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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

AZITA ARBAB,

Pharmacist License No. RPH 47420

Respondent.

Agency Case No. 7240

OAH No. 2022120010

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Order for Suspension of License 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 May 19, 2023.

It is so ORDERED on May 19, 2023.

BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Ву

Seung W. Oh, Pharm.D. Board President

1	ROB BONTA Attorney General of California		
2	MARICHELLE S. TAHIMIC Supervising Deputy Attorney General		
3	DIONNE MOCHON Deputy Attorney General		
4	State Bar No. 203092 600 West Broadway, Suite 1800		
5	San Diego, CA 92101 P.O. Box 85266		
6	San Diego, CA 92186-5266 Telephone: (619) 738-9012		
7	Facsimile: (619) 645-2061 Attorneys for Complainant		
8			
9	BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY		
10	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
11	STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
12			
13			
14	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 7240	
15	AZITA ARBAB, AKA AZITA ARBAB-KALANTARI	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND ORDER FOR SUSPENSION OF	
16	P. O. Box 10297 Newport Beach, CA 92658	LICENSE	
17	Pharmacist License No. RPH 47420		
18	Respondent.		
19			
20			
21	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-		
22	entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:		
23	1. Anne Sodergren (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the Board of Registered		
24	Nursing. She brought this action solely in her offi	cial capacity and is represented in this matter	
25	by Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of Ca	alifornia, by Dionne Mochon, Deputy Attorney	
26	General.		
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- 2. Respondent, Azita Arbab a.k.a. Azita Arbab Kantaril (Respondent), is represented by attorney Herb L. Weinberg Esq., whose address is 1990 S. Bundy Drive, Suite 777, Los Angeles, CA 90025.
- 3. On or about August 23, 1994, the Board issued Pharmacist License No. RPH 47420 to Respondent. The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to Case No. 7240 and will expire on April 30, 2024, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

- 4. On December 2, 2022, the Board issued an order (the Order) requiring Respondent to submit to a mental and/or physical examination to determine whether she is impaired due to mental and/or physical illness affecting her fitness to practice. The Order required Respondent obtain a mental health examination by a board-appointed examiner no later than thirty days from the date of service of the Order. The Board served Respondent with the Order on December 2, 2022 by regular and certified mail. A true and correct copy of the Order is attached as Exhibit A.
- 5. Accusation No. 7240 was filed on March 24, 2023 before the Board, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation alleged that Respondent failed to comply with the Order and sought revocation of Respondent's license. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on April 4, 2023. Respondent timely filed her Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of the Accusation is attached as Exhibit B and is incorporated by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 6. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in the Accusation No. 7240. Respondent also has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Order for Suspension.
- 7. Respondent is fully aware of her legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the Accusation; the right to present both oral and documentary evidence and argument to the Board on her own behalf; and the right to have an administrative law judge prepare a written decision setting forth the reasons supporting the decision for the Board's consideration;

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 admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 7240, agrees that cause exists for discipline and hereby agrees to the suspension of her Pharmacist License No. RPH 47420 pending the resolution of the Order Compelling Mental Health Examination.
- 10. Respondent understands that by signing this stipulation she enables the Board to issue an order accepting the suspension of her Pharmacist License without further process pending the completion of a mental health examination and the Board's determination that she is safe to practice.

CONTINGENCY

- 11. This Stipulated Settlement and Order for Suspension shall be subject to approval by the Board. Respondent understands and agrees that the staff of the Board may communicate directly with the Board regarding this Stipulated Settlement and Order for Suspension, without notice to or participation by Respondent. By signing the Stipulated Settlement and Order for Suspension, Respondent understands and agrees that she may not withdraw her agreement or seek to rescind the Stipulated Settlement and Order for Suspension prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this Stipulated Settlement and Order for Suspension as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Order for Suspension shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 12. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile copies of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order, including PDF and facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.

