



May 2024

# THE SCRIPT

**BE AWARE & TAKE CARE: Talk to your pharmacist!**

## Contents

President’s Message.....	2
Protected Services.....	3
Medicare Prescriptions at Medi-Cal Cost.....	4
Epinephrine Standing Order....	5
New Continuing Education Requirement.....	6
Record Production Requirements .....	7
Two Doses in One Container .....	7
Name and Gender Change .....	8
New Regulations.....	8
COVID-19 Oral Therapeutics Still Available .....	9
Health Care Services for Consumers .....	9
Board Welcomes New Board Members and Reappointed President.....	10
Pharmacist Service Coverage..	11
Board Thanks Jignesh Patel.....	11
Diabetic Test Strips.....	11
Upcoming Meetings .....	12
Board Honors 40-Year Pharmacists .....	13
Mission Statement .....	13
Strategic Plan 2022-2026.....	14
Drug Take-back Services .....	14
Cures .....	15
Stay Connected .....	15
Prevent Medication Errors.....	16
FAQs.....	16
Digital Signatures Now Available .....	17
Disciplinary Actions .....	18



## Pharmacy Mobile Units Expanding Access to Care

In December 2023, San Diego County launched the first pharmacy mobile unit in the state after the passage of Senate Bill 872. The mobile unit provides services to individuals who face challenges accessing pharmacy services, such as those who lack transportation, or don't have access to a healthcare provider.

The mobile unit connects pharmacists with the most vulnerable Californians. This includes populations who are without a fixed address, those living in government owned or operated housing, and residents enrolled in Medi-Cal plans. The mobile unit is operated as an extension of the county pharmacy, and with the new amendment to the Business and Professions Code, pharmacists could provide access to life-saving drugs.

A mobile unit and a mobile pharmacy serve different purposes. A mobile pharmacy is used on a temporary basis when a pharmacy is destroyed or damaged and it is necessary to protect the health and safety of the public. A mobile pharmacy can also be deployed during a declared federal, state, or local emergency to continue patient care.



**By Seung Oh, President,  
Board of Pharmacy**

Spring is a time of growth and development, and like the season, we have lots of new beginnings in pharmacy law.

As mentioned in the previous [Special Edition of The Script](#), we have big and important changes involving many pharmacy laws with enactment of AB 1286. I encourage again to all licensees and the public to keep up to date with the Board on the activities and [FAQs](#) related to AB 1286 and our further [implementation activities](#).

In this May 2024 issue of The Script, you can read about SB 345, Health Care Services, and a pharmacist's authority to practice legally protected activity related to reproductive health care services or gender affirming health care services. And, with patient care consistently evolving, we introduce you to the first mobile unit program that provides healthcare services to the most vulnerable Californians.

Keeping our youth safe is also always a top priority for the Board. We remind our licensees there is a standing order for epinephrine to be available in California schools. You can find more information inside the newsletter.

We understand the cost of medications can hinder consumer care, in this issue we remind people about SB 393, a bill that passed in 1999, the California law that enables Medicare beneficiaries to obtain their prescription drugs at a cost no higher than what the Medi-Cal would charge the pharmacy. You can find more information about this program [here](#). And there are new provisions for reimbursement for pharmacist services covered in AB 317 (Chapter 322, Statutes of 2023) that we are hopeful could expand services available by pharmacists to the public.

A reminder from the Medical Board of California (MBC), pharmacy licensees are required to provide pharmacy records requested by the MBC within three days of the request. More information is provided inside this newsletter.

As the Board continues to work to protect consumers, there are several important policy issues currently being considered by the Board including the regulation of central fill and nonresident pharmacies, potential changes to the pharmacist to pharmacy technician ratios, compounding regulations and many other topics.

Lastly, we will embark on how best to incorporate the standard of care model into the pharmacist practice. Please keep an eye out for upcoming committee and full board meetings to engage in this discussion. The Board will also soon embark on the Sunset review process. This is a great opportunity for all stakeholders and the public to engage in wide ranging topics involving the practice of pharmacy in how best to provide care to our patients. We strongly encourage you to monitor the Board's policy-making work through its strategic committees.

And we are excited to welcome three new board members, Jeff Hughes, Jason Newell, and Satinder Sandhu! And congratulations to Renee Barker on her reappointment to the Board. These members have taken an oath and we look forward to serving with them. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all current and past Board members as well as current and past Board officers who served all their time and commitment in protecting California consumers. And finally, my deepest gratitude to those who have trusted me and my commitment to consumer care as I serve as the Board's President.

# Protected Services

## Reproductive or Gender Affirming Health Care Services

Pharmacy practice is continually evolving to include more sophisticated and comprehensive patient care activities. The California State Legislature declared that pharmacists are health care providers who have the authority to provide health care services. This means legally protected activities include the exercise of rights related to reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services.

