dispense a prescription for a controlled substance, unless it complies with the requirement of this section.

(a) Each Prescription for a controlled substance classified in Schedule II, III, IV, or V, except as authorized by subdivision (b), shall be made on a controlled substance prescription form as specified in section 11162.1 and shall meet the following requirements:

(1) The prescription shall be signed and dated by the prescriber in ink

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1 **REGULATORY PROVISIONS**

2 18. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1761, states:

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

7 (b) Even after conferring with the prescriber, a pharmacist shall not compound or dispense  
8 a controlled substance prescription where the pharmacist knows or has objective reason to  
9 know that said prescription was not issued for a legitimate medical purpose.

10 **COST RECOVERY**

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

15 **DEFINITIONS**

16 20. Oxycodone is a Schedule II controlled substance pursuant to Health and Safety Code  
17 section 11055, subdivision (b)(1)(M) and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and  
18 Professions Code section 4022. Oxycodone is a narcotic analgesic used for more moderate to  
19 severe pain and it has a high potential for abuse.

20 **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

21 21. The Board initiated an investigation of Respondents based upon information that  
22 controlled substance prescriptions were dispensed by Respondent Pico, which may have not been  
23 in compliance with prescription security form requirements. Respondent Samouha was the owner  
24 of Century Pico Pharmacy. Respondents, Elahi, Azzizzadeh were employed as a pharmacist in  
25 charge at the pharmacy. Respondent Khani was employed as a pharmacist at the pharmacy.

26 22. The Board Inspector obtained and reviewed Respondent Pico's CURES records,  
27 dispensing records and original prescriptions documents.

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**All Respondents**

23. The Board's Investigation revealed that between February 3, 2017 and March 24, 2020 the pharmacy dispensed at least 422 controlled substance prescriptions (over 37,000 tablets) from prescribers with patterns of irregularities and red flags for potential abuse without ensuring the prescriptions were issued for a legitimate medical purpose in the usual course of professional practice. This included dispensing at least 18 prescriptions which were not written on valid controlled substance prescription security forms:

Date	Number	Drug	Qty
10/19/18	667289	hydrocodone/APAP 10-325	100
10/19/18	667292	hydrocodone/APAP 10-325	100
10/19/18	667294	hydrocodone/ APAP 10-325	100
10/19/18	667296	oxycodone 30 mg	90
10/19/18	667298	oxycodone 30 mg	90
10/19/18	667299	oxycodone 30 mg	90
10/19/18	667300	oxycodone 30 mg	90
10/22/18	667377	oxycodone 30 mg	90
10/22/18	667382	oxycodone 30 mg	90
10/22/18	667388	oxycodone 30 mg	90
10/22/18	667390	hydrocodone/APAP 10-325	100
10/26/18	667737	hydrocodone/APAP 10-325	100
10/31/18	668069	oxycodone 30 mg	90
11/01/18	668097	oxycodone 30 mg	90
11/01/18	668099	oxycodone 30 mg	90
11/01/18	668129	oxycodone 30 mg	90
11/01/18	668131	oxycodone 30 mg	90
11/01/18	668133	oxycodone 30 mg	90
11/01/18	668137	oxycodone 30 mg	90

24. These prescription documents were missing the following features required for controlled prescription security forms:

1. A watermark printed on the backside of the prescription blank which reads:

“California Security Prescription.”

a. Read: “DocuGard”



2. A lot number printed on the form.

25. In addition, Repondent Pico, Respondent Elahi, Respondent Samouha, Respondent Azizzadeh, and Respondent Khani dispensed controlled substances after ignoring, or not being aware of, objective factors which were irregular from medically legitimate prescriptions. The object factors of illegitimacy, irregularity, and abuse included, but were not limited to, the following:

(a) Sudden influx of oxycodone prescriptions on 10/18/2018, with no recent use by the pharmacy;

(b) Oxycodone 30 mg was the only strength dispensed, no lower strengths of oxycodone dispensed;

(c) Oxycodone 30 mg always had cash payment;

(d) Cash payment for oxycodone was over ten times more common than non-controlled substances;

(e) More money in total paid by patients for oxycodone 30 mg than any other drug;

(f) Oxycodone 30 mg dispensed to almost all patients from certain prescribers;

(g) Multiple patients receiving similar or identical treatment with oxycodone on the same days, up to ten patients a day;

(h) Almost all patients (161) from one prescriber with the same diagnosis;

(i) The same combinations of drugs prescribed for multiple patients;

(1) Uniformity of treatment for many patients with oxycodone 30 mg;

(j) Initial prescriptions written for strong opiates;

(1) 152 different patients started on at least twice the safe starting dose of oxycodone on 173 occasions.