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- 11. This Stipulated Settlement and Order for Suspension 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 Order for Suspension may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties.
- 13. This Stipulated Settlement and Order for Suspension is an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of the agreement. It supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations, settlements, and commitments (written or oral).
- 14. In consideration of the stipulation, the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Order:

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Respondent Azita Arbab a.k.a. Azita Arbab Kantaril's Pharmacist License No. RPH 47420 shall be suspended as of the date that Respondent signs this stipulation. The terms of the suspension are as follows:

- (1) Within thirty (30) days, Respondent shall undergo a mental and/or physical evaluation as set forth in the Board's Order Compelling Examination filed December 2, 2022. The approved evaluator shall be provided with a copy of the Board's Order Compelling Examination filed December 2, 2022. Failure to comply with any requirement or deadline stated by this paragraph shall be considered a basis for the filing of an Accusation.
- (2) If the approved evaluator determines that Respondent is unable to practice safely, the Board shall file an Accusation against Respondent pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 822 within forty-five days of the Board's receipt of the evaluator's report. The suspension of Respondent's license shall remain in effect pending the final decision of the Board on the Accusation. Respondent shall not resume practice until notified by the Board or its designee that practice may resume.

- (3) If the approved evaluator determines that Respondent is safe to practice, the suspension against Respondent's Pharmacist License shall be lifted forthwith.
- (4) During the period of suspension, Respondent shall not enter any pharmacy area or any portion of the licensed premises of a wholesaler, third-party logistics provider, veterinary food-animal drug retailer, or any other distributor of drugs which is licensed by the board, or any manufacturer, or any area where dangerous drugs and/or dangerous devices or controlled substances are maintained.
- (5) During the period of suspension, Respondent shall not practice pharmacy nor do any act involving drug selection, selection of stock, manufacturing, compounding, dispensing or patient consultation; nor shall Respondent manage, administer, or be a consultant to any licensee of the board, or have access to or control the ordering, distributing, manufacturing or dispensing of dangerous drugs and/or dangerous devices or controlled substances. During any suspension, Respondent shall not engage in any activity that requires the professional judgment of and/or licensure as a pharmacist. Respondent shall not direct or control any aspect of the practice of pharmacy, or of the manufacturing, distributing, wholesaling, or retailing of dangerous drugs and/or dangerous devices or controlled substances.
- (7) Failure to comply with any provision in this Stipulated Order shall be considered a cause for discipline, including outright revocation.

ACCEPTANCE

I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Pharmacy.

AZITA ARBAB, AKA AZITA ARBAB-

KALANTARI Respondent

1	I have read and fully discusse	ed with Respondent Azita Arbab a.k.a. Azita Arbab-Kalantari	
2	the terms and conditions and other	matters contained in this Stipulated Order. I approve its form	
3	and content.		
4			
5	DATED:		
6	DATED.	HERB L.WEINBERG	
7		Attorney for Respondent	
8		ENDODGEMENT	
9		ENDORSEMENT	
10		der is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the	
11	Board of Pharmacy of the Department of Consumer Affairs.		
12	D . 1 . 1 . 2 . 2022	D (CH 1 1 1 1 1 1	
13	Dated: May 3, 2023	Respectfully submitted,	
14 15		ROB BONTA Attorney General of California MARICHELLE S. TAHIMIC Supervising Deputy Attorney General	
16		Supervising Deputy Attorney General	
17			
18		DIONNE MOCHON Deputy Attorney General	
19		Attorneys for Complainant	
20	SD2023800149 83937181 (002) (002).docx		
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1	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Azita Arbab a.k.a. Azita Arbab-Kalantari	
2	the terms and conditions and other matters contained in this Stipulated Order. I approve its form	
3	and content.	
4	\mathcal{L}	
5	DATED: 5/8/2023	
6	HERB L.WEINBERG	
7	Attorney for Respondent	
8	FNDODSEMENT	
9	<u>ENDORSEMENT</u>	
10	The foregoing Stipulated Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the	
11	Board of Pharmacy of the Department of Consumer Affairs.	
12		
13	Dated: May 3, 2023 Respectfully submitted,	
14	ROB BONTA Attorney General of California	
15	Marichelle S. Tahimic Supervising Deputy Attorney General	
16		
17	Dionne Mochon Dionne Mochon	
18	Dionne Mochon Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant	
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EXHIBIT A