[Senate Bill 345](#) (Skinner, Chapter 260, Statutes of 260) Health Care Services: Legally Protected Health Care Services Status,

prohibits a healing arts board from denying an application for the license or imposing discipline upon a license of a health care practitioner based on a civil judgement, criminal conviction, or disciplinary action in another state, if that action would have been lawful if provided in California.

A healing art board is any board, division, or examining committee in the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) that licenses or certifies health professionals. Pharmacy practice is a dynamic, patient-oriented health service that applies a

scientific body of knowledge to improve and promote patient health by means of appropriate drug use, drug-related therapy, and communication for clinical and consultative purposes.

This new measure prohibits the Board from disciplining a licensee solely for performing reproductive health care services that are within their scope. The Board would retain the ability to take action however if the services were provided in a negligent matter, incompetently, or with gross negligence.

---

## Pharmacy Mobile Units

Continued from page 1

The mobile unit is operated as an extension of the pharmacy licensed by the county, city and county, or special hospital authority; independent or chain retail pharmacies are not eligible to provide care using a mobile unit. If a county, city and county, or special hospital authority are interested in operating a mobile unit, the Board of Pharmacy must be notified as soon as possible and no later than five business days after commencing operation.

Pharmacy law does not specify where the unit is required to be parked, however, all dangerous drugs must be removed when the unit is not in active operation. Due to the mobile unit operating as an extension of a pharmacy, the same regulations apply. An inspector has the authority to inspect the unit. The unit must have a sink

with hot and cold running water, staffing must be compliant, and the Notice to Consumer poster must be posted in public view.

AB 663 went into effect January 1, 2024, and was updated to allow pharmacists to dispense buprenorphine to treat opioid addiction while traveling with mobile units. Buprenorphine is classified as a controlled substance and was previously not allowed, however, with the increase in fentanyl overdoses the bill was modified to serve those patients. However, the mobile unit cannot dispense methadone as it is classified as a Schedule II controlled substance. Entities interested in dispensing controlled substances from the mobile unit must ensure they meet all Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) requirements.

# Medicare Prescriptions at Medi-Cal Cost

## Medicare Recipients to Obtain Prescription Drugs at Medi-Cal Price

In 1999, former Governor Gray Davis signed Senate Bill (SB) 393, which established an outpatient drug discount program for Medicare beneficiaries. It requires that pharmacies charge Medicare beneficiaries no more than the Medi-Cal reimbursement rate plus a small processing fee. Pharmacies that wish to participate in Medi-Cal must participate in this program. Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 4425 is the statute pertaining to SB 393.

### Key Points:

1. Patients **MUST HAVE a Medicare card** and show it to the pharmacy staff. **Please note: Patients DO NOT need to be Medi-Cal beneficiaries.**
2. **Only Medi-Cal provider pharmacies** are required by law to offer and accept the Medi-Cal price as payment for prescription medication for Medicare recipients. However, non-Medi-Cal pharmacies may also offer the Medi-Cal price if they choose. Check out [https://www.pharmacy.ca.gov/consumers/sb393\\_pharmacies.pdf](https://www.pharmacy.ca.gov/consumers/sb393_pharmacies.pdf) for
  - details on who is eligible for this program,
  - how billing works for Medi-Cal pharmacy providers and
  - how to find out what the Medi-Cal Reimbursement rate is for a medication
3. Patients may give their prescription to pharmacy staff, and ask for the Medi-Cal prescription price, and if that is the lowest price the pharmacy will accept for the drug. **Please note:** the Medi-Cal price may or may not be the lowest price and may differ from pharmacy to pharmacy for the same drug and may fluctuate from time to time. Obtaining prices from several pharmacies **may** help patients find the lowest cost, so **patients may request a price quote.**
4. If the Medi-Cal price is lower, patients can pay that price, plus a small processing fee of \$0.15, for the prescribed drug.
5. Medicare beneficiaries can avail of this program even if they have insurance coverage. However, if patients have prescription drug coverage, their insurance company is not eligible to receive the Medi-Cal price.
6. Patients must pay for the prescription in full at the pharmacy:

### Resources to help you:

- [https://medi-calrx.dhcs.ca.gov/cms/medicalrx/static-assets/documents/provider/forms-and-information/Prescription\\_Drug\\_Discount\\_Program\\_for\\_Medicare\\_Recipients\\_Senate\\_Bill\\_393\\_2000.pdf](https://medi-calrx.dhcs.ca.gov/cms/medicalrx/static-assets/documents/provider/forms-and-information/Prescription_Drug_Discount_Program_for_Medicare_Recipients_Senate_Bill_393_2000.pdf)
- [https://www.pharmacy.ca.gov/consumers/medicare\\_discount.shtml](https://www.pharmacy.ca.gov/consumers/medicare_discount.shtml)

SB 393, Medicare Discount Program, Medi-Cal Pricing, and Prescription Drug Discount Program are a few names this outpatient drug discount program has been called. Despite the adoption and implementation of SB 393, the board continues to receive complaints from consumers regarding pharmacies not being aware of this program. The board encourages pharmacies to share this article with their staff, to provide education and awareness of this outpatient drug discount program, and to discuss how your pharmacy will implement SB 393.

