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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

FRUITVALE AVENUE PHARMACY INC., Original Permit No. PHY 53737; and

SHARON PARK,
Pharmacist License No. RPH 67769; and

TIEN MINH VO,
Pharmacist License No. RPH 59546; and

KALPESH PATEL,
Pharmacist License No. RPH 49167

Respondents

Agency Case No. 6243

OAH No. 2019120191

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval is hereby adopted by the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on December 9, 2020.

It is so ORDERED on November 9, 2020.

BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Ay n Ligge

Ву

Greg Lippe Board President

1	Xavier Becerra			
2	Attorney General of California DIANN SOKOLOFF			
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General LAURA PEDICINI			
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 200934			
5	1515 Clay Street, 20th Floor P.O. Box 70550			
6	Oakland, CA 94612-0550 Telephone: (510) 879-0269 Facsimile: (510) 622-2270 E-mail: Laura.Pedicini@doj.ca.gov			
7				
8	Attorneys for Complainant			
9	BEFORE THE			
10	BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS			
11	STATE OF CALIFORNIA			
12				
13	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 6243		
14	FRUITVALE AVENUE PHARMACY INC.	OAH No. 2019120191		
15	2693 Fruitvale Avenue Oakland, CA 94601-2034	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND		
16	Original Permit No. PHY 53737,	PUBLIC REPROVAL AS TO RESPONDENT SHARON PARK		
17	SHARON PARK	ONLY		
18	11962 Stoney Peak Drive, #1235 San Diego, CA 92128			
19	Pharmacist License No. RPH 67769,			
20	TIEN MINH VO			
21	10 Amber Aliso Viejo, CA 92656			
22	Pharmacist License No. RPH 59546,			
23	and			
24	KALPESH PATEL 82 Calle Viajera			
25	Guaynabo, PR 99969			
2627	Pharmacist License No. RPH 49167			
28	Respondents.			
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IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the aboveentitled proceedings that the following matters are true:

PARTIES

- 1. 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 Xavier Becerra, Attorney General of the State of California, by Laura Pedicini, Deputy Attorney General.
- On or about August 23, 2012, the Board issued Pharmacist License Number RPH 67769 to Sharon Park (Respondent). The Pharmacist License will expire on August 31, 2020, unless renewed.
- 3. Respondent is represented in this proceeding by attorney Ivan Petrzelka, whose address is: PO Box 552, Red Bluff, CA 96080.

JURISDICTION

- 4. Accusation No. 6243 was filed before the Board, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on May 23, 2019. Respondent timely filed her Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation.
- 5. A copy of Accusation No. 6243 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 6. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 6243. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 7. Respondent is fully aware of her 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 her; the right to present evidence and to testify on her 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.

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

CULPABILITY

- 9. Respondent understands and agrees that the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 6243, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline on her license.
- 10. For the purpose of resolving the Accusation without the expense and uncertainty of further proceedings, Respondent agrees that, at a hearing, Complainant could establish a factual basis for the charges in the Accusation, and Respondent gives up her right to contest those charges.
- 11. Respondent agrees that her Pharmacist License is subject to discipline, and she agrees to be bound by the Board's terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

CONTINGENCY

- 12. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board of Pharmacy. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board of Pharmacy may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or its counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that she may not withdraw this agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order 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.
- 13. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including PDF and facsimile signatures, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.

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- 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 67769 issued to Respondent Sharon Park, shall be publicly reproved by the Board of Pharmacy under Business and Professions Code section 495 based on the allegations set forth in Accusation No. 6243.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this decision constitutes a record of discipline and shall become a part of Respondent Park's license history with the Board.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent Park shall pay the Board a total of \$1,500.00 for its costs associated with the investigation and prosecution of this matter. Respondent shall be permitted to pay these costs in a payment plan approved by the Board or its designee. If Respondent fails to reimburse the costs as ordered and/or fails to comply with the terms of the payment plan, Respondent shall not be allowed to renew her Pharmacist license until the Board is paid in full.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Ivan Petrzelka. 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.

