BEFO	RE THE
BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS	
STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 7035
M.A.N. NAZARETH INC. DBA TOWER PHARMACY, MICHAEL ALLEN NAZARIAN Permit No. PHY 53607	DEFAULT DECISION AND ORDER A TO PHARMACY PERMIT NO. PHY 53607 ONLY
and	[Gov. Code, §11520]
ARTIN AGHAKHANI License No. RPH 72110,	
Respondents	
In the Matter of the Statement of Issues Against:	
ABC PHARMACEUTICAL SOLUTIONS DBA TOWER PHARMACY, ARTIN AGHAKHANI	
Community Pharmacy License Applicant	
Respondents	

1 2 In the Matter of the Accusation Against: 3 NATALIE GOLD INC. DBA BURBANK TOWER PHARMACY, KARINA 4 NAZARIAN, ARTIN AGHAKHANI, Permit No. PHY 53938, 5 and 6 ARTIN AGHAKHANI 7 License No. RPH 72110. 8 Respondents. 9 10 FINDINGS OF FACT 11 1. On or about November 16, 2020, Complainant Anne Sodergren, in her official 12 capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs, 13 filed Accusation No. 7035 against M.A.N. Nazareth Inc. dba Tower Pharmacy, Michael Allen 14 Nazarian (Respondent) before the Board of Pharmacy. (Accusation attached as Exhibit A.) 15 2. On or about August 3, 2015, the Board of Pharmacy (Board) issued Permit No. PHY 16 53607 to Respondent. The Permit expired on April 27, 2020, and has not been renewed. 17 On or about November 17, 2020, Respondent was served by Certified and First Class 18 Mail copies of the Accusation No. 7035, Statement to Respondent, Notice of Defense, Request 19 for Discovery, Discovery Statutes (Government Code sections 11507.5, 11507.6, and 11507.7), 20 and Notice of Hearing at Respondent's address of record which, pursuant to Business and 21 Professions Code section 4100, is required to be reported and maintained with the Board. 22 Respondent's address of record was and is: 350 S. Glenoaks Blvd., Burbank, CA 91502. 23 4. Service of the Accusation was effective as a matter of law under the provisions of 24 Government Code section 11505(c) and/or Business and Professions Code section 124. 25 5. Government Code section 11506(c) states, in pertinent part: 26 (c) The respondent shall be entitled to a hearing on the merits if the respondent files a notice of defense . . . and the notice shall be deemed a specific denial of all 27 parts of the accusation . . . not expressly admitted. Failure to file a notice of defense ... shall constitute a waiver of respondent's right to a hearing, but the agency in its 28 discretion may nevertheless grant a hearing?

- 6. The Board takes official notice of its records and the fact that Respondent failed to file a Notice of Defense within 15 days after service upon them of the Accusation, and therefore waived their right to a hearing on the merits of Accusation No. 7035.
  - 7. California Government Code section 11520(a) states, in pertinent part:
  - (a) If the respondent either fails to file a notice of defense . . . or to appear at the hearing, the agency may take action based upon the respondent's express admissions or upon other evidence and affidavits may be used as evidence without any notice to respondent . . . .
- 8. Pursuant to its authority under Government Code section 11520, the Board finds Respondent is in default. The Board will take action without further hearing and, based on the relevant evidence contained in the Default Decision Investigatory Evidence Packet in this matter, as well as taking official notice of all the investigatory reports, exhibits and statements contained therein on file at the Board's offices regarding the allegations contained in Accusation No. 7035, finds that the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 7035, are separately and severally, found to be true and correct by clear and convincing evidence.

## **DETERMINATION OF ISSUES**

- Based on the foregoing findings of fact, Respondent M.A.N. Nazareth Inc. dba Tower
   Pharmacy, Michael Allen Nazarian has subjected its Permit No. PHY 53607 to discipline.
  - 2. The agency has jurisdiction to adjudicate this case by default.
- 3. The Board of Pharmacy is authorized to revoke Respondent's Permit based upon the following violations alleged in the Accusation which are supported by the evidence contained in the Default Decision Investigatory Evidence Packet in this case:
- a. **Variation from Prescription**; Business and Professions Code section 4301, subdivision (o) and California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 16, section 1716;
- b. **Dispensing Refills without Prescriber Authorization**; Business and Professions Code section 4301, subdivision (o) and Business and Professions Code section 4063;
- c. **Incomplete Prescription Content**; Business and Professions Code section 4301, subdivision (o) and Business and Professions Code section 4040;