# Epinephrine Standing Order

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) in partnership with the California Department of Education (CDE) has issued a statewide standing order to help reduce morbidity and mortality associated with anaphylaxis by facilitating the distribution and administration of epinephrine in California schools. This standing order authorizes a California school (public, charter or private), school district or county office of education to obtain epinephrine auto injectors for elementary schools, junior high schools, middle schools, and high schools.

Administration of epinephrine, via regular epinephrine auto-injector or junior epinephrine auto-injector, to a person suffering, or reasonably believed to be suffering, from an anaphylactic reaction by school nurses or trained personnel is authorized in accordance with [Education Code 49414](#).

## General FAQ's

- This standing order is acceptable at all pharmacies throughout California and will automatically expire one year from the date it is signed.
- County offices of education and local education agencies may generate a standing order for multiple schools.
- This is an out-of-pocket cost and is not covered by Medi-Cal. Free auto-injectors are available to schools at [EpiPen4Schools.com](http://EpiPen4Schools.com).
- Total quantities and type, regular vs junior auto-injectors, are included at the bottom of the standing order and will vary per application.



- The maximum quantity of auto-injectors allowed by this standing order, either regular or junior, is four per school, per calendar year.
- Refills can be obtained within the year if Epinephrine is used in the course of treatment of anaphylaxis at a school site and will not count towards the 4-device limit per school site, per year.
- The standing order can be renewed annually by completing another online application form such that a new set of Epinephrine auto-injectors are available for each school site each year.

## Resources

- [Education Code 49414](#)
- California Department of Public Health Epinephrine [Online Application Website](#)
- [California Department of Education Training Standings](#)
- [EPIPEN4SCHOOLS](#) Rebate Program Providing Free Auto-injectors to Schools

# New Continuing Education Requirement Effective January 1, 2024



California licensed pharmacists and pharmacy technicians must complete at least one hour of a cultural competency course during the two years before any renewal due on or after January 1, 2024.

Per BPC sections [4231](#) and [4202](#), "Cultural competency course" means a cultural competency and humility course that meets the following criteria:

- (1) The course focuses on patients who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, gender nonconforming, or queer, or who question their sexual orientation or gender identity and expression.
- (2) The course is approved from an accreditation agency approved by the board.
- (3) The course covers recognized health disparities faced by Black, Indigenous, and people of color.

- (4) The course contains elements demonstrating how sexual identity is directly impacted through intersectionality.

The Board shall not renew a pharmacist license or pharmacy technician license unless the licensee has submitted proof satisfactory to the Board that they have successfully completed the required continuing education (CE). Proof satisfactory to the Board may include specifying completion of the required CE on the renewal application provided by the Board.

The Board is not providing a training or recommending a course. A Board approved course that meets the requirements of the statute can be used. This is similar to other pharmacist continuing education courses. [Click here for updated information on CE.](#)

For more information on CE requirements [click here for FAQs.](#)

# Record Production Requirements

## Reminder from the Medical Board of California

As part of [Senate Bill 815](#), which updated various laws related to the Medical Board of California, there is a key provision that impact licensees of the Board of Pharmacy.

Starting January 1, 2024, licensees of the Board of Pharmacy are required to provide pharmacy records requested by the Medical Board of California in the same timeframe as required to provide records requested by the Board of Pharmacy.

Consistent with the current requirements of [Business and Professions Code section 4105\(f\)](#), this new law requires licensees of the Board of Pharmacy to provide records requested by the

Medical Board of California, or their authorized representative, within three business days of the request.

The licensee may request in writing an extension of the three-day timeframe for up to a total of 14 calendar days from the date of the request from the Medical Board of California. The request for extension shall be deemed approved if it is not denied by the Medical Board of California within two business days after it is submitted.

For more information, please see the newly added [BPC section 2225.7 of Senate Bill 815](#), or contact the Medical Board of California at [webmaster@mbc.ca.gov](mailto:webmaster@mbc.ca.gov) in case of questions.

# Two Doses in One Container

## Patient Receives Wrong Medication

The California State Board of Pharmacy (BOP) investigated a complaint about a prescription which was dispensed with two different looking medications. On the fourth day of taking the medication, the patient noticed the prescription had two different looking medications in the prescription container. Upon returning to the pharmacy, the pharmacist confirmed the prescription was dispensed with amoxicillin 500 mg and amoxicillin 875 mg tablets. Consequently, the pharmacist who originally verified the prescription was cited for dispensing the wrong medication.