1	DATED:		
2	SHARON PARK Respondent		
3	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Sharon Park the terms and conditions and		
4	other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I approve its		
5	form and content.		
6	DATED:		
7	IVAN PETRZELKA Attorney for Respondent		
8			
9	ENDORSEMENT		
10	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully		
11	submitted for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy.		
12			
13	DATED: Respectfully submitted,		
14	XAVIER BECERRA Attorney General of California		
15	DIANN ŠOKOLOFF Supervising Deputy Attorney General		
16			
17	Laura Pedicini		
18	Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant		
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1	DATED: 7-1-20	
2	SHARON PARK Respondent	
3	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Sharon Park the terms and conditions and	
4	other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I approve its	
5	form and content.	
6	DATED: July 1, 2020	
7	IVAN PETRZELKA Attorney for Respondent	
8		
9	<u>ENDORSEMENT</u>	
10	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully	
11	submitted for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy.	
12	DATED: July 1, 2020 Respectfully submitted.	
13		
14	XAVIER BECERRA Attorney General of California DIANN SOKOLOFF	
15	Supervising Deputy Attorney General	
16	L Peli-	
17	Laura Pedicini	
18	Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant	
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- 11	5	

Exhibit A

Accusation No. 6243

1	V. AMER DEGERE	
$1 \parallel$	XAVIER BECERRA Attorney General of California	
2	DIANN ŠOKOLOFF	
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General LAURA PEDICINI	
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 200934	
	1515 Clay Street, 20th Floor	
5	P.O. Box 70550 Oakland, CA 94612-0550	
6	Telephone: (510) 879-0269	
7	Facsimile: (510) 622-2270 E-mail: Laura.Pedicini@doj.ca.gov	
$_{8}\parallel$	Attorneys for Complainant	
	BEFORE THE	
9	BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS	
)		CALIFORNIA
1 -]
$\ $	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 6243
$2 \parallel$	FRUITVALE AVENUE PHARMACY INC.	
3	KALPESH PATEL, OWNER	ACCUSATION
4	2693 Fruitvale Avenue	ACCUSATION
5	Oakland, CA 94601-2034	
5	Original Permit No. PHY 53737,	
7	KALPESH PATEL	
	5 Calle Castana	
3	Guaynabo, PR 00968	
9	Pharmacist No. RPH 49167,	
)	TIEN VO	
1	10 Amber	
$_{2}\parallel$	Aliso Viejo, CA 92656	
3	Pharmacist No. RPH 59546,	
4	SHARON PARK	
	3025 W. Christofferson Pkwy D-205	
5	Turlock, CA 95832	
6	Pharmacist No. RPH 67769,	
7	Respondents.	
8		
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(FRUITVALE AVENUE PHARMACY) ACCUSATION

Complainant Anne Sodergren alleges:

PARTIES

- 1. Complainant brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity as the Interim Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs.
- 2. On or about July 8, 2015, the Board of Pharmacy issued Original Permit Number PHY 53737 to Fruitvale Avenue Pharmacy Inc. (Respondent Fruitvale). Kalpesh Patel was designated owner of Fruitvale Pharmacy with 100 percent ownership shares. The Original Permit was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought within this Accusation; it expired on July 1, 2018 and was cancelled on August 9, 2018.
- 3. On or about May 11, 2007, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacist License Number RPH 59546 to Tien Vo (Respondent Vo). The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in this Accusation and will expire on August 31, 2020, unless renewed.
- 4. On or about August 23, 2012, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacist License Number RPH 67769 to Sharon Park (Respondent Park). The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in this Accusation and will expire on August 31, 2020, unless renewed.
- 5. On or about September 25, 1996, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacist License Number RPH 49167 to Kalpesh Patel (Respondent Patel). The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in this Accusation and will expire on May 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 unless otherwise indicated.
- Section 4011 of the Business and Professions Code (Code) states, in pertinent part:
 "The board shall administer and enforce this chapter and the Uniform Controlled
 Substances Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code)."

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, 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."

13. 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.

. . .

- "(f) The commission of any act involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption, whether the act is committed in the course of relations as a licensee or otherwise, and whether the act is a felony or misdemeanor or not."
 - 14. Health and Safety Code section 11153, subdivision (a), states:

"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

such prescription, the pharmacist shall contact the prescriber to obtain the information needed to validate the prescription.

