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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

OPTUMRX INC., dba
OPTUMRX,
Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 47482;

and

SHAWN JASON BJORNDAL, Pharmacist License No. RPH 65593,

Respondents.

Agency Case No. 6638

OAH No. 2020060711.1

#### **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 1, 2022.

It is so ORDERED on March 2, 2022.

BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Seung W. Oh, Pharm.D.

**Board President** 

1	ROB BONTA		
2	Attorney General of California GREGORY J. SALUTE Supervising Deputy Attorney General DESIREE I. KELLOGG		
3			
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 126461		
5	600 West Broadway, Suite 1800 San Diego, CA 92101		
San Diego, CA 92101 P.O. Box 85266 San Diego, CA 92186-5266			
7	Telephone: (619) 738-9429		
8	Attorneys for Complainant		
9			
10	BEFOR BOARD OF I	RE THE PHARMACY	
11	DEPARTMENT OF C STATE OF C	ONSUMER AFFAIRS	
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 6638	
13	OPTUMRX INC., DBA OPTUMRX	OAH No. 2020060711.1	
14	2858 Loker Avenue East, Ste. 100 Carlsbad, CA 92010	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND	
15	Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 47482,	DISCIPLINARY ORDER AS TO OPTUMRX, INC. ONLY	
16	and	AND	
17	SHAWN JASON BJORNDAL	WITHDRAWAL OF THIRD	
18	2858 Loker Ave., East #100 Carlsbad, CA 92010	AMENDED ACCUSATION, AS TO SHAWN JASON BJORNDAL, ONLY	
19	Pharmacist License No. RPH 65593		
20	Respondents.		
21			
22	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AC	GREED by and between the parties to the above-	
23	entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:		
24	<u>PAR'</u>	<u>TIES</u>	
25	1. Anne Sodergren (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy		
26	(Board). She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this matter by		
27	Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of California, by Desiree I. Kellogg, Deputy Attorney		
28	General and Kristina Jarvis, Deputy Attorney Ge	neral.	

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- 2. OptumRx, Inc., dba OptumRx (Respondent OptumRx) is acting in this proceeding through Christopher R. Zaetta, Chief Legal Officer of Optum, Inc., who has been designated and authorized by Respondent OptumRx to enter into this agreement on its behalf.
- 3. Respondent OptumRx is represented in this proceeding by attorney Alissa Brice Castañeda of Quarles & Brady LLP, whose address is: Renaissance One, Two North Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85004-2391.
- 4. On or about March 22, 2006, the Board issued Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 47482 (Carlsbad Pharmacy Permit) to Respondent OptumRx for a pharmacy located at 2858 Loker Avenue East, Ste. 100, Carlsbad, CA 92010 (Carlsbad Pharmacy). The Carlsbad Pharmacy Permit was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Third Amended Accusation No. 6638, and will expire on March 1, 2022, unless renewed.
- 5. Shawn Jason Bjorndal (Respondent Bjorndal, collectively with Respondent OptumRx: "Respondents") is represented in this proceeding by attorneys Jonathan Klein and Sweta Patel of Klein, Hockel, Iezza & Patel P.C., whose address is 1981 N. Broadway, Ste. 220, Walnut Creek, CA 94596-3877.
- 6. On or about July 27, 2011, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacist License Number RPH 65593 to Respondent Bjorndal. The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Third Amended Accusation No. 6638 and will expire on May 31, 2023, unless renewed.

#### **JURISDICTION**

- 7. Third Amended Accusation No. 6638 was filed before the Board, and is currently pending against Respondents. The Third Amended Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondents on August 16, 2021. Respondents timely filed their Notices of Defense contesting the Accusation, which are automatically applied to the Third Amended Accusation.
- 8. A copy of Third Amended Accusation No. 6638 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

- 9. Respondents have carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understand the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 6638. Respondents have also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understand the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 10. Respondents are fully aware of their legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against it; the right to present evidence and to testify on its own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 11. Respondents voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waive and give up each and every right set forth above.

#### **CULPABILITY**

- 12. Respondents deny the charges and allegations in the Third Amended Accusation, but for the purpose of resolving the Third Amended Accusation without the expense and uncertainty of further proceedings, Respondents hereby gives up their rights to contest those charges.
- 13. Respondent OptumRx agrees that the Carlsbad Pharmacy is subject to discipline and that the Carlsbad Pharmacy is bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.
- 14. Respondent Bjorndal agrees to be bound by the Board's terms as to him specifically set forth below.

#### **CONTINGENCY**

15. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be subject to approval by the Board. Respondents understand and agree that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondents or their counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondents understand and agree that they may not withdraw their agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation 263593467 v1

prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order 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.

- 16. Respondent Bjorndal understands and agrees that if Respondent OptumRx does not enter into this stipulation or if the Board decides not to issue both the Decision and Order adopting this stipulated settlement, then this stipulation shall be void, unenforceable and inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and this stipulation shall not disqualify or inhibit the Board from further action against Respondent Bjorndal.
- 17. 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 thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 18. 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.
- 19. In consideration of the foregoing stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order as to Respondent OptumRx and impose the following terms as to Respondent Bjorndal:

#### **DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AS TO RESPONDENT OPTUMRX that Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 47482 issued to Respondent OptumRx Inc., dba OptumRx is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and the Carlsbad Pharmacy is placed on probation for one (1) year on the following terms and conditions:

1. **Definition: Disciplined Premises** For the purposes of these terms and conditions, 263593467 v1

"Disciplined Premises" shall refer to the Carlsbad Pharmacy. All terms and conditions stated herein shall bind and be applicable to the licensed premises and to all owners, managers, officers, administrators, members, directors, trustees, associates, or partners thereof. For purposes of compliance with any term or condition, any report, submission, filing, payment, or appearance required to be made by Respondent OptumRx to or before the Board or its designee shall be made by an owner or executive officer with authority to act on behalf of and legally bind the licensed entity. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order does not prohibit or preclude Respondent OptumRx or any of its affiliates from obtaining a California pharmacy license in the future.