Decision and Order to Compel Mental and/or Physical Examination

1	ROB BONTA	
2	Attorney General of California MARICHELLE S. TAHIMIC	
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General DIONNE MOCHON	
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 203092	
	600 West Broadway, Suite 1800	
5	San Diego, CA 92101 P.O. Box 85266	
6	San Diego, CA 92186-5266 Telephone: (619) 738-9012	
7	Facsimile: (619) 645-2061 E-mail: Dionne.Mochon@doj.ca.gov	
8	Attorneys for Petitioner	
9	BEFOR BOARD OF P	
10	DEPARTMENT OF CO	ONSUMER AFFAIRS
11	STATE OF CA	ALIFORNIA
12		
13	In the Matter of the Petition to Compel an Order for Mental or Physical Examination of:	Case No. 7240
14	AZITA ARBAB,	
15	AKA AZITA ARBAB-KALANTARI P. O. Box 10297	PETITION FOR AN ORDER COMPELLING MENTAL OR
16	Newport Beach, CA 92658	PHYSICAL EXAMINATION
17	Pharmacist License No. RPH 47420	[Bus. & Prof. Code § 820]
18	Respondent.	
19		
20	Petitioner alleges:	
21	<u>PART</u>	<u>ries</u>
22	1. Anne Sodergren (Petitioner) brings th	is Petition for an Order Compelling Mental or
23	Physical Examination solely in her official capaci	ty as the Executive Officer of the Board of
24	Pharmacy (Board), Department of Consumer Affa	irs.
25	2. On or about August 23, 1994, the Boa	ard of Pharmacy issued Pharmacist License
26	Number RPH 47420 to Azita Arbab, aka Azita Ar	bab-Kalantari (Respondent). The Pharmacist
27	License was in full force and effect at all times rel	levant to the charges brought in this Petition and
28	will expire on April 30, 2022, unless renewed.	
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JURISDICTION

3. This Petition for an Order Compelling Mental or Physical Examination is brought before the Board under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise indicated.

4. 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.

5. Section 820 of the Code states:

Whenever it appears that any person holding a license, certificate or permit under this division or under any initiative act referred to in this division may be unable to practice his or her profession safely because the licentiate's ability to practice is impaired due to mental illness, or physical illness affecting competency, the licensing agency may order the licentiate to be examined by one or more physicians and surgeons or psychologists designated by the agency. The report of the examiners shall be made available to the licentiate and may be received as direct evidence in proceedings conducted pursuant to Section 822.

6. Section 821 of the Code provides that the licentiate's failure to comply with an order issued under section 820 shall constitute grounds for the suspension or revocation of the licentiate's certificate or license.

7. Section 822 of the Code states:

If a licensing agency determines that its licentiate's ability to practice his or her profession safely is impaired because the licentiate is mentally ill, or physically ill affecting competency, the licensing agency may take action by any one of the following methods:

- (a) Revoking the licentiate's certificate or license.
- (b) Suspending the licentiate's right to practice.
- (c) Placing the licentiate on probation.
- (d) Taking such other action in relation to the licentiate as the licensing agency in its discretion deems proper.