- "(b) Even after conferring with the prescriber, a pharmacist shall not compound or dispense a controlled substance prescription where the pharmacist knows or has objective reason to know that said prescription was not issued for a legitimate medical purpose."
- 19. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1793.1, subdivision (a), states:

 "Only a pharmacist, or an intern pharmacist acting under the supervision of a pharmacist,
 may:
- "(a) Receive a new prescription order orally from a prescriber or other person authorized by law."

DRUGS

- 20. Hydrocodone/Ataminophen (APAP), also known by the brand name Norco, is a Schedule II controlled substance under Health and Safety Code, section 11055, subdivision (b)(1)(I) and a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is used for pain.
- 21. Fentanyl is a Schedule II controlled substance under Health and Safety Code, section 11055, subdivision (c)(8) and a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is a synthetic opioid used to treat pain.
- 22. Methadone is a Schedule II controlled substance under Health and Safety Code, section 11055, subdivision (c)(14) and a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is a narcotic used to treat pain.
- 23. Oxycodone is a Schedule II controlled substance under Health and Safety Code, section 11055, subdivision (b)(1)(M) and a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is used to treat pain.
- 24. Promethazine with codeine, also known by the brand name Phenergan with codeine, is a Schedule V controlled substance under Health and Safety Code, section 11055 and a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is used to treat coughs.
 - 25. Efavirenz/emtricitabine/tenofovir, also known by the brand name Atripla, is a

dangerous drug under Business and Professions, section 4022. It is an anti-retroviral combination drug which can be used to treat HIV infections.

- 26. Abacavir/dolutegravir/lamivudine, also known by the brand name Triumeq, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is an anti-retroviral combination drug which can be used to treat HIV infections.
- 27. Ritonavir, also known by the brand name Norvir, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is an anti-retroviral drug which can be used to treat HIV infections.
- 28. Darunavir, also known by brand name Prezista, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is an anti-retroviral drug and is often used to treat HIV infections.
- 29. Sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim, also known by brand name Bactrim DS, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is an antibiotic that can be used to treat or prevent infections.
- 30. Etravirine, also known by the brand name Intelence, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is an anti-retroviral drug and is often used to treat HIV infections.
- 31. Elvitegravir/cobicistat/emtricitabine/tenofovir, also known by the brand name Stribild, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is an anti-retroviral drug and is often used to treat HIV infections.
- 32. Rilprivirine, also known by the brand name Edurant, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is an anti-retroviral drug and is often used to treat HIV infections.
- 33. Dolutegravir, also known by the brand name Tivicay, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is an anti-retroviral drug and is often used to treat HIV infections.
- 34. Emtricitabine/tenovir, also known by the brand name Truvada, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is an anti-retroviral drug and is often used

to treat HIV infections.

- 35. Atazanavir, also known by the brand name Reyataz, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is an anti-retroviral drug and is often used to treat HIV infections.
- 36. Abacavir/lamivudine, also known by the brand name Epzicom, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is an anti-retroviral drug and is often used to treat HIV infections.
- 37. Lamivudine/zidovudine, also known by the brand name Combivir, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is an anti-retroviral drug and is often used to treat HIV infections.
- 38. Abacavir, also known by the brand name Ziagen, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is an anti-retroviral drug and is often used to treat HIV infections.
- 39. Rilpivirine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate/emtricitabine also known by the brand name Complera or Eviplera, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is an anti-retroviral drug and is often used to treat HIV infections.
- 40. Dapsone, also known by the brand name Aczone, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is used to treat skin disorders.
- 41. Lamivudine, also known by the brand name Epivir, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is an anti-retroviral drug and is often used to treat HIV infections.
- 42. Lopinavir/ritonavir, also known by the brand name Kaletra, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is an anti-retroviral drug and is often used to treat HIV infections.
- 43. Insulin glargine, also known by the brand name Lantus, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is an insulin drug used to treat diabetes.
- 44. Leucovorin is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is folic acid and is used as a chemotherapy protective drug.