1	d. Dispensed Prescriptions Containing Omission or Uncertainty; Business and	
2	Professions Code section 4301, subdivision (o) and CCR, title 16, section 1761;	
3	e. Failure to Maintain Accurate Disposition/Inventory Records; Business and	
4	Professions Code section 4301, subdivision (o), Business and Profession Code section 4081, and	
5	CCR, title 16, sections 1714 and 1718.	
6	<u>ORDER</u>	
7	IT IS SO ORDERED that Permit No. PHY 53607, issued to Respondent M.A.N. Nazareth	
8	Inc. dba Tower Pharmacy, Michael Allen Nazarian, is revoked.	
9	Pursuant to Government Code section 11520, subdivision (c), Respondent may serve a	
10	written motion requesting that the Decision be vacated and stating the grounds relied on within	
11	seven (7) days after service of the Decision on Respondent. The agency in its discretion may	
12	vacate the Decision and grant a hearing on a showing of good cause, as defined in the statute.	
13	This Decision shall become effective on January 19, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.	
14	It is so ORDERED on December 20, 2021.	
15		
16	FOR THE BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS	
17	STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
18		
19	64555480.DOCX DOJ Matter ID:LA2020602707	
20	Attachment:	
21	Exhibit A: Accusation  Seung W. Oh, Pharm D.  Board President	
22	Board President	
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## Exhibit A

Accusation

1	XAVIER BECERRA		
2	Attorney General of California THOMAS L. RINALDI Supervising Deputy Attorney General		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General DIANA PETIKYAN Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 306153		
4			
5	300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 269-6193		
6	Facsimile: (213) 203-0133 Facsimile: (916) 731-2126 E-mail: Diana.Petikyan@doj.ca.gov		
7	Attorneys for Complainant		
8	REFOR	E THE	
9	BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY		
10	DEPARTMENT OF CONTROL STATE OF CONTROL		
11		L a	
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 7035	
13	M.A.N. NAZARETH INC. DBA TOWER PHARMACY, MICHAEL ALLEN		
14	NAZARIAN, CEO 350 S. Glenoaks Blvd	ACCUSATION	
15	Burbank, CA 91502		
16	Permit No. PHY 53607,		
17	and		
18 19	ARTIN AGHAKHANI 14050 Magnolia Blvd, #313 Sherman Oaks, CA 91423		
20	Pharmacist License No. RPH 72110		
21	Respondents.		
22	PAR	<u>ries</u>	
23	1. Anne Sodergren (Complainant) bring	s this Accusation solely in her official capacity	
24	as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs.		
25	2. On or about August 3, 2015, the Boar	d of Pharmacy issued Permit Number PHY	
26	53607 to M.A.N. Nazareth Inc. dba Tower Pharm	acy, Michael Allen Nazarian (Tower	
27	Pharmacy). Michael Allen Nazarian was the Chie	ef Executive Officer, 100% Shareholder,	
28	Director, Secretary, and Treasurer/Chief Financia	l Officer from August 3, 2015 to April 28, 2020.	
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#### 11. Section 4081 of the Code states:

- (a) All records of manufacture and of sale, acquisition, receipt, shipment, or disposition of dangerous drugs or dangerous devices shall be at all times during business hours open to inspection by authorized officers of the law, and shall be preserved for at least three years from the date of making. A current inventory shall be kept by every manufacturer, wholesaler, third-party logistics provider, pharmacy, veterinary food-animal drug retailer, outsourcing facility, physician, dentist, podiatrist, veterinarian, laboratory, licensed correctional clinic, as defined in Section 4187, clinic, hospital, institution, or establishment holding a currently valid and unrevoked certificate, license, permit, registration, or exemption under Division 2 (commencing with Section 1200) of the Health and Safety Code or under Part 4 (commencing with Section 16000) of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code who maintains a stock of dangerous drugs or dangerous devices.
- (b) The owner, officer, and partner of a pharmacy, wholesaler, third-party logistics provider, or veterinary food-animal drug retailer shall be jointly responsible, with the pharmacist-in-charge, responsible manager, or designated representative-in-charge, for maintaining the records and inventory described in this section.
- (c) The pharmacist-in-charge, responsible manager, or designated representative-in-charge shall not be criminally responsible for acts of the owner, officer, partner, or employee that violate this section and of which the pharmacist-in-charge, responsible manager, or designated representative-in-charge had no knowledge, or in which he or she did not knowingly participate.
- (d) Pharmacies that dispense nonprescription diabetes test devices pursuant to prescriptions shall retain records of acquisition and sale of those nonprescription diabetes test devices for at least three years from the date of making. The records shall be at all times during business hours open to inspection by authorized officers of the law.