26. Pharmacy records from 02/03/2017 – 03/24/2020 included prescriptions by PA Jennifer Edwards, Dr. Joseph Dinglasan, Dr. Glasberg, Dr. Friedman, Dr. Venkateswaralu, and Dr. Korzelius.

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27. Jennifer Edward's area of practice was not indicated. Prescription documents from PA Edwards listed addresses in Huntington Park and Redondo Beach. For PA Edwards, pharmacy records revealed:

- (a) 161 of the 162 patients were prescribed oxycodone;
- (b) All oxycodone prescriptions were for 30mg, the highest strength available;
- (c) All controlled substance prescriptions were for cash payments;
- (d) Uniformity of treatment for multiple patients receiving similar or identical controlled substances;
- (e) Multiple patients (up to seven a day) receiving identical or similar prescriptions on the same days;
- (f) Same diagnosis for almost all patients;
- (g) Sudden influx of these prescriptions on 11/20/2018

28. Dr. Dinglasan's area of practice was not indicated. Prescription documents listed addresses in Huntington Park and Los Angeles. For Dr. Dinglasan, pharmacy records revealed:

- (a) 63 of 64 patients were prescribed oxycodone;
- (b) All but one oxycodone prescription was for 30 mg, the highest strength available;
- (c) All controlled substance prescriptions were for cash payment;
- (d) Uniformity of treatment for multiple patients receiving similar or identical controlled substances;
- (e) Multiple patients (up to six a day) receiving identical or similar prescriptions on the same days.

29. Dr. Glasberg's primary area of practice was listed as neurology. Prescription documents listed an address in Los Angeles. For Dr. Glasberg, pharmacy records revealed:

- (a) 30 of 30 patients were prescribed oxycodone;
- (b) All oxycodone prescriptions were for 30 mg, the highest strength available;
- (c) All controlled substance prescriptions were for cash payment;

(d) Uniformity of treatment for multiple patients receiving similar or identical controlled substances;

(e) Multiple patients (up to ten a day) receiving identical or similar prescriptions on the same days.

30. Dr. Friedman's primary area of practice was not listed, but a secondary practice of pain management was listed. Prescription documents listed an address in Los Angeles. For Dr. Friedman, pharmacy records revealed:

(a) 21 of 21 patients were prescribed oxycodone;

(b) All oxycodone prescriptions were for 30 mg, the highest strength available;

(c) All controlled substance prescriptions were for cash payment;

(d) Uniformity of treatment for multiple patients receiving similar or identical controlled substances;

(e) Multiple patients (up to 5 a day) receiving identical or similar prescriptions on the same days.

31. Dr. Venkateswaralu's primary area of practice was listed as internal medicine. Prescription documents list an address in Los Angeles. For Dr. Venkateswarlu, pharmacy records revealed:

(a) 14 of 19 patients were prescribed oxycodone;

(b) All controlled substance prescription forms were invalid;

(c) All oxycodone prescriptions were for 30 mg, the highest strength available;

(d) All controlled substance prescriptions were for cash payment;

(e) Uniformity of treatment for multiple patients receiving similar or identical controlled substances;

(f) Multiple patients receiving identical or similar prescriptions on the same days.

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32. Dr. Korzelius primary area of practice is listed as general practice. Prescription documents dispensed under the name of Dr. Korzelious are believed to have been signed by PA Edwards. For Dr. Korzelius, pharmacy records revealed:

- (a) 9 of 10 patients were prescribed oxycodone;
- (b) All oxycodone prescriptions were for 30 mg, the highest strength available;
- (c) All controlled substance prescriptions were for cash payment;
- (d) Uniformity of treatment for multiple patients receiving similar or identical controlled substances;
- (e) Multiple patients receiving identical or similar prescriptions on the same days.

**Respondent Elahi**

33. Respondent Elahi failed to use available records and information, and her education training, and experience, and best professional judgement, in the evaluation of controlled substance dispensing decisions when she personally approved for dispensing 129 oxycodone prescriptions with high starting doses.