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- Fosamprenavir, also known by the brand name Lexiva, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is often used to treat HIV infections.
- Novolog is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022.
- Prochlorperazine, also known by the brand name Compro, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is an antipsychotic medication.
- Sevelamer, also known by the brand name as Renvela or Renagel, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is used to control phosphorus levels
- Efavirenz, also known by the brand name Sustiva, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is often used to treat HIV infections.
- Abacavir/Dolutegravir/Lamivudine, also known by the brand name Triumeq, is a dangerous drug under Business and Professions Code, section 4022. It is an anti-retroviral drug

COST RECOVERY

Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in relevant part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case, with failure of the licentiate to comply subjecting the license to not being renewed or reinstated. If a case settles, recovery of investigation and enforcement costs may be

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

On or about July 8, 2015, Respondent Fruitvale's current pharmacy permit became effective.¹ Respondent Patel acted as Fruitvale Pharmacy's pharmacist-in-charge (PIC) from

¹ On May 6, 2015, in case number 4579, the Board filed Second Amended Accusation against Fruitvale Avenue Pharmacy Inc. and Iroegbu Clifford Esomonu, a pharmacist working at Fruitvale Pharmacy. At the time of the prior action, Fruitvale Pharmacy was operating under Pharmacy License number 50064. The Second Amended Accusation alleged 22 causes for discipline against Fruitvale Pharmacy and Esomonu arising from Fruitvale Pharmacy's failure to transmit Controlled Substances Utilization Review and Evaluation System data to the Department (continued...)

approximately July 8, 2015 to October 4, 2015. Respondent Vo acted as the PIC from approximately October 5, 2015 to December 20, 2015. Respondent Park acted as the PIC from approximately December 21, 2015 to March 25, 2016.

- 53. Alameda Health System (AHS) is a public health care system with several hospitals and wellness centers in Alameda County. Many of AHS's patients filled their prescriptions at Fruitvale Pharmacy until October 2015, when AHS added a special HIV prescription service. At that point, many AHS patients who had previously used Fruitvale Pharmacy transferred their prescriptions to AHS.
- 54. Between November 2015 and February 2016, AHS personnel, including Dr. AS, filed complaints with the Board against Respondent Fruitvale. AHS personnel noticed that Fruitvale Pharmacy had been refilling prescriptions from AHS without authorization from AHS physicians, that Fruitvale Pharmacy was refusing to fill prescriptions for patients if they did not have all of their prescriptions filled at Fruitvale Pharmacy, that Fruitvale Pharmacy was continuing to fill prescriptions after discontinuation notices had been sent to the pharmacy, that an individual from Fruitvale Pharmacy was contacting patients who decided to switch pharmacies and asking them why, and that Fruitvale Pharmacy was continuing to fill prescriptions for patients who had informed Fruitvale Pharmacy that they wished to use a different pharmacy.
- 55. After receiving these complaints, the Board inspected Fruitvale Pharmacy twice on March 22, 2016, and February 15, 2017. The Board's inspectors spoke with the pharmacists, collected documents, reviewed Respondent Fruitvale's policies and procedures, and spoke with other personnel.
- 56. During the course of their inspections, the inspectors discovered that between approximately July 8, 2015, and February 15, 2017, Dr. AS and her agents had sent orders to

of Justice and Esomonu's filling of approximately 350 fraudulent prescriptions, many of which were for large quantities of controlled substances. As a result of this action, Fruitvale Pharmacy

surrenders became effective on July 8, 2015. Respondent Patel purchased Fruitvale Pharmacy's

business and he obtained a new pharmacy permit. Fruitvale Pharmacy operated during the time

surrendered its pharmacy permit and Esomonu surrendered his pharmacist license. The

relevant to the charges brought in this Accusation.

^{(...}continued)

Respondent Fruitvale to discontinue medications and that some of these patients also submitted consent forms to Respondent Fruitvale indicating that they wished to fulfill their prescriptions at other pharmacies. Despite receiving these notifications, Respondent Fruitvale continued to fill and dispense prescriptions for approximately 14 patients.