#### 2. Obey All Laws

Disciplined Premises shall obey all state and federal laws and regulations.

Disciplined Premises 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; or
- discipline, citation, or other administrative action filed by any state or federal agency
  which involves Respondent's pharmacy license or which is related to the practice of
  pharmacy or the manufacturing, obtaining, handling or distributing, billing, or charging
  for any dangerous drug, and/or dangerous device or controlled substance.

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

#### 3. Report to the Board

Disciplined Premises shall report to the Board quarterly, on a schedule as directed by the Board or its designee. The report shall be made either in person or in writing, as directed. Among other requirements, Disciplined Premises shall state in each report under penalty of perjury whether there has been compliance with all the terms and conditions of probation. Failure to submit timely 263593467 v1

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

#### 4. **Interview with the Board**

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

#### 5. Cooperate with Board Staff

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

#### 6. Reimbursement of Board Costs

As a condition precedent to successful completion of Disciplined Premises' probation, Respondent OptumRx shall pay to the Board its costs of investigation and prosecution in the amount of \$140,264.25 no later than sixty days from the effective date of the Decision and Order. Failure to pay costs within sixty days of the effective date of the Decision and Order shall be considered a violation of probation.

#### 7. **Probation Monitoring Costs**

Respondent OptumRx 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 263593467 v1

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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.

#### 8. **Status of License**

Subject to Paragraph 9, the Disciplined Premises shall, at all times while on probation, maintain a current pharmacy permit with the Board. Failure to maintain current licensure shall be considered a violation of probation.

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

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

Following the effective date of this Decision and Order, should Disciplined Premises wish to discontinue business, the Disciplined Premises may tender the Carlsbad Pharmacy Permit to the Board for surrender. The Board or its designee shall have the discretion whether to grant the request for surrender, or take any other action it deems appropriate and reasonable. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender of the license, the Disciplined Premises will no longer be subject to the terms and conditions of probation.

Respondent OptumRx further stipulates that it shall reimburse the Board for its costs of investigation and prosecution, as reflected in Paragraph 6, prior to the acceptance of the surrender.

#### 10. Sale or Discontinuance of Business

During the period of probation, should Respondent OptumRx sell, trade or transfer all or part of the ownership of the Disciplined Premises, discontinue doing business under the license issued to Respondent OptumRx, or should practice at that location be assumed by another full or partial owner, person, firm, business, or entity, under the same or a different premises license number, the Board or its designee shall have the sole discretion to determine whether to exercise continuing jurisdiction over the licensed location, under the current or new premises license number, and/or carry the remaining period of probation forward to be applicable to the current or new premises license number of the new owner. 263593467 v1

#### 11. Notice to Employees

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Respondent OptumRx shall, upon or before the effective date of this Decision and Order, ensure that all employees involved in permit operations are made aware of all the terms and conditions of probation, either by posting a notice of the terms and conditions, circulating such notice, or both. If the notice required by this provision is posted, it shall be posted in a prominent place and shall remain posted throughout the probation period. Respondent OptumRx shall ensure that any employees of the Disciplined Premises hired or used after the effective date of this Decision and Order are made aware of the terms and conditions of probation by posting a notice, circulating a notice, or both. Additionally, Respondent OptumRx shall submit written notification to the Board, within fifteen (15) days of the effective date of this Decision and Order, that this term has been satisfied. Failure to timely provide such notification to employees, or to timely submit such notification to the Board shall be considered a violation of probation.

"Employees" as used in this provision includes all full-time, part-time, volunteer, temporary and relief employees and independent contractors employed or hired by the Disciplined Premises at any time during probation.

#### 12. Owners and Officers: Knowledge of the Law

Respondent OptumRx shall provide, within thirty (30) days after the effective date of this Decision and Order, signed and dated statements from its owners, including any owner or holder of ten percent (10%) or more of the interest in Respondent OptumRx or Respondent OptumRx's stock, and all of its officers, stating under penalty of perjury that said individuals have read and are familiar with state and federal laws and regulations governing the practice of pharmacy. The failure to timely provide said statements under penalty of perjury shall be considered a violation of probation.

#### 13. Premises Open for Business

Subject to Paragraph 9, the Disciplined Premises shall remain open and operate as a pharmacy in California for a minimum of sixty hours per calendar month. Any month during which this minimum is not met shall toll the period of probation, i.e., the period of probation shall be extended by one month for each month during with this minimum is not met. During any such 263593467 v1

period of tolling of probation, Respondent OptumRx must nonetheless comply with all terms and conditions of probation, unless Respondent OptumRx is informed otherwise in writing by the Board or its designee. If the Disciplined Premises is not open and engaged in its ordinary business as a pharmacy for a minimum of sixty hours in any calendar month, for any reason (including vacation), the Disciplined Premises shall notify the board in writing within ten (10) days of the conclusion of that calendar month. This notification shall include at minimum all of the following: the date(s) and hours respondent was open; the reason(s) for the interruption or why business was not conducted; and the anticipated date(s) on which respondent will resume business as required. Respondent OptumRx shall further notify the Board in writing with ten (10) days following the next calendar month during which the Disciplined Premises is open and engaged in its ordinary business as a pharmacy in California for a minimum of sixty hours. Any failure to timely provide such notification(s) shall be considered a violation of probation.