The licensing section shall not reinstate a revoked or suspended certificate or license until it has received competent evidence of the absence or control of the condition which caused its action and until it is satisfied that with due regard for the

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public health and safety the person's right to practice his or her profession may be safely reinstated.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 8. On December 9, 2020, in a criminal proceeding entitled, *The People of the State of California v. Azita Azbab aka Azita Arbab*, Case Number SM123412A, Respondent was convicted on her plea of no contest to violation of Penal Code section 602(1), Trespass: occupy property without consent. Respondent was sentenced to 90 days in custody, stayed pending completion of community service, 100 hours of community service, fines totaling \$579.00 and was ordered to stay away from the locations where the incidents occurred. The facts that led to the conviction are as follows.
- 9. On or about August 4, 2020, deputies from the Kern County Sheriff's Department dispatched to a local gas station to respond to a call for disturbance of the peace. Deputy SW arrived on scene and spoke with the gas station staff. Deputy SW was informed that Respondent began screaming and yelling when Respondent's credit cards were declined. When approached by Deputy SW, Respondent informed Deputy SW that she was traveling to Sacramento, California and stopped to purchase fuel. Respondent stated that she had no money and her credit cards did not work. Deputy SW pointed Respondent to the freeway entrance directly across from the gas station and informed her that the gas station did not want her on the property. Respondent then proceeded to drive past the freeway entrance to a nearby McDonald's Restaurant. Deputy SW and Deputy JO positioned their vehicles towards the location and viewed Respondent stop at the drive through window for an extended period of time. Several patrons were forced to reverse their vehicles to avoid hitting Respondent. Deputy SW observed Respondent leave her car in the drive through and walk with her dog throughout the parking lot. Deputy SW approached Respondent and asked her what she was doing. Respondent replied that she was waiting for her credit cards to go through for payment. Deputy SW reminder Respondent that she informed him that her cards were not working. Respondent began yelling that she was recording Deputy SW. Deputy SW requested Respondent move her vehicle. Respondent informed Deputy SW that she would not and asked him to drive her to a bathroom. Deputy SW arrested Respondent shortly thereafter.

PRAYER 1 2 THEREFORE, Petitioner requests that the Board issue an order under Business and Professions Code section 820 requiring that Respondent Azita Arbab, aka Azita Arbab-Kalantari 3 be examined by a physician specializing in psychiatry or by a qualified psychologist at a time 4 convenient to Respondent and to the examiner, but not more than 30 days from the date of service 5 of the issued order, to determine whether Respondent Azita Arbab, aka Azita Arbab-Kalantari is 6 7 or may be mentally ill to the extent that Respondent's ability to safely practice as a Registered Pharmacist is impaired. 8 9 Digitally signed by Sodergren, DATED: 10 Sodergren, Anne@DCA Date: 2022.05.31 Anne@DCA 5/31/2022 11 20:21:57 -07'00' ANNE SODERGREN 12 **Executive Officer** Board of Pharmacy 13 Department of Consumer Affairs State of California 14 Petitioner SD2022800173 15 83232796.docx 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

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

In the Matter of the Petition to Compel an Order for Mental or Physical Examination of:

AZITA ARBAB, AKA AZITA ARBAB-KALANTARI P. O. Box 10297 Newport Beach, CA 92658 Pharmacist License No. RPH 47420 Case No. 7240

ORDER COMPELLING MENTAL OR PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

[Bus. & Prof. Code § 820]

Respondent.

Petitioner Anne Sodergren, Executive Officer, Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs having petitioned this Board for an order requiring Azita Arbab (Respondent) to be examined by a physician specializing in psychiatry, or by a psychologist, under Business and Professions Code section 820, and it appearing to the Board that Respondent may be mentally ill to the extent that Respondent's ability to safely practice as a Registered Pharmacist is impaired, the Order of the Board is as follows:

IT IS ORDERED under Business and Professions Code section 820 that:

- 1. Respondent shall submit to an examination to be conducted by a physician specializing in psychiatry or by a psychologist selected by the Board or its designee to determine whether Respondent is mentally ill to the extent that Respondent's ability to safely practice as a Registered Pharmacist is impaired;
- 2. The examination of Respondent shall be conducted at a time mutually convenient to Respondent and the examiner selected by the Board, but in no event later than thirty (30) days from the date of service of this Order; and
- 3. The examination shall continue day to day until completed and shall include any examinations or tests ordered or conducted by the examining psychiatrist or psychologist as considered necessary in the examiner's professional judgment, and the results of the

examination(s) shall be reported by the examiner in a detailed written report setting forth the examiner's findings and conclusion.