- 57. The inspectors discovered that between January 1, 2015, and December 31, 2016, Respondent Fruitvale refilled prescriptions early for approximately 48 patients by refilling the prescriptions every 24 days instead of on a monthly basis of 30-31 days. This resulted in patients receiving 14 or 15 refills per year, an excessive amount of refills beyond the standard 12 monthly refills per year. These prescriptions were for Arithromycin, Atripla, Combivir, Complera, Dapsone, Edurant, Epivir, Epzicom, Intelence, Kaletra, Lantus, Leucovorin, Lexiva, Norvir, Novolog, Prezista, Prochlorperazine, Renagel, Reyataz, Simvastatin, Bactrim DS, Staudine, Stribild, Sustiva, Tivicay, Triumeq, Truvada, and Ziagen.
- 58. The inspectors discovered that between July 8, 2015, and February 15, 2017, Respondent Fruitvale refilled 629 prescriptions from AHS for dangerous drugs even though the refills had not been authorized by the prescriber at AHS.
- 59. The inspectors discovered that between July 8, 2015, and February 15, 2017, Respondent Fruitvale had allowed C.E., a previously licensed pharmacist who surrendered his license after an accusation was filed against him, to work as a pharmacy clerk and to orally take approximately 33 new prescriptions over the phone. C.E. had previously worked as a licensed pharmacist at Fruitvale Pharmacy and after he surrendered his license in July 2015, C.E. continued to work at Fruitvale Pharmacy until some point in 2016.
- 60. The inspectors discovered that on January 4, 2017; February 2, 2017; and February 4, 2017, Respondent Fruitvale filled three prescriptions for controlled substances even though the prescriptions did not have the required watermark, the thermochromic ink feature, and a statement that the prescription would be void if the number of drugs prescribed was not noted. Two prescriptions were for Norco and methadone, and the third prescription was for fentanyl and oxycodone.

- 61. The inspectors discovered that between July 8, 2015 and February 15, 2017, Respondent Fruitvale dispensed controlled substances where the underlying prescriptions had multiple cues of irregularity and uncertainty related the patients and prescriber. Respondent Fruitvale dispensed approximately 1,425 controlled substance prescriptions written by Dr. Hai Van Nguyen,² even though the prescriptions had similar prescribing patterns, the prescriptions were filled in groups, and Dr. Nguyen had been disciplined by the California Medical Board. 498 of these prescriptions were for promethazine with codeine syrup and 927 of these prescriptions were for hydrocodone/acetaminophen.
- 62. The inspectors discovered that Respondent Fruitvale could not account for 124 bottles of Atripla, 27 bottles of Truvada, 10 bottles of Norvir, 13 bottles of Prezista, and 34 bottles of Reyataz.

CAUSES OF DISCIPLINE AGAINST RESPONDENT FRUITVALE

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE (Unprofessional Conduct: Moral, Turpitude, Dishonesty, Deceit, or Corruption) (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4301, subd. (a)))

63. Respondent Fruitvale's Pharmacy License is subject to disciplinary action because it engaged in unprofessional conduct by committing acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4301, subd. (a).) Respondent Fruitvale filled discontinued prescriptions, prescriptions for customers who indicated that they no longer wished to use Respondent Fruitvale's services, and prescriptions for 48 patients on an early basis. The circumstances are explained in paragraphs 53 to 58, above.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE (Unprofessional Conduct: Refilled Prescription for Dangerous Drug or Device, Prescriber) (Bus. & Prof. Code, §§ 4301, subd. (j), 4063)

64. Respondent Fruitvale's Pharmacy License is subject to disciplinary action because it engaged in unprofessional conduct by refilling prescriptions for dangerous drugs without

² On March 20, 2014, the Medical Board of California filed Accusation No. 12 2011 216564 against Dr. Nguyen's medical license. The Accusation alleged numerous causes for discipline including several causes for discipline for prescribing dangerous drugs without appropriate prior examination and indication. The Medical Board placed Dr. Nguyen's license and placed restrictions on his ability to prescribe controlled substances.

prescriber authorization. (Bus. & Prof. Code, §§ 4301, subd. (j), 4063.) The circumstances are explained in paragraphs 53 to 56 and paragraph 59, above.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct: Prescriptions Taken by an Unlicensed Pharmacist) (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4301, subd. (j); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 16, § 1793.1, subd. (a))

65. Respondent Fruitvale's Pharmacy License is subject to disciplinary action because it engaged in unprofessional conduct by allowing an unlicensed individual to orally receive 33 new prescription orders. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4301, subd. (j); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 16, § 1793.1, subd. (a).) The circumstances are explained in paragraphs 53 to 56 and paragraph 60, above.

FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct: Dispensing Controlled Substances on Prescriptions Lacking Required Features)
(Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4301, subd. (j); Health & Saf. Code, § 11162.1, subd. (a)(2)(4)(8))

66. Respondent Fruitvale's Pharmacy License is subject to disciplinary action because it engaged in unprofessional conduct by filling three prescriptions for controlled substances that were missing certain required features. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4301, subd. (j); Health & Saf. Code, § 11162.1, subd. (a)(2)(4)(8).) Specifically, the prescriptions were missing a required watermark, a feature in thermochromic ink, and a required statement. The circumstances are explained in paragraphs 53 to 56 and paragraph 61, above.

FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct: Failure to Verify Legitimacy of Prescriptions for Controlled Substances)
(Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4301, subd. (d); Health & Saf. Code, § 11153, subd. (a))

67. Respondent Fruitvale's Pharmacy License is subject to disciplinary action because it engaged in unprofessional conduct by excessively furnishing controlled substances. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4301, subd. (d); Health & Saf. Code, § 11153, subd. (a).) Between July 8, 2015, and February 15, 2017, Respondent Fruitvale dispensed 1,425 controlled substances for a doctor who had similar prescribing patterns for individual patients, filled the prescriptions for controlled substances in groups, and filled prescriptions issued by a doctor who had been subject to discipline. The circumstances are further explained in paragraphs 53 to 56 and paragraph 62, above.

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NINTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct: Prescriptions Taken by an Unlicensed Pharmacist) (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4301, subd. (j); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 16, § 1793.1, subd. (a))

71. Respondent Vo's Pharmacist License is subject to disciplinary action because while acting as the PIC of Respondent Fruitvale, he engaged in unprofessional conduct by allowing an unlicensed individual to orally receive approximately 10 new prescription orders. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4301, subd. (j); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 16, § 1793.1, subd. (a).) The circumstances are explained in paragraphs 53 to 56 and paragraph 60, above.

TENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct: Failure to Verify Legitimacy of Prescriptions for Controlled Substances)

(Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4301, subd. (d); Health & Saf. Code, § 11153, subd. (a))

72. Respondent Vo's Pharmacist License is subject to disciplinary action because while acting as the PIC of Respondent, he engaged in unprofessional conduct by excessively furnishing controlled substances. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4301, subd. (d); Health & Saf. Code, § 11153, subd. (a).) While Respondent Vo was PIC, Respondent Fruitvale dispensed controlled substances for a doctor who had similar prescribing patterns for individual patients, filled the prescriptions for controlled substances in groups, and filled prescriptions issued by a doctor who had been subject to discipline. The circumstances are further explained in paragraphs 53 to 56 and paragraph 62, above.

CAUSES OF DISCIPLINE AGAINST RESPONDENT PARK ELEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct: Moral, Turpitude, Dishonesty, Deceit, or Corruption) (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4301, subd. (a)))

73. Respondent Park's Pharmacist License is subject to disciplinary action because while acing as the PIC of Respondent Fruitvale, she engaged in unprofessional conduct by committing acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4301, subd. (a).) Respondent Park filled discontinued prescriptions, prescriptions for customers who indicated that they no longer wished to use Respondent Fruitvale's services, and prescriptions for patients on an early basis. The circumstances are explained in paragraphs 53 to 58, above.