The pharmacy's investigation showed the contents of a return to stock prescription vial containing amoxicillin 875 mg tablets was inadvertently added to the manufacturers stock bottle of amoxicillin 500 mg tablets. The stock bottle of amoxicillin 500 mg tablets, which now contain amoxicillin 875 mg tablets, is considered misbranded, according to Health and Safety Code § [111395](#); the contents of the original container was partly removed and replaced with another medication, amoxicillin 875 mg tablets.

For best practice, it is recommended to leave the contents of returned to stock in

the prescription vial and cover or replace the prescription label with another label and include the name of the drug, strength, lot number, and expiration date.



# Name and Gender Change

## SB 372

Effective January 1, 2024, under Business and Professions Code section 27.5, licensees may notify the Board of Pharmacy (BOP) of a name and/or gender change and request confidentiality of the previous name or gender information, when meeting certain specified requirements. Upon request by a licensee or registrant whose name or gender, the board shall replace references to the licensee's or registrant's former name or gender with the individual's current name or gender, as applicable, on the publicly viewable information displayed on the internet about the licensee or registrant. The licensee's or registrant's former name or gender, as applicable, shall not be published online.

If the licensee changes their name or gender and was previously the subject in an enforcement action, those records will not be publicly posted on the Board website. The enforcement records are still available to the public through a Public Records Act request.

Records related to the name or gender change notification are confidential. Licensees eligible for a name change and request for confidentiality include:

- Individuals participating in the Secretary of State's Safe at Home program who confidentially change their name in a court proceeding based on concerns related to domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault, or human trafficking, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 1277(b).
- Individuals who change their name in a court proceeding to conform to their gender identity, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 1277.5.
- Individuals who obtain a court order to change their name in connection with a court proceeding to change their gender or sex identifier, pursuant to article 7 of chapter 11 of part 1 of division 102 of the Health and Safety Code. Such court orders are typically issued in connection with a change to a birth certificate or marriage license and certificate.

To request a name or gender change under the new law, or to learn more, visit the [Name and Gender Change Notification and Request for Confidentiality \(SB 372, 2023\) webpage](#).

## New Regulations

The state Office of Administrative Law has approved two regulations adopted by the California State Board of Pharmacy. The regulations are listed in Division 17 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR).

Information about these regulations, including the full

text of each regulation, can be found under [Approved Regulations](#) on the Board's website, [www.pharmacy.ca.gov](http://www.pharmacy.ca.gov).

[CCR section 1706.6, Temporary Licenses for Military Spouses/ Domestic Partners](#). This added regulation offers licensing eligibility to military spouses/ domestic partners. This

regulation went into effect March 21, 2024.

[CCR section 1707.6, Notice to Consumers](#). This amended regulation updates the Notice to Consumer requirements. This amended regulation will take place effective July 1, 2024.



# COVID-19 Oral Therapeutics Still Available

Pharmacists can continue to furnish COVID-19 patients with oral therapeutics for another year. [Business and Professional Code \(BPC\) 4052.04](#) allows pharmacists to extend this service until January 1, 2025. Pharmacists have been performing these functions under a waiver issued by the Department of Consumer Affairs as well as provisions of the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act.

Prior to prescribing the medication, the pharmacist is required to confirm that the patient is positive for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, using a test that is approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Once the pharmacist provides the medication, they are required to notify the patient's primary care provider or enter the services provided into the patient's record system. If the patient does not have a primary care provider, the pharmacist will provide the patient with a written record of the drugs and advise the patient to consult with a physician.



The pharmacist will document the name and dose of the medication as well as any information regarding the testing services that were provided at the pharmacy. Records of the test and treatment will be required for three years and be accessible for inspectors.

Oral therapeutics are drugs that are approved or authorized by the United States Food and Drug Administration for the treatment of COVID-19 and are administered orally.

## Health Care Services for Consumers

The California State Board of Pharmacy created an [online registry](#) to help consumers find specific health care services that qualified pharmacists may provide to patients without a prescription pursuant to provisions of the Business and Professions Code.

These services may be provided by qualified pharmacists in individual practice as well as at pharmacies.

The health services are:

- Self-administered hormonal contraception

- Emergency contraception
- Vaccinations
- Travel medications
- Nicotine replacement therapy
- Naloxone
- HIV preexposure prophylaxis (PrEP)
- HIV postexposure prophylaxis (PEP)

Pharmacists are encouraged to share [the Health Services page](#) to consumers.