#### 14. **Posted Notice of Probation**

Respondent OptumRx shall prominently post a probation notice provided by the Board or its designee in a place conspicuous to and readable by the public within two days of receipt thereof from the Board or its designee. Failure to timely post such notice, or to maintain the posting during the entire period of probation, shall be considered a violation of probation.

In addition, Respondent OptumRx shall prominently post a probation notice similar to that provided by the Board or its designee on Respondent OptumRx's website in a place that is likely to be frequented by California consumers and health care providers.

Respondent OptumRx shall not, directly or indirectly, engage in any conduct or make any statement which is intended to mislead or is likely to have the effect of misleading any patient, customer, member of the public, or other person(s) as to the nature of and reason for the probation of the licensed entity.

#### 15. Violation of Probation

If the Disciplined Premises has not complied with any term or condition of probation, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction over the Disciplined Premises and probation shall be automatically extended, until all terms and conditions have been satisfied or the Board has taken 263593467 v1

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other action as deemed appropriate to treat the failure to comply as a violation of probation, to terminate probation, and to impose the penalty that was stayed.

If the Disciplined Premises violates probation in any respect, the Board, after giving the Disciplined Premises notice and an opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. If a petition to revoke probation or an accusation is filed against the Disciplined Premises during probation, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction and the period of probation shall be automatically extended until the petition to revoke probation or accusation is heard and decided.

#### 16. **Completion of Probation**

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

#### 17. Administrative Fine

Respondent OptumRx shall pay an administrative fine in the amount of \$100,000 and make an in-kind charitable donation valued at \$75,000 or more, as part of the fine as follows. No later than 30 days from the effective date of the Decision and Order, Respondent OptumRx shall pay \$100,000 to the Board. No later than 60 days from the effective date of the Decision and Order, Respondent OptumRx shall furnish documentation showing it made an in-kind charitable donation, valued at \$75,000 or more, to a 501(c)(3) registered charity that assists underserved communities in California. If Respondent OptumRx fails to pay the Board and make the charitable donation as ordered, Respondent shall not be allowed to renew its Carlsbad Pharmacy Permit until OptumRx pays the Board. In addition, if Respondent does not furnish the Board with documentation that it has made the in-kind charitable donation as described within 60 days from the date of the Decision and Order, \$175,000 total, minus any amounts paid by Respondent OptumRx to the Board, shall be due and payable to the Board and the Board may enforce this order in any appropriate court, in addition to any other rights the Board may have.

#### 18. Acknowledgment of Pharmacist Consultation Requirements

Within 30 days from the effective date of the Decision and Order, Respondent OptumRx must provide the Board with (1) a copy of the written notice provided to all patients about the right 263593467 v1

to request and receive a pharmacist consultation (per California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1707.2, subdivision (b)); (2) documentation of Respondent OptumRx's rules or guidelines for customer service representatives to orally provide customers with notice of their right to a Respondent OptumRx pharmacist consultation, including the telephone number from which a patient may obtain oral consultation from a Respondent OptumRx pharmacist and the time frame within which the call will occur; (3) a detailed written description of training provided to customer service representatives about how to provide this notice and the telephone number from which a patient may obtain the oral consultation from a Respondent OptumRx pharmacist; (4) a statement confirming Respondent OptumRx will fulfill its obligations to provide direct pharmacist consults when required by California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1707.2; and (5), Respondent OptumRx's Pharmacist-In-Charge (PIC) shall provide a separate written approval of the above-listed submissions, as well as a specific acknowledgement that Respondent must provide direct pharmacist consults when required by California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1707.2.

IT IS ALSO HEREBY ORDERED AS TO RESPONDENT BJORNDAL that subject to and within 60 days of the effective date of the Board's Decision and Order and OptumRx's compliance with the terms of the Decision and Order which have come due at or before that time, Complainant shall withdraw the pending Third Amended Accusation as to Shawn Jason Bjorndal only and Shawn Jason Bjorndal shall comply with the following terms.

Ethics Course. Within 60 days from the date of the withdrawal of the Third Amended Accusation, Respondent Bjorndal shall enroll in an ethics course (in-person or webinar), at Respondent Bjorndal's expense, approved in advance by the Board or its designee, that complies with Title 16, California Code of Regulations, section 1773.5. Within 5 days of enrollment, Bjorndal shall provide proof of enrollment. Within 5 days of completion of the course, Respondent Bjorndal shall submit a copy of the certificate of completion to the Board or its designee. Respondent Bjorndal shall not be allowed to renew his pharmacist license until he submits a copy of the certificate of completion as required by this term. Failure to timely enroll in an approved ethics course, to provide required documentation to the board, or to successfully complete the ethics course shall be considered unprofessional conduct and may subject Respondent Bjorndal to the

filing of an administrative action

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**Payment.** Within 60 days from the date of the withdrawal of the Third Amended Accusation, Respondent Bjorndal shall pay the Board administrative costs in the amount of \$2,000.

