

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

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

**SAMAN SAZEGAR  
Pharmacist License No. RPH 82317,**

**Respondent.**

**Agency Case No. 7563**

**OAH NO. 2024010597**

**DECISION AND ORDER**

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reprimand 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 November 13, 2024.

It is so ORDERED on October 14, 2024.

BOARD OF PHARMACY  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Seung W. Oh", written over a horizontal line.

Seung W. Oh, Pharm.D.  
Board President

1 ROB BONTA  
Attorney General of California  
2 ARMANDO ZAMBRANO  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General  
3 CHRISTINE J. LEE  
Deputy Attorney General  
4 State Bar No. 282502  
300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702  
5 Los Angeles, CA 90013  
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6 Facsimile: (916) 731-2126  
*Attorneys for Complainant*  
7

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

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:  
13 **SAMAN SAZEGAR**  
14 **815 Beartooth Falls Ct.**  
15 **Henderson, NV 89052**

16 **Pharmacist License No. RPH 82317**

17 Respondent.

Case No. 7563

OAH No. 2024010597  
**STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND  
DISCIPLINARY ORDER FOR PUBLIC  
REPROVAL**

**[Bus. & Prof. Code § 495]**

18  
19 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-  
20 entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:

21 **PARTIES**

22 1. Anne Sodergren (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy  
23 (Board). She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this matter by  
24 Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of California, by Christine J. Lee, Deputy Attorney  
25 General.  
26  
27  
28

2. Respondent Saman Sazegar (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by attorney Michael Meehan of Meehan Law Firm, whose address is: 16255 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 200, Encino, CA 91436

### **JURISDICTION**

3. On or about March 13, 2020, the Board issued Pharmacist License No. RPH 82317 to Saman Sazegar (Respondent). The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 7563 and will expire on December 31, 2025, unless renewed.

4. Accusation No. 7563 was filed before the Board of Pharmacy (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on November 9, 2023. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 7563 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

### **ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS**

5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 7563. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval.

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

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

///

1 **CULPABILITY**

2 8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation  
3 No. 7563.

4 9. Respondent agrees that his Pharmacist License is subject to discipline and he agrees  
5 to be bound by the Disciplinary Order below.

6 **CONTINGENCY**

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

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

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

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

**DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Pharmacist License No. RPH 82317 issued to Respondent Saman Sazegar (Respondent) shall be publicly reprovved by the Board of Pharmacy under Business and Professions Code section 495 in resolution of Accusation No. 7563, attached as exhibit A.

**Ethics Course.** Within sixty (60) calendar days of the effective date of this decision, respondent shall enroll in a course in ethics, at respondent's expense, approved in advance by the board or its designee that complies with Title 16 California Code of Regulations section 1773.5. Respondent shall provide proof of enrollment upon request. Respondent is required to complete the 6-month and 12- month ethics follow up courses in order to be compliance with this condition. Within five (5) days of completion, respondent shall submit a copy of the certificate of completion to the board or its designee.

**Cost Recovery.** No later than 1 from the effective date of the Decision, Respondent shall pay \$12, 138.80 to the Board for its costs associated with the investigation and enforcement of this matter pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 125.3. If Respondent fails to pay the Board costs as ordered, Respondent shall not be allowed to renew his Pharmacist License until Respondent pays costs in full. In addition, the Board may enforce this order for payment of its costs in any appropriate court, in addition to any other rights the Board may have.

**Full Compliance.** As a resolution of the charges in Accusation No. 7563, this stipulated settlement is contingent upon Respondent's full compliance with all conditions of this Order. If Respondent fails to satisfy any of these conditions, such failure to comply constitutes cause for discipline, including outright revocation, of Respondent's Pharmacist License No. RPH 82317.

**ACCEPTANCE**

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Michael T. Meehan. I understand the

1 stipulation and the effect it will have on my Pharmacist License. I enter into this Stipulated  
2 Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reprimand voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently,  
3 and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Pharmacy.