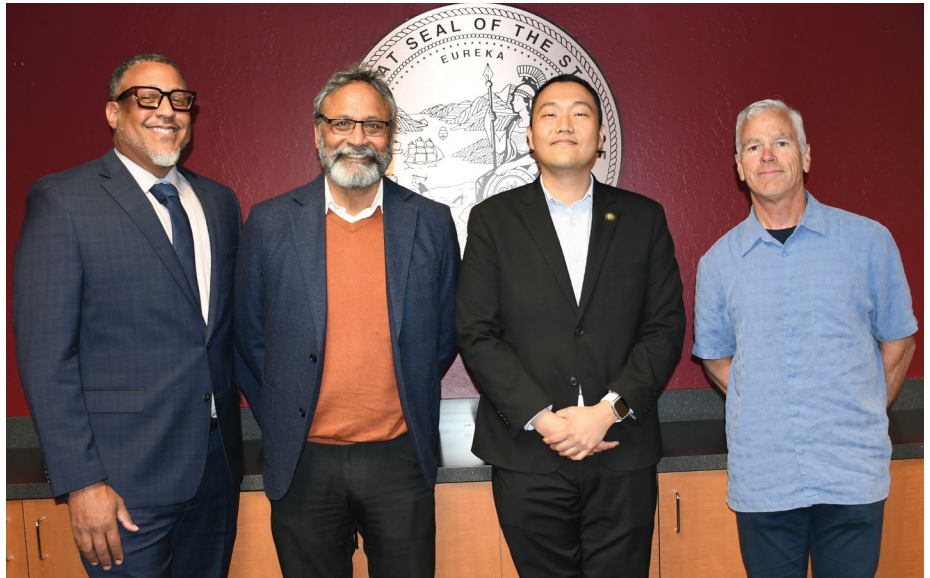
# Board Welcomes New Members

The California State Board of Pharmacy welcomes new Board members and congratulates President Seung Oh and Renee Barker on their reappointments.

Jason Newell of Sacramento has been the Principal and Co-Founder of System2Solutions since 2020. Newell has been a Co-Founder and Program Director of the Leveraging Equal Access Program since 2015. Newell earned a Master of Social Work degree from California State University, East Bay, and a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Advertising Design from the Academy of Art College.

Satinder Sandhu of Davis has been an Area Healthcare Supervisor of Northern California for Walgreens since 2019. Sandhu has had multiple positions with Walgreens from 1992 to 2019, including District Manager, District Pharmacy Supervisor and Pharmacy Manager. Sandhu earned a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of the Pacific.

Jeff Hughes of Oceanside was a Fire Captain at the Orange County Fire Authority from 1994 to 2020 and a Firefighter/Engineer for the City of Buena Park Fire Department from 1985 to 1994. Hughes has been a



*Jason Newell, Satinder Sandhu, Seung Oh, Jeff Hughes at swearing in ceremony*

Wellness Business Agent at the Orange County Professional Firefighters IAFF Local 3631 since 2020.

Renee Armendariz Barker, of San Carlos, was reappointed by Governor Gavin Newsom. Dr. Armendariz Barker has been sterile products manager at the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford since 1998. She is a member of the California Society of Health System Pharmacists and the American Society of Health System Pharmacists. Dr. Armendariz Barker earned a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of California, San Francisco.

Seung Oh of San Diego has been reappointed. He has been a Pharmacy Supervisor for Sharp Healthcare since 2020. He was a Pharmacist-in-Charge for Vons Pharmacy from 2014 to 2020. Oh is a member of the California Pharmacists Association. He earned a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Arizona and a Master of Advanced Studies degree in Leadership of Healthcare Organizations from the University of California, San Diego.

[www.pharmacy.ca.gov](http://www.pharmacy.ca.gov)

# Pharmacist Service Coverage

## AB 317

[Assembly Bill 317 \(Weber\), Pharmacist Service Coverage](#) was signed by Gov. Newsom in October 2023. AB 317 requires every health care service plan, and specified disability insurers,

that offer coverage for a service that is within the scope of practice of a pharmacist to pay or reimburse the cost of services performed by a pharmacy at an in-network or out-of-

network pharmacy as specified. The bill was sponsored by the California Pharmacy Association and National Community Pharmacists Association.

# Board Thanks Jignesh “Jig” Patel

## Patel Serves Term

Jignesh “Jig” Patel, R.Ph of Roseville has resigned after serving his term as a licensee member of the California State Board of Pharmacy. Mr. Patel was appointed by Governor Gavin Newsom in 2020.

While serving on the Board, Mr. Patel served on many committees including Vice Chairperson for the Enforcement and Compounding Committee,



*Jig Patel*

and the Licensee Committee, and as a committee member for the Legislation and Regulation Committee, the Communication and Public Education Committee, and the Medication Error Reduction and Workforce Committee.

The Board would like to thank Mr. Patel for his dedication to patient safety.