Approval of Pharmacist Consultation Requirements. Respondent Bjorndal shall be ordered to demonstrate approval of pharmacist consultation requirements as follows: Within 30 days from the effective date of the Decision and Order, Respondent Bjorndal shall acknowledge in a letter to the Board, signed under penalty of perjury, that he understands and agrees that all pharmacies licensed in California, including OptumRx, must provide direct pharmacist consults when required by California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1707.2. Respondent Bjorndal shall acknowledge and agree that as a PIC he is aware of and understands Code sections 4113 and 4330, subdivision (b).

#### **ACCEPTANCE**

I, Christopher R. Zaetta, Chief Legal Officer of Optum, Inc., have been authorized to act on OptumRx's behalf in this matter, and have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with its counsel, Alissa Brice Castañeda. Respondent OptumRx understands the stipulation and the effect it will have on its Carlsbad Pharmacy Permit. On behalf of OptumRx, Inc, as its authorized representative, I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and OptumRx, Inc agrees to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Pharmacy.

DATED: 21

OPTUMRX, INC., DBA OPTUMRX Respondent

Name: Christopher R. Zaetta Title: Chief Legal Officer, Optum, Inc.

*Authorized Representative* 

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#### **ACCEPTANCE**

I, Christopher R. Zaetta, Chief Legal Officer of Optum, Inc., have been authorized to act on OptumRx's behalf in this matter, and have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with its counsel, Alissa Brice Castañeda. Respondent OptumRx understands the stipulation and the effect it will have on its Carlsbad Pharmacy Permit. On behalf of OptumRx, Inc, as its authorized representative, I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and OptumRx, Inc agrees to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Pharmacy.

20 DATED: 02/02/2022 21 Respondent 22 23 *Authorized Representative* 24 /// 25 /// 26 /// 27 ///

OPTUMRX, INC., DBA OPTUMRX

Name: Christopher R. Zaetta

Title: Chief Legal Officer, Optum, Inc.

1	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent OptumRx Inc., dba OptumRx the terms	
2	and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary	
3	Order. I approve its form and content.	
4		
5	DATED: ALISSA BRICE CASTANEDA	
6	Attorney for Respondent OPTUMRX, INC., DBA OPTUMRX	
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8		
9	I have carefully read and understand the above Stipulated Settlement and have fully	
10	discussed it with my attorneys, Jonathan Klein and Sweta Patel. I enter into this Stipulated	
11	Settlement voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by its terms.	
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13	DATED: SHAWN JASON BJORNDAL	
14	Respondent	
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16	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Shawn Jason Bjorndal the terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement. I approve its form and	
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18	content.	
19	DATED:	
20	SWETA PATEL Attorney for Respondent Bjorndal	
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23	<u>ENDORSEMENT</u>	
24	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully	
25	submitted for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy.	
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1	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent OptumRx Inc., dba OptumRx the terms	
2	and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary	
3	Order. I approve its form and content.	
4	DATED. 02/01/2022	
5	DATED: 02/01/2022 ALISSA BRICE CASTANEDA	
6	Attorney for Respondent OPTUMRx, INC., DBA OPTUMRx	
7		
8	I have carefully read and understand the above Stipulated Settlement and have fully	
9	discussed it with my attorneys, Jonathan Klein and Sweta Patel. I enter into this Stipulated	
10	Settlement voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by its terms.	
11	section on veranually, and migry, and agree to be beautifully	
12	DATED:	
13	SHAWN JASON BJORNDAL	
14	Respondent	
15	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Shawn Jason Bjorndal the terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement. I approve its form and	
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17	content.	
18	content.	
19	DATED: SWETA PATEL	
20	Attorney for Respondent Bjorndal	
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23	<u>ENDORSEMENT</u>	
24	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully	
25	submitted for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy.	
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1	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent OptumRx Inc., dba OptumRx the terms		
2	and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary		
3	Order. I approve its form and content.		
4 5	DATED:		
6	ALISSA BRICE CASTANEDA Attorney for Respondent OPTUMRX, INC., DBA OPTUMRX		
7			
8	I have carefully read and understand the above Stipulated Settlement and have fully		
9	discussed it with my attorneys, Jonathan Klein and Sweta Patel. I enter into this Stipulated		
10	Settlement voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by its terms.		
11			
12	DATED: 2/1/2011 Som		
13	SHAWN JASON BJORNDAL Respondent		
14			
15	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Shawn Jason Bjorndal the terms and		
16	conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement. I approve its form and		
17 18	content.		
19	DATED:		
20	SWETA PATEL Attorney for Respondent Bjorndal		
21			
22			
23	ENDORSEMENT		
24	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully		
25	submitted for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy.		
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1	DATED:	Respectfully submitted,
2		ROB BONTA Attorney General of California
3		Attorney General of California GREGORY J. SALUTE Supervising Deputy Attorney General
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6		DESIREE I. KELLOGG
7 8		Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant
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1	DATED:	February 2, 2022	Respectfully submitted,
2			ROB BONTA Attorney General of California
3			Attorney General of California ANDREW M. STEINHEIMER Supervising Deputy Attorney General
4			Supervising Deputy Attorney General
5			N-1- 0
6			Muslin Junio KRISTINA T. JARVIS
7			Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant
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#### Exhibit A