4  
5 DATED: \_\_\_\_\_

SAMAN SAZEGAR  
*Respondent*

7 I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Saman Sazegar the terms and conditions  
8 and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public  
9 Reprimand. I approve its form and content.

10  
11 DATED: \_\_\_\_\_

MICHAEL T. MEEHAN  
*Attorney for Respondent*

13  
14 **ENDORSEMENT**

15 The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reprimand is hereby  
16 respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy of the Department of  
17 Consumer Affairs.

18  
19 DATED: \_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully submitted,

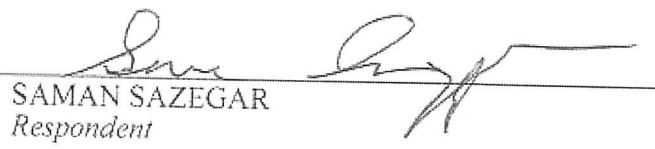
20 ROB BONTA  
Attorney General of California  
21 ARMANDO ZAMBRANO  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

22  
23 CHRISTINE J. LEE  
24 Deputy Attorney General  
Attorneys for Complainant

25  
26  
27 LA2023603245  
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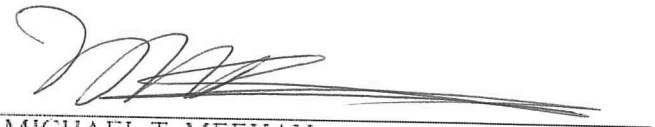
1 stipulation and the effect it will have on my Pharmacist License. I enter into this Stipulated  
2 Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reprimand voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently,  
3 and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Pharmacy.

4  
5 DATED: 8/19/24

  
6 SAMAN SAZEGAR  
Respondent

7 I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Saman Sazegar the terms and conditions  
8 and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public  
9 Reprimand. I approve its form and content.

10  
11 DATED: 8/19/24

  
12 MICHAEL T. MEEHAN  
Attorney for Respondent

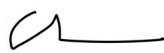
13  
14 **ENDORSEMENT**

15 The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reprimand is hereby  
16 respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy of the Department of  
17 Consumer Affairs.

18  
19 DATED: August 19, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

20 ROB BONTA  
Attorney General of California  
21 ARMANDO ZAMBRANO  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

  
22  
23 CHRISTINE J. LEE  
24 Deputy Attorney General  
25 Attorneys for Complainant

26  
27 LA2023603245  
67000340.docx  
28

**Exhibit A**

**Accusation No. 7563**



1 ROB BONTA  
Attorney General of California  
2 THOMAS L. RINALDI  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General  
3 ARMANDO ZAMBRANO  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General  
4 State Bar No. 225325  
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5 Los Angeles, CA 90013  
Telephone: (213) 269-6322  
6 Facsimile: (916) 731-2126  
E-mail: Armando.Zambrano@doj.ca.gov  
7 *Attorneys for Complainant*

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

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 7563

13 **SAMAN SAZEGAR**  
1819 Washington Ave.  
14 Santa Monica, CA 90403

**ACCUSATION**

15 **Pharmacist License No. RPH 82317**

16 Respondent.

17  
18  
19 **PARTIES**

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

22 2. On or about March 13, 2020, the Board issued Pharmacist License Number RPH  
23 82317 to Saman Sazegar (Respondent). The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all  
24 times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on December 31, 2023, unless  
25 renewed.

26 ///

27 ///

28 ///

1 **JURISDICTION**

2 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board under the authority of the following  
3 laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise  
4 indicated.

5 4. Section 4300 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that every license issued by the  
6 Board is subject to discipline including suspension or revocation.

7 5. Section 4300.1 of the Code states:

8 The expiration, cancellation, forfeiture, or suspension of a board-issued license  
9 by operation of law or by order or decision of the board or a court of law, the  
10 placement of a license on a retired status, or the voluntary surrender of a license by a  
11 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.

12 **STATUTORY PROVISIONS**

13 6. Section 4301 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

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

16 . . .