# Diabetic Test Strips

## Is it an Authorized Distributor?

Diabetic test strips must only be purchased from an authorized seller. Business and Professions Code (BPC) [section 4160.5](#), requires manufacturers of nonprescription diabetes test devices to post the names of their authorized distributors on the internet and to make those names available for posting on the [California State Board of Pharmacy website](#).

“Nonprescription diabetes test device” means a glucose meter or test strip for use in the treatment of prediabetic or diabetic individuals that may be sold without a prescription and that is labeled for use by the consumer in accordance with the requirements of the laws and rules of this state and the federal government.



# Upcoming Meetings

Board and committee meetings are open to the public.

Visit [Board and Committee Meetings](#) on the Board's [website](#) for schedules and information. Agendas, materials for upcoming meetings, links to minutes, and recorded webcasts of previous meetings can be found on the website.

Notices are emailed to subscribers when meeting agendas and materials are

posted online. To receive notices, visit the [email registration](#) page.

Note that meeting schedules may change throughout the year, so be sure to check the Board's website for current meeting dates and locations.

**Full Board Meetings:**  
July 31, 2024 – August 1, 2024

**Communication and Public Education Committee Meetings:**  
July 18, 2024

**Enforcement and Compounding Committee Meetings:**

July 17, 2024  
October 16, 2024

**Legislation/Regulation Committee Meetings:**

July 17, 2024

**Licensing Committee Meetings:**

July 18, 2024  
October 17, 2024

Meetings
FULL BOARD MEETING
COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
ENFORCEMENT AND COMPOUNDING COMMITTEE MEETING
LEGISLATION/REGULATION COMMITTEE MEETING
LICENSING COMMITTEE MEETING

MAY 2023							JUNE 2023							JULY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4							1		1	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
							30													
AUGUST 2024							SEPTEMBER 2024							OCTOBER 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

# Board Honors 40-Year Pharmacists

The California State Board of Pharmacy proudly celebrates licensed pharmacists who have dedicated 40 years of service or more to California consumers! Your decades of contributions to patient care and the pharmacy profession are widely acknowledged and deeply appreciated.

In honor of their service, pharmacists who have been on active status with the Board for at least 40 years will receive certificates of appreciation. Because of the high volume of eligible candidates, there may be a delay in issuing certificates.

The list of 40-year pharmacists is posted on the Board's website. [Congratulations to California's 40-Year Pharmacists!](#)



## Mission Statement

### California State Board of Pharmacy

The California State Board of Pharmacy (Board) protects and promotes the health and safety of Californians by pursuing the highest quality of pharmacist care and the appropriate use of pharmaceuticals through education, communication, licensing, legislation, regulation, and enforcement.

The Board's purpose is to serve the public by:

- Protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the people of California with integrity and honesty;
- Advocating the highest quality of affordable pharmaceutical care;
- Providing the best available information on pharmaceutical care; and
- Promoting education, wellness, and quality of life.

#### How does the Board accomplish its purpose?

The Board accomplishes its purpose through a variety of activities including:

- Education of consumers and licensees,
- Promoting policies that protect patients,
- Enforcement related activities such as ensuring that pharmacists provide patients with pharmaceutical care by dispensing information,
- Ensuring minimum competency prior to issuance of a license.

# Strategic Plan 2022-2026

## Mission, Vision, Values



Intended to serve as a guide for coming years, the California State Board of Pharmacy Strategic Plan is reviewed annually to ensure the Board addresses current issues consistently with its stated goals and objectives. It is a living document that provides flexibility in meeting ongoing changes in public health, the marketplace, legislation, and other spheres within a framework established by the Board.

The 2022–2026 Strategic Plan evolved from a process that included a survey of stakeholders and Board staff, interviews with Board members, and a planning session facilitated by the Department of

Consumer Affairs' Office of Strategic Organization, Leadership, and Individual Development (SOLID).

The Board historically carries out its mission of consumer protection through policies and initiatives that originate within its five standing committees:

1. Communication and Public Education
2. Enforcement and Compounding
3. Legislation and Regulation
4. Licensing
5. Organizational Development

The committees discuss respective strategic goals and objectives based on current and anticipated needs and demands of consumers and the pharmacy profession.

We invite stakeholders to review this Strategic Plan and to monitor and support the Board's progress toward its goals and objectives by participating in Board meetings, rulemakings, and other activities. Information can be found by going to the [Board's website](#) and by signing up to receive "[News and Information](#)" alerts from the Board.

## Drug Take-Back Services

Pharmacies are critically important for providing consumers with safe options for the disposal of unwanted drugs. The California State Board of Pharmacy (Board) encourages the growing number of pharmacies providing drug take-back services to stay updated on the latest regulations.