Third Amended Accusation No. 6638

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	ROB BONTA Attorney General of California GREGORY J. SALUTE Supervising Deputy Attorney General DESIREE ICAZA KELLOGG Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 126461 600 West Broadway, Suite 1800 San Diego, CA 92101 P.O. Box 85266 San Diego, CA 92186-5266 Telephone: (619) 738-9415 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061 Attorneys for Complainant  BEFOR BOARD OF P	HARMACY
11	STATE OF C	
12	T d M w Cd A d d	
	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 6638
13	OPTUMRX INC. DBA OPTUMRX	THIRD AMENDED ACCUSATION
14	2858 Loker Avenue East, Ste. 100 Carlsbad, CA 92010-6608	
15	Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 47482	
16 17	SHAWN JASON BJORNDAL 2858 Loker Ave East, Ste 100 Carlsbad, CA 92010-6608	
18 19	Pharmacist License No. RPH 65593	
20	Respondents.	
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22	Complement allegae	
	Complainant alleges:	TATA C
23	PART	
24		s this Third Amended Accusation solely in her
25	official capacity as the Executive Officer of the B	oard of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer
26	Affairs.	
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2. On or about March 22, 2006, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacy Permit
Number PHY 47482 to OptumRx Inc., doing business as OptumRx (OptumRx). The Pharmacy
Permit was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will
expire on March 1, 2022, unless renewed.

3. On or about July 27, 2011, the Board of Pharmacy issued Pharmacist License Number RPH 65593 to Shawn Jason Bjorndal (Shawn Bjorndal). The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on May 31, 2023, unless renewed.

#### **JURISDICTION**

- 4. This Third Amended 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.
- 5. Section 4011 of the Code provides that the Board shall administer and enforce both the Pharmacy Law [Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4000 et seq.] and the Uniform Controlled Substances Act [Health & Safety Code, § 11000 et seq.].
- 6. Section 4300(a) of the Code provides that every license issued by the Board may be suspended or revoked.
  - 7. 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.

#### STATUTORY AND REGULATORY PROVISIONS

8. Section 733, subdivision (a) states:

A licentiate shall not obstruct a patient in obtaining a prescription drug or device that has been legally prescribed or ordered for that patient. A violation of this section constitutes unprofessional conduct by the licentiate and shall subject the licentiate to disciplinary or administrative action by his or her licensing agency.

#### 9. Section 4059.5, subdivision (e) states:

A dangerous drug or dangerous device shall not be transferred, sold, or delivered to a person outside this state, whether foreign or domestic, unless the transferor, seller, or deliverer does so in compliance with the laws of this state and of the United States and of the state or country to which the dangerous drugs or dangerous devices are to be transferred, sold, or delivered. Compliance with the laws of this state and the United States and of the state or country to which the dangerous drugs or dangerous devices are to be delivered shall include, but not be limited to, determining that the recipient of the dangerous drugs or dangerous devices is authorized by law to receive the dangerous drugs or dangerous devices.

#### 10. Section 4073, subdivision (c) states:

Selection pursuant to this section is within the discretion of the pharmacist, except as provided in subdivision (b). The person who selects the drug product to be dispensed pursuant to this section shall assume the same responsibility for selecting the dispensed drug product as would be incurred in filling a prescription for a drug product prescribed by generic name. There shall be no liability on the prescriber for an act or omission by a pharmacist in selecting, preparing, or dispensing a drug product pursuant to this section. In no case shall the pharmacist select a drug product pursuant to this section unless the drug product selected costs the patient less than the prescribed drug product. Cost, as used in this subdivision, is defined to include any professional fee that may be charged by the pharmacist.

#### 11. Section 4113, subdivision (c) states:

The pharmacist-in-charge shall be responsible for a pharmacy's compliance with all state and federal laws and regulations pertaining to the practice of pharmacy.

#### 12. Section 4301 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 any other state or federal regulatory agency.

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#### 13. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1707.3 states:

Prior to consultation as set forth in section 1707.2, a pharmacist shall review a patient's drug therapy and medication record before each prescription drug is delivered. The review shall include screening for severe potential drug therapy problems.

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14. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1716 states:

Pharmacists shall not deviate from the requirements of a prescription except upon the prior consent of the prescriber or to elect the drug product in accordance with Section 4073 of the Business and Professions Code.

Nothing in this regulation is intended to prohibit a pharmacist from exercising commonly accepted pharmaceutical practice in the compounding or dispensing of a prescription.

15. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1761, subdivision (a) states:

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

16. Connecticut General Statutes, Title 20, Chapter 400j, section 20-619, subdivision (i) states:

Upon the initial filling or renewal of a prescription that contains a statistical information code based upon the most recent edition of the International Classification of Diseases indicating the prescribed drug is used for the treatment of epilepsy or to prevent seizures, a pharmacist shall not fill the prescription by using a different drug manufacturer or distributor of the prescribed drug, unless the pharmacist (1) provides prior notice of the use of a different drug manufacturer or distributor to the patient and prescribing practitioner, and (2) obtains the written consent of the patient's prescribing practitioner. For purposes of obtaining the consent of the patient's prescribing practitioner required by this subsection, a pharmacist shall notify the prescribing practitioner via electronic mail or facsimile transmission. If the prescribing practitioner does not provide the necessary consent, the pharmacist shall fill the prescription without such substitution or use of a different drug manufacturer or distributor or return the prescription to the patient or to the patient's representative for filling at another pharmacy. If a pharmacist is unable to contact the patient's prescribing practitioner after making reasonable efforts to do so, such pharmacist may exercise professional judgment in refilling a prescription in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of section 20-616. For purposes of this subsection, "pharmacy" means a place of business where drugs and devices may be sold at retail and for which a pharmacy license was issued pursuant to section 20-594, including a hospital-based pharmacy when such pharmacy is filling prescriptions for employees and outpatient care, and a mail order pharmacy licensed by this state to distribute in this state. "Pharmacy" does not include a pharmacy serving patients in a long-term care facility, other institutional facility or a pharmacy that provides prescriptions for inpatient hospitals.