DATED: December 2, 2022

SEUNG W. OH, PRESIDENT BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

DOJ Matter ID:SD2022800173

EXHIBIT B

Accusation No. 7240 Filed March 24, 2023

1	ROB BONTA	
2	Attorney General of California MARICHELLE S. TAHIMIC	
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General DIONNE MOCHON Dionne Attorney Consult	
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 203092	
5	600 West Broadway, Suite 1800 San Diego, CA 92101	
6	P.O. Box 85266 San Diego, CA 92186-5266	
7	Telephone: (619) 738-9012 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061	
8	Attorneys for Complainant	
9	BEFOR	
10	BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS	
11	STATE OF CA	ALIFORNIA
12		
13	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 7240
14	AZITA ARBAB, AKA AZITA ARBAB-KALANTARI	
15	P. O. Box 10297 Newport Beach, CA 92658	ACCUSATION
16	Pharmacist License No. RPH 47420	
17	Respondent.	
18	DADT	TIES
19	PART Anna Sa dargran (Camplainant) brings	
20	1. Anne Sodergren (Complainant) brings as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy	s this Accusation solely in her official capacity
21		rd issued Pharmacist License Number RPH
22		
23	47420 to Azita Arbab, aka Azita Arbab-Kalantari	,
24	full force and effect at all times relevant to the cha	irges brought in this Petition and will expire on
25	April 30, 2024, unless renewed.	
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FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 8. On or about December 2, 2022, the Board issued an order (the Order) requiring Respondent to submit to a mental and/or physical examination to determine whether she is impaired due to mental and/or physical illness affecting her fitness to practice.
- 9. On or about December 2, 2022, Respondent was served by Certified and First Class Mail copies of the Order at her address of record, which pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1409.1, is required to be reported and maintained with the Board. Respondent's address of record was and is: P.O. Box 10297, Newport Beach, California, 92658.
- 10. Paragraph 2 of the Order provides, "That the examination(s) of Respondent shall be conducted at a time that is mutually convenient to Respondent and the examiner selected by the Board, but in no case later than thirty (30) days after the service of this Order."
- 11. Respondent failed to contact the Board's appointed examiner to make arrangements for the examination within the thirty days of service of the Order or by January 3, 2023.
- 12. Respondent contacted the examiner by telephone on February 14, 2023. The Board agreed to extend the deadline for her compliance with the evaluation. The evaluation was scheduled for March 14, 2023. Respondent failed to appear at the exam. When contacted by the examiner's office, Respondent denied scheduling the appointment.

CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Comply with Board Order)

13. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 821 in that she failed to comply with the Board's Order, issued on December 2, 2022, requiring her to submit to a mental and/or physical examination pursuant to Code section 820. The circumstances are described in paragraphs 8 through 12 above, which are incorporated herein by reference.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Pharmacy issue a decision:

Revoking or suspending Pharmacist License Number RPH 47420, issued to Azita
 Arbab, aka Azita Arbab-Kalantari;

1		oab to pay the Board of Pharmacy the reasonable costs of the		
2	investigation and enforcement	investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section		
3	125.3; and,			
4	3. Taking such other	and further action as deemed necessary and proper.		
5		Sodergren, Digitally signed by Sodergren, Anne@DCA		
6	DATED: 3/24/2023	Anne@DCA Date: 2023.03.24 20:36:23 -07'00' ANNE SODERGREN		
7		Executive Officer		
8		Board of Pharmacy Department of Consumer Affairs State of California		
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		(AZITA ARBAB, AKA AZITA ARBAB-KALANTARI) ACCUSATION		