Pharmacies installing drug take-back receptacle shall notify

the Board electronically by [submitting the form online](#). The Board strongly recommends all pharmacies utilize the [self-assessment form](#) to ensure compliance.

Consumers may use the [drug take-back location finder](#) to check whether their pharmacy is listed as a board-verified drug take-back location.

The requirements for drug take-back services are in the [California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Article 9.1](#). Visit the [Drug Take-back section](#) in the Licensees tab for additional information and relevant electronic forms.

# Notice to Licensees Regarding CURES Version Update

Beginning August 1, 2024, all California dispensers of controlled substances will be required to report dispensations to the Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES) using version 4.2B of the American Society of Automation in Pharmacy (ASAP) format. On and after this date, data submitted using the current CURES ASAP version 4.1 format will no longer be accepted.

Prompt action by licensees who dispense controlled substances is recommended. Technical implementation of this update to data submission software may take considerable time. Contact your data submission software provider and confirm they are preparing for this upcoming ASAP version change.

The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) has shared

information about the ASAP format change and suggested action steps for data submitters. Please visit the [OAG's CURES Website](#) frequently for updates and informational bulletins.

For information about CURES, visit DCA's [CURES information page](#).

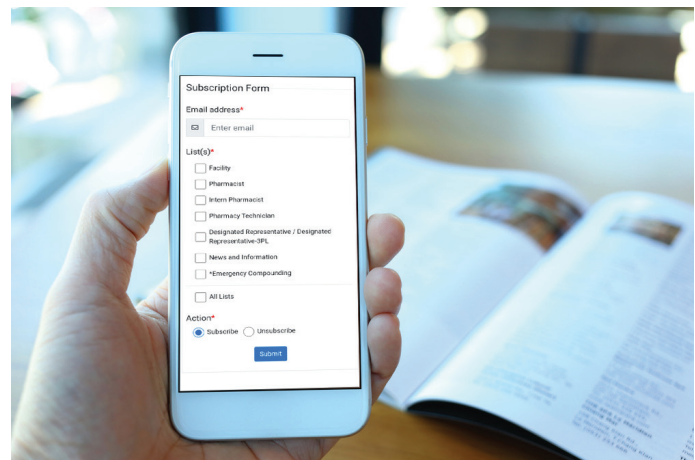
## Stay Connected Subscribe to the Board's Listserv

Stay connected and sign up for emails from the California State Board of Pharmacy (Board). Pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, intern pharmacists and designated representatives are **required** to register for email notifications from the Board of Pharmacy within 60 days of obtaining a license or at the time of license renewal. In addition, licensees must update their registration within 30 days of changing their email address.

Pharmacy professionals aren't the only ones who can receive notifications. The public is welcome to sign up for news and information emails from the Board of Pharmacy. The process is easy!

To receive email notifications from the Board, visit the Board's [About Us](#) page on the website to find the subscriber alert link.

Email addresses are confidential and are not posted in the Board's online license verification system.



Subscribers will receive alerts about board and committee meetings, activities, rulemakings, laws and regulations, press releases, consumer tips, and other general news and information.

# Prevent Medication Errors

## Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP)

The California State Board of Pharmacy encourages licensees to use the resources available for preventing medication errors through the [Institute for Safe Medication Practices](#) (ISMP). ISMP is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing medication errors, by providing pharmacists with many valuable tips, training materials, and other resources to help reduce medication errors and improve consumer safety.

As an independent watchdog, ISMP is widely respected among health care professionals as the gold standard in providing

information about medication safety. Its staff and advisory board include pharmacists, physicians, and nurses.

The organization's website, [ismp.org](#), is a portal to publications, tools and resources, and consulting and educational services to help health care professionals improve medication safety and reduce errors.

Free resources for practitioners include a list of Confused Drug Names (medications with look-alike and sound-alike names) and a List of Error-

Prone Abbreviations, Symbols, and Dose Designations, which have been misinterpreted and involved in harmful or potentially harmful medication errors.

ISMP's chief initiative is an error reporting system that enables health care practitioners and consumers to report medication and vaccine errors. The institute analyzes the information to identify causes and contributing factors to an error. ISMP can help reduce medication errors.

The BOP encourages licensees to visit the [ISMP's website](#).

## Frequently Asked Questions Online

Are you looking for some quick and easy answers while on the job? Check out the [Board's FAQs](#) page.

Maybe you have questions or concerns regarding an inspection, or maybe you are unsure about the specifics for the protocol for furnishing naloxone to a consumer. To ensure that all licensees receive access to these answers, the board has developed this [FAQ page](#).

It's an efficient way to get guidance on relevant legal sections that should be considered when using professional judgment in determining the appropriate course of action.