17 (h) The administering to oneself, of any controlled substance, or the use of any  
18 dangerous drug or of alcoholic beverages to the extent or in a manner as to be  
19 dangerous or injurious to oneself, to a person holding a license under this chapter, or  
to any other person or to the public, or to the extent that the use impairs the ability of  
the person to conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by the license.

20 . . .

21 **REGULATORY PROVISIONS**

22 7. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1770(a) states:

23 For the purpose of denial, suspension, or revocation of a personal or facility  
24 license pursuant to Section 141 or Division 1.5 (commencing with Section 475) of the  
Business and Professions Code, a crime, professional misconduct, or act shall be  
25 considered substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of the  
practice, profession, or occupation that may be performed under the license type  
26 sought or held if to a substantial degree it evidences present or potential unfitness of  
an applicant or licensee to perform the functions authorized by the license in a  
27 manner consistent with the public health, safety, or welfare.

28 ///

1 **COST RECOVERY**

2 8. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the  
3 administrative law judge to direct a licensee found to have committed a violation or violations of  
4 the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and  
5 enforcement of the case, with failure of the licensee to comply subjecting the license to not being  
6 renewed or reinstated. If a case settles, recovery of investigation and enforcement costs may be  
7 included in a stipulated settlement.

8 **CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE AND DANGEROUS DRUG**

9 9. Benzodiazepine is a Schedule IV controlled substance as designated by Health and  
10 Safety Code section 11057 and is categorized as a dangerous drug pursuant to Code section 4022.  
11 Benzodiazepines are a class of medications that slow down activity in the brain and nervous  
12 system. They are most often used for treating anxiety and related mental health conditions, as  
13 well as brain-related conditions like seizures. Benzodiazepines slow down the central nervous  
14 system and may cause sleepiness and a relaxed mood.

15 **STATEMENT OF FACTS**

16 10. On or about February 19, 2023, at approximately 1:25 a.m., a California Highway  
17 Patrol officer responded to a Driving Under the Influence (DUI) investigation. Respondent was  
18 driving a vehicle that abruptly stopped on the freeway near a construction zone and blocked  
19 roadway. Upon speaking to Respondent, the officer noticed the odor of an alcoholic beverage  
20 emitting from his breath and person, red and watery eyes, dilated pupils, slurred speech, red and  
21 inflamed nostrils, and an unsteady gait. Respondent admitted to drinking alcoholic beverages  
22 prior to driving. At approximately 3:02 a.m., Respondent submitted to a blood sample that  
23 revealed a blood alcohol concentration of 0.05% and benzodiazepine, a controlled substance.

24 11. On the date of the DUI incident, Respondent did not have a current prescription for  
25 the controlled substance benzodiazepine. During a subsequent investigation, Respondent told a  
26 Board inspector that he consumed Diazepam the day before the DUI incident and that the  
27 Diazepam was obtained while on a trip to Thailand in September 2022.

28 ///

12. On or about April 17, 2023, in a criminal proceeding entitled *The People of the State of California vs. Saman Sazegar*, in Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, Case No. 23-CR-003552, Respondent was charged with violating Vehicle Code section 23152(f) (driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol), a misdemeanor. As of October 4, 2023 the criminal case is still pending.

**CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

**(Unprofessional Conduct - Dangerous Use of Alcohol and Drug on February 19, 2023)**

13. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301(h), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1770(a), in that Respondent used a controlled substance or dangerous drug and alcoholic beverages to the extent or in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself or any other person, or to the public. Complainant incorporates paragraphs 10 through 12, above, as if fully set forth herein.

**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 Pharmacist License Number RPH 82317, issued to Saman Sazegar;
2. Ordering Saman Sazegar to pay the Board of Pharmacy the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3; and
3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: 10/31/2023

Sodergren,  
Anne@DCA

Digitally signed by Sodergren,  
Anne@DCA  
Date: 2023.10.31 20:35:54 -07'00'

\_\_\_\_\_  
ANNE SODERGREN  
Executive Officer  
Board of Pharmacy  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
State of California  
*Complainant*