1	CAUSES OF DISCIPLINE AGAINST RESPONDENT PATEL		
2	FIFTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE (Unprofessional Conduct: Moral, Turpitude, Dishonesty, Deceit, or Corruption)		
3	(Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4301, subd. (a)))		
4	77. Respondent Patel's Pharmacist License is subject to disciplinary action because while		
5	acing as the PIC of Respondent Fruitvale, he engaged in unprofessional conduct by committing		
6	acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption. (Bus. & Prof. Code, §		
7	4301, subd. (a).) Respondent Patel filled discontinued prescriptions and prescriptions for		
8	customers who indicated that they no longer wished to use Respondent Fruitvale's services. The		
9	circumstances are explained in paragraphs 53 to 58, above.		
10	SIXTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE (Unprofessional Conduct: Refilled Prescription for Dangerous Drug or Device, Prescriber		
11	(Bus. & Prof. Code, §§ 4301, subd. (j), 4063)		
12	78. Respondent Patel's Pharmacist License is subject to disciplinary action because while		
13	acting as the PIC of Respondent Fruitvale, he engaged in unprofessional conduct by refilling		
14	prescriptions for dangerous drugs without prescriber authorization. (Bus. & Prof. Code, §§ 4301		
15	subd. (j), 4063.) While Respondent Patel was PIC, Respondent Fruitvale dispensed		
16	approximately 157 prescription refills without prescriber authorization. The circumstances are		
17	explained in paragraphs 53 to 56 and paragraph 59, above.		
18 19	SEVENTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE (Unprofessional Conduct: Prescriptions Taken by an Unlicensed Pharmacist) (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4301, subd. (j); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 16, § 1793.1, subd. (a))		
20	79. Respondent Patel's Pharmacist License is subject to disciplinary action because while		
21	acting as the PIC of Respondent Fruitvale, he engaged in unprofessional conduct by allowing an		
22	unlicensed individual to orally receive approximately 12 new prescription orders. (Bus. & Prof.		
23	Code, § 4301, subd. (j); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 16, § 1793.1, subd. (a).) The circumstances are		
24	explained in paragraphs 53 to 56 and paragraph 60, above.		
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EIGHTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct: Failure to Verify Legitimacy of Prescriptions for Controlled Substances)

(Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4301, subd. (d); Health & Saf. Code, § 11153, subd. (a))

80. Respondent Patel's Pharmacist License is subject to disciplinary action because while acting as the PIC of Respondent Fruitvale, he engaged in unprofessional conduct by excessively furnishing controlled substances. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4301, subd. (d); Health & Saf. Code, § 11153, subd. (a).) While Respondent Patel was PIC, Respondent Fruitvale dispensed controlled substances for a doctor who had similar prescribing patterns for individual patients, filled the prescriptions for controlled substances in groups, and filled prescriptions issued by a doctor who had been subject to discipline. The circumstances are further explained in paragraphs 53 to 56 and paragraph 62, above.

NINETEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct: Failure to Maintain Records of Disposition) (Bus. & Prof. Code, §§ 4081, subd. (a), 4301, subd. (j); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 16, § 1718)

81. Respondent Patel's Pharmacist License is subject to disciplinary action because while acting as the PIC of Respondent Fruitvale, he engaged in unprofessional conduct by failing to maintain records of the sale, acquisition, receipt, shipment, or disposition of dangerous drugs. (Bus. & Prof. Code, §§ 4081, subd. (a), 4301, subd. (j); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 16, § 1718.) Respondent Fruitvale could not account for 124 bottles of Atripla, 27 bottles of Truvada, 10 bottles of Norvir, 13 bottles of Prezista, and 34 bottles of Reyataz. The circumstances are further explained in paragraphs 53 to 56 and paragraph 63, above.

OTHER MATTERS

- 82. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Original Permit No. PHY 53737 issued to Fruitvale Avenue Pharmacy Inc., Fruitvale Avenue Pharmacy Inc. 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 53737 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 53737 is reinstated if it is revoked.
- 83. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Original Permit No. PHY 53737 issued to Fruitvale Avenue Pharmacy Inc. while Kalpesh Patel was an owner and had knowledge of or knowingly participated in any conduct for which the license was disciplined,

1	May 10, 2019	anne Sodergran
2	DATED:	_
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4		Board of Pharmacy Department of Consumer Affairs tate of California
5		Complainant
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		21 (FRUITVALE AVENUE PHARMACY) ACCUSATION