#### **COST RECOVERY**

17. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent 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.

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#### DRUGS

- 18. Alprazolam is the generic for Xanax and is a Schedule IV controlled substance pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 11057, subdivision (d)(1) and a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is used to treat anxiety.
- 19. Amiloride is the generic for Midador and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is a diuretic.
- 20. Atorvastatin is the generic for Lipitor and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is used to treat hypercholesteremia.
- 21. <u>Chlorthalidone</u> is the generic for Thalitone and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is used to treat hypertension.
- 22. Degludec insulin is the generic for Tresiba FlexTouch insulin injection and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is used to treat diabetes.
- 23. Dovonex is the brand name for calcipotriene and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is utilized to treat moderate plaque psoriasis.
- 24. <u>Lamotrigine ER</u> is the generic for Lamictal XR and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is utilized to prevent seizures.
- 25. Lomedia 24 FE is the generic for Larin 24 FE and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is utilized to prevent pregnancies.
- 26. Proscar is the brand name for finasteride and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is utilized to treat alopecia and benign prostatic hyperplacia.
- <u>Pravachol</u> is the brand name for pravastatin and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is utilized to treat hypercholesteremia.
- 28. Synthroid is the brand name for levothyroxine and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is utilized to treat hypothyroidism.
- 29. <u>Victoza</u> is the brand name for liraglutide and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is utilized to treat type 2 diabetes.

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30. <u>Venlafaxine</u> is the generic for Effexor and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is used to treat depression.

#### **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

31. Since January 3, 2017, Shawn Bjorndal has been the Pharmacist-in-Charge (PIC) of OptumRx. At all relevant times herein, PIC Bjorndal and OptumRx (collectively Respondents) dispensed prescription drugs to patients via mail or overnight delivery services. Respondents dispensed drugs to the following patients as described below.

#### Patient Edward F.

32. On or about December 5, 2018, Edward F.'s physician wrote Edward F. a prescription with refills for 90 tablets of amiloride 5mg and 90 tablets of venlafaxine XR 150mg. On May 9, 2019, Edward F.'s physician wrote Edward F. a prescription with refills for 90 tablets of atorvastatin 20mg. On January 7, 2019, Edward F.'s physician wrote Edward F. a prescription with refills for 90 tablets of chlorthalidone 50mg. On September 3, 2019, Edward F. requested a refill of these four drugs from Respondent OptumRx via its automated telephone system. Respondents did not immediately dispense these prescriptions. On September 13, 2019, Edward F. ran out of venlafaxine (used to treat depression) and atorvastatin. Edward F. understood venlafaxine was for depression and should be taken regularly without missing a dose. Therefore, on September 13, 2019, when he did not receive his medications and ran out of venlafaxine and atorvastatin, he called Respondent OptumRx. Respondents' customer service representative told him that Respondent OptumRx would expedite the dispensing of his medications to him. However, Respondents did not expedite the processing of Edward F.'s medications. On September 18, 2019, 15 days after placing the order for them and five days after he ran out of venlafaxine and atorvastatin, Edward F. received refills of amiloride, venlafaxine, atorvastatin and chlorthalidone from Respondents.

#### Patient Sun P.

33. Sun P. was located in the State of Connecticut. On or about February 22, 2018, Sun P.'s physician wrote Sun P. a prescription for 360 tablets of lamotrigine ER 200mg with refills in order to treat his epilepsy and prevent seizures, and the prescription specified that it should be

manufactured by PAR (Rx No. 197290325). Sun P. and/or his physician submitted that prescription to Respondents for dispensing. On or about March 6, 2018, Respondents dispensed and caused to be delivered Sun P.'s prescription of lamotrigine ER 200mg which was manufactured by TruPharma rather than PAR, without providing prior notice of the dispensing of a different manufacturer to Sun P. and his physician and without obtaining the written consent of Sun P.'s physician to a change in manufacturer. This was a violation of the laws of the State of Connecticut. Sun P.'s physician did not consent to the change in manufacturer of lamotrigine ER.

#### Patient Ken N.

34. On or about November 1, 2017, Patient Ken N.'s physician wrote Ken N. a prescription with refills for 90 tablets of pravastatin 20mg, in order to treat his hypercholesteremia (Rx No. 187696324). Ken N. and/or his physician submitted that prescription to Respondents for dispensing. On or about May 9, 2018, Respondents dispensed Ken N.'s prescription with an alopecia drug, finasteride 5mg, instead of pravastatin 20mg. Respondents' verification process did not catch this medication error.

#### Patient Joseph H.

35. On or about March 1, 2018, Joseph H.'s physician wrote Joseph H. a prescription for 12 grams of 0.005% Dovonex cream with a refill, to treat his psoriasis (Rx No. 197939463). Joseph H. and/or his physician submitted that prescription to Respondents for dispensing. However, Respondents did not have 0.005% Dovonex cream 12mg tubes in stock. Accordingly, on or about March 1, 2018, Respondent processed and dispensed two 60 gram tubes of the generic of 0.005% Dovonex cream (calcipotriene) with a co-insurance amount of \$228.02. Respondents did not clarify the quantity or grams of Dovonex needed by Joseph H. with his prescriber prior to dispensing 120 grams of Dovonex cream.