## 12. Section 4301 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

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:

...

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

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13. Section 4307 of the Code states:

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#### THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

## (Incomplete Prescription Content)

23. Respondents Tower Pharmacy and Aghakhani are subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision (o) in conjunction with Code section 4040 in that Respondents dispensed prescriptions RX#311705 and RX#329979 without signatures from the prescriber authorizing the prescription refill.

### FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

## (Dispensed Prescriptions Containing Omission or Uncertainty)

24. Respondents Tower Pharmacy and Aghakhani are subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision (o) in conjunction with CCR, title 16, section 1761 in that Respondents dispensed a prescription containing an omission and uncertainty. Specifically, RX#328888 was written for Voltaren 1% gel to apply to the affected area three times daily. However, this prescription did not indicate the amount to apply or the area to be treated. Respondents did not provide documentation showing that the prescriber was contacted to clarify the missing information.

### FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

### (Failure to Maintain Accurate Disposition/Inventory Records)

- 25. Respondents Tower Pharmacy and Aghakhani are subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivision (o) in conjunction with Code section 4081 and CCR, title 16, sections 1714 and 1718 in that Respondents did not maintain complete accountability for all dangerous drugs. Specifically, a 19-month audit from October 23, 2018 to May 13, 2020 of acquisition and disposition records revealed discrepancies in Respondents' inventory as follows:
  - a. Tower Pharmacy had an overage of the following drugs (indicating that they billed for a greater quantity than they purchased):

Quantity	Drug
74	Anoro Ellipta inhalers
129	Breo Ellipta inhalers
6,151	Colcrys 0.6mg tablets
9,190	Creon DR 24,000 unit capsules
18,400	Creon DR 36,000 unit capsules
18,120	Dexilant DR 60mg capsules

Quantity	Drug
1,607	Diclofenac 1% gel 100gm tubes
49	Lantus vials
5,070	Linzess 145mcg capsules
4,815	Linzess 290mcg capsules
5,550	Myrbetriq ER 25mg tablets;
1,500	Namzaric 28-10mg capsules
47,610	Omega-3 lgm capsules
200	Pazeo 0.7% vials
336	Restasis multi-dose 0.05% 60ml vials
233	Symbicort 160-45mcg inhalers
77,982	Tamsulosin 0.4mg capsules
84	Trulicity 1.5mg/0.5ml pens
76,330	Vascepa 1 gm capsules
315	Voltaren 1 % gel tubes
2,790	Eliquis 5mg tablets
40,852	Gabapentin 300mg capsules
570	Januvia 100mg tablets
1,860	Januvia 50mg tablets
1,830	Jardiance 10mg tablets
22	Prolia 60mg/ml syringes
3,060	Tradjenta 5mg tablets

b. Tower pharmacy also could not account for the loss of the following drugs

Quantity	Drug
156	Restasis 0.05% 5.5ml vials
210	Eliquis 5mg tablets
5	Victoza 3-pak 18mg/3ml pens

## **OTHER MATTERS**

26. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy License Number RPH 72110 issued to Artin Aghakhani or Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 53607, issued to M.A.N. Nazareth Inc. dba Tower Pharmacy, Michael Allen Nazarian (Tower Pharmacy), for conduct that occurred while Respondent Aghakhani was the manager, and Respondent Aghakhani had knowledge of or knowingly participated in the conduct for which Respondent Tower Pharmacy was disciplined, then Respondent Aghakhani shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy License Number RPH 72110 or Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 53607 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy License Number RPH 72110 or Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 53607 is reinstated if it is revoked.