**Respondent Khani**

34. Respondent Khani failed to use available records and information, and her education, training and experience, and best professional judgement, in evaluation of controlled substance dispensing decisions when she personally approved for dispensing 6 controlled substance prescriptions for 540 tablets of oxycodone 30 mg which had irregularities and red flags of illegitimacy.

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1 **FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

2 (Unprofessional Conduct: Failure to Exercise Corresponding Responsibility)

3 (Against Respondent Pico, Respondent Elahi, Respondent Samouha, Respondent Azizzadeh and  
4 Respondent Khani.)

5 35. Respondent Pico, Respondent Elahi, Respondent Samouha, Respondent Azizzadeh  
6 and Respondent Khani are each and severally subject to disciplinary action under section 4301,  
7 subdivisions (c) and (d) and section 4306.5 of the Code, Health and Safety code section 11152,  
8 and section 11153, subdivision (a), and section 11164 subdivision (a)(1) and California Code of  
9 Regulations, title 16, section 1761, subdivisions (a) and (b), in that Respondents operated in a  
10 grossly negligent matter, which constituted unprofessional conduct, by excessively furnishing  
11 controlled substances, with an established history of a high potential abuse, despite multiple cues  
12 of irregularity and uncertainty related to patient and prescriber factors, and in failing to comply  
13 with their corresponding responsibility to ensure that controlled substances are dispensed for a  
14 legitimate medical purpose. Complainant refers to, and by this reference, incorporates the  
15 allegations set forth above in paragraphs 23-34, as though set forth fully.

16 **OTHER MATTERS**

17 36. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit Number  
18 PHY 41037 issued to Century Pico Pharmacy Inc., dba Century Pico Pharmacy Inc., while Joseph  
19 Amin has been an owner and had knowledge of or knowingly participated in any conduct for  
20 which the licensee was discipline, Joseph Amin, shall be prohibited from serving as a manager,  
21 administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if  
22 Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 41037 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number  
23 PHY 41037 is reinstated if it is revoked.

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37. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 41037 issued to Century Pico Pharmacy Inc., dba Century Pico Pharmacy Inc., while Bahram Samouha has been an owner and had knowledge of or knowingly participated in any conduct for which the licensee was discipline, Bahram Samouha, 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 41037 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 41037 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:

1. Revoking or suspending Permit Number PHY 41037, issued to Century Pico Pharmacy Inc. dba Century Pico Pharmacy Inc., Joseph Amin, Bahram Samouha;

2. Revoking or suspending Pharmacist License Number RPH 79647, issued to Hasti Ashlyn Elahi;

3. Revoking or suspending Pharmacist License Number RPH 53320, issued to Shirin Azizzadeh;

4. Revoking or suspending Pharmacist License Number RPH 45531, issued to Bahram Samouha;

5. Revoking or suspending Pharmacist License Number RPH 54486, issued to Parisa Khani;

6. Prohibiting Century Pico Pharmacy Inc., dba Century Pico Pharmacy Inc., (PHY 41037) from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a license for five years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 41037 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 41037 is reinstated if Pharmacy Permit Number 41037 issued to Century Pico Pharmacy Inc., dba Century Pico Pharmacy Inc., is revoked;

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1           7.     Prohibiting Joseph Amin from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member,  
2 officer, director, associate, or partner of a license for five years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY  
3 41037 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 41037 is reinstated if  
4 Pharmacy Permit Number 41037 issued to Century Pico Pharmacy Inc., dba Century Pico  
5 Pharmacy Inc., is revoked.

6           8.     Prohibiting Bahram Samouha from serving as a manager, administrator, owner,  
7 member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a license for five years if Pharmacy Permit  
8 Number PHY 41037 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 41037 is  
9 reinstated if Pharmacy Permit Number 41037 issued to Century Pico Pharmacy Inc., dba Century  
10 Pico Pharmacy Inc., is revoked.

11           9.     Ordering Century Pico Pharmacy Inc., Hasti Ashlyn Elahi, Shirin Azizzadeh, Bahram  
12 Samouha and Parisa Khani to pay the Board of Pharmacy the reasonable costs of the investigation  
13 and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3; and,

14           10.    Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.  
15  
16

17           DATED:   1/14/2021  
18

Signature on File

19           \_\_\_\_\_  
20 ANNE SODERGREN  
21 Executive Officer  
22 Board of Pharmacy  
23 Department of Consumer Affairs  
24 State of California  
25 *Complainant*

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