#### Patient Cheri M.

36. On or about January 11, 2018, Cheri M.'s physician wrote Cheri M. a prescription for a Victoza 2-pak 0.6mg/0.1mL (18mg/3mL) subcutaneous pen injector to treat her diabetes (Rx No. 193789662). Cheri M. and/or her physician submitted that prescription to Respondents for dispensing. However, Respondents did not fill her prescription at that time. On or about

February 12, 2018, Cheri M. contacted Respondents because she had not received her medication and requested her medication. Respondents created an order but cancelled it. On or about February 14, 2018, Cheri M. contacted Respondents again because she had not received her medication and requested her medication again. Respondents created an order but cancelled it. On or about February 16, 2018, Cheri M. contacted Respondents to inquire about the status of her medication. Respondents filled her prescription on February 20, 2018. Consequently, Cheri M. did not have her type 2 diabetes medication for approximately two weeks.

#### Patient Shannon W.

37. On or about December 26, 2017, Shannon W.'s physician wrote Shannon W. a prescription for 90 tablets of Synthroid 50mcg to treat her hypothyroidism (Rx. No. 191835776). On or about February 14, 2018, Shannon W. requested that Respondents fill her prescription for Synthroid. However, Respondents did not fill her prescription. On or about February 20, 2018, Shannon W. contacted Respondent to inquire about the status of her medication. Respondents ultimately filled her medication on February 22, 2018. Consequently, Shannon W. did not have her hypothyroidism medication for approximately two weeks.

#### Patient Isha B.

38. On or about June 8, 2016, Isha B.'s physician wrote Isha B. a prescription for 90 tablets of the brand name drug, Larin 24 FE to prevent pregnancies (Rx No. 155869767). Isha B. and/or her physician submitted the prescription to OptumRx. Due to Isha B.'s insurance plan, the brand name, Larin 24FE was less expensive than the generic, Lomedia 24 FE. On June 8, 2016, OptumRx processed, filled and dispensed Lomedia 24 FE to Isha B. and charged her \$204.14 for that medication when there was a zero co-pay for dispensing the brand, Larin 24 FE.

#### Patient Robert P.

39. Robert P. was a newly diagnosed insulin dependent diabetic. On or about August 28, 2020, Robert P's physician wrote Robert P. a new prescription for Tresiba in order to change the directions for use on his diabetic medication and transmitted it to Respondents. Robert P.'s physician was calibrating or titrating his medication and was increasing Robert P.'s dosage until Robert P.'s blood sugar was controlled. Respondents did not acknowledge receipt of the

prescription or fill it. Meanwhile, Robert P. checked on the status of his prescription via computer repeatedly, but received no update on the status of his prescription.

- 40. On September 1, 2020, Robert P. made multiple telephone calls to OptumRx, but had a difficult time speaking with any employee, including a pharmacist. Robert P. eventually spoke with a supervisor. Robert P. advised the OptumRx supervisor that he was running out of his Tresiba medication and that his physician had changed the directions for taking his Tresiba because his blood sugar was not sufficiently controlled. The OptumRx representative told Robert P. that OptumRx could not fill his prescription for Tresiba because it was too early to fill and that the cost of his medication had been denied by his insurance carrier.
- 41. A pharmacist did not review Robert P.'s Drug Utilization Review prior to Respondents' decision not to fill Robert P.'s prescription. Since Robert P. was almost out of Tresiba, he was forced to obtain a sample of it from his physician and a new prescription that was filled at a retail pharmacy.

#### Patient Laura K.

42. On August 21, 2020, Laura K. requested a refill of alprazolam. On August 23, 2020, Laura K.'s physician transmitted a prescription for alprazolam to Respondents which was placed on a "hold" because the computer system calculated a 7.5 day supply, instead of an eight day supply for "claims adjudication." Commencing on or about August 27, 2020, Laura K.'s husband contacted OptumRx five times to inquire about the status of his wife's prescription and received five different stories. None of the employees correctly identified why Laura K.'s prescription was on "hold" or released the "hold" until September 2, 2020. The prescription for alprazolam was not furnished to Laura K. until September 4, 2020. Consequently, Laura K. did not have her anxiety medication for approximately two weeks.

#### FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### (Obstructing Patients in Obtaining Prescription Drugs)

43. Respondents are subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301(o), for violating Code section 733, subdivision (a) in that they obstructed patients from obtaining their

prescription drugs, as set forth in paragraphs 31 through 42 above, which are incorporated herein by reference.

#### **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

#### (Failing to Comply with Laws of Another State when Delivering Drugs)

44. Respondents are subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301(o), for violating Code section 4059.5, subdivision (e) in that they failed to comply with the laws of another state when delivering drugs to a patient in that state, as set forth in paragraphs 31 through 42 above, which are incorporated herein by reference.

#### THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### (Substituting More Expensive Drug against Respondent OptumRx Only)

45. Respondent OptumRx is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301(o), for violating Code section 4073, subdivision (c) in that it substituted a more expensive generic drug for the less expensive brand name of that drug, as set forth in paragraphs 31 through 42 above, which are incorporated herein by reference.

#### **FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

#### (Deviating from Prescription Requirements)

46. Respondents are subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301(o), for violating California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1716, subdivision (a) in that they deviated from the requirements of a prescription, as set forth in paragraphs 31 through 42 above, which are incorporated herein by reference.

#### FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### (Failing to Validate Uncertain Prescription)

47. Respondents are subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301(o), for violating California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1761, subdivision (a) in that they dispensed an uncertain prescription, without contacting the prescriber to obtain the information needed to validate the prescription, as set forth in paragraphs 31 through 42 above, which are incorporated herein by reference.

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#### SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### (Failure to Review Drug Therapies)

48. Respondents are subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301, subdivisions (j) and (o), for violating California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1707.3, in that they failed to review patients' drug therapy and medication records and take appropriate actions, prior to consultation and the delivery of drugs, as set forth in paragraphs 31 through 42, which are incorporated herein.

#### **SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

#### (Unprofessional Conduct)

49. Respondents are subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4301 for unprofessional conduct, in that they engaged in the unprofessional activities described in paragraphs 31 through 42 above, which are incorporated herein by reference.

#### DISCIPLINE CONSIDERATIONS

- 50. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondents, Complainant alleges that:
- a. On or about January 23, 2017, in a prior disciplinary action entitled *In the Matter of the Accusation Against OptumRx, Inc., dba OptumRx*, Case Number 5413 before the Board, OptumRx's license was publically reproved by the Board under Business and Professions Code section 494 for unprofessional conduct and violations of Business and Professions Code section 733, subdivision (a), obstructing patients in obtaining prescription drugs. That decision is now final and is incorporated by reference as if fully set forth.
- b. On or about July 26, 2017, in case number Cl 2016 74253, the Board issued a Letter of Admonishment to Shawn Bjorndal pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4315 for violating Business and Professions Code section 4073, subdivision (b), dispensing an unauthorized substitution of a generic drug and California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1717.4, subdivision (h) and Health & Safety Code section 11164, subdivision (b)(1), in that he failed to validate the security, integrity and authority of controlled substances prescriptions while employed at another pharmacy.

- c. On or about July 3, 2018, in case number C1 2017 80410, the Board issued a Letter of Admonishment to Shawn Bjorndal pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4315 for violating Business and Professions Code section 733, in that he obstructed the dispensing of prescription drugs.
- d. On or about February 10, 2021, the Board issued Citation number CI 2018 84425 against OptumRx for engaging in unprofessional conduct in that it obstructed a patient from speaking to a pharmacist, then referred the patient to a pharmacist not licensed in California and located at a call center which was not licensed in California as a non-resident pharmacy. The Board issued a fine that OptumRx paid.
- e. On or about February 10, 2021, the Board issued Citation number CI 2020 90096 against Shawn Jason Bjorndal for engaging in unprofessional conduct, in that he obstructed a patient from speaking to a pharmacist, then referred the patient to a pharmacist not licensed in California and located at a call center which was not licensed in California as a non-resident pharmacy. Shawn Jason Bjorndal did not appeal the Citation.
- f. On or about September 18, 2018, the Board issued Citation number CI 2016 75859 against OptumRx for violating California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1716, deviating from the requirements of a prescription. The Board issued a fine that OptumRX paid.
- g. On or about September 13, 2018, the Board issued Citation number CI 2017 77718 against OptumRx for engaging in acts of dishonesty as defined by Business and Professions Code section 4301, subdivision (f). The Board issued a fine that OptumRx paid.
- h. On or about July 3, 2018, the Board issued Citation number CI 2017 76295 against OptumRx for violating Business and Professions Code section 733, subdivision (a), in that it obstructed the dispensing of prescriptions drugs. The Board issued a fine that OptumRx paid.
- i. On or about December 1, 2017, the Board issued Citation number CI 2015 70397 against OptumRx for violating California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1716, deviating from the requirements of a prescription.

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- j. On or about June 12, 2017, the Board issued Citation number CI 2015 69556 against OptumRx for violating Business and Professions Code section 733, subdivision (a), in that it obstructed the dispensing of prescription drugs. The Board issued a fine that OptumRx paid.
- k. On or about June 8, 2017, the Board issued Citation number CI 2015 69919 against OptumRx for violating Business and Professions Code section 733, subdivision (a) in that it obstructed the dispensing of prescription drugs. The Board issued a fine that OptumRX paid.
- 1. On or about April 8, 2015, the Board issued Citation number CI 2013 60163 against OptumRx for violating Business and Professions Code section 733, subdivision (a) in that it obstructed the dispensing of prescription drugs. The Board issued a fine that OptumRx paid.
- m. On or about February 9, 2015, the Board issued Citation number CI 2013 60075 against OptumRx for incompetence as defined by Business and Professions Code section 4301, subdivision (b). The Board issued a fine that OptumRx paid.
- n. On July 9, 2014, the Board issued Citation number CI 2013 59891 against OptumRx for violating Business and Professions Code section 733, subdivision (a) in that it obstructed the dispensing of prescription drugs.
- o. On January 23, 2014, the Board issued Citation number CI 2012 54362 against OptumRx for violating Business and Professions Code section 733, subdivision (a) in that it obstructed the dispensing of prescription drugs and devices and California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1716 for deviating from the requirements of a prescription without the prior consent of the prescriber. The Board issued a fine that OptumRx paid.
- p. On April 11, 2014, the Board issued Citation number CI 2013 58107 against OptumRx for violating Civil Code section 56.10, subdivision (a) and California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1764 in that there was the unauthorized release of protected healthcare information. The Board issued a fine that OptumRx paid.
- q. On February 14, 2013, the Board issued Citation number CI 2012 53121 against OptumRx for violating California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1716 in that it dispensed a prescription without clarifying the dose with the prescriber. The Board issued a fine that OptumRx paid.