# Digital Signatures Now Available

The California State Board of Pharmacy is aware of some licensees' and applicants' desire to submit documents with digital signatures. [Government Code Section 16.5](#) establishes authority for government agencies to accept digital signatures that meet specified conditions. "If a public entity elects to use a digital signature, that digital signature shall have the same force and effect as the use of a manual signature if and only if it embodies all of the following attributes:"

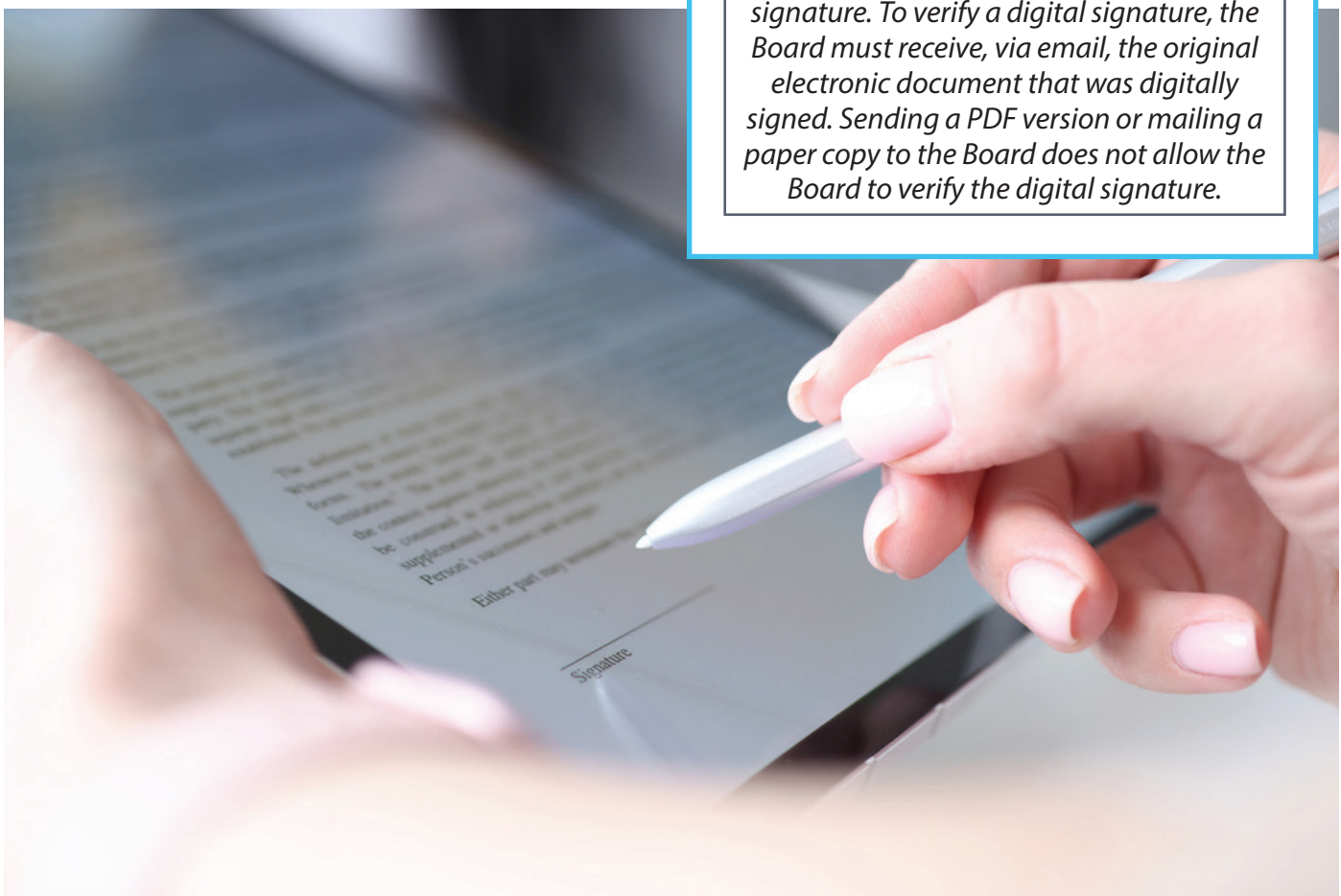
- (1) It is unique to the person using it.
- (2) It is capable of verification.
- (3) It is under the sole control of the person using it.
- (4) It is linked to data in such a manner that if

the data is changed, the digital signature is invalidated,

- (5) It conforms to regulations adopted by the Secretary of State.

The Board will not require any applicant or licensee to provide information using a digital signature in lieu of a manual signature; however, the Board will accept documents that are digitally signed using technology known as Public Key Cryptography consistent with the regulations established by the Secretary of State. (Cal. Code Regs., tit.2 § 22003.)

*The Digital Signature Policy Statement requires that the Board can verify the digital signature. To verify a digital signature, the Board must receive, via email, the original electronic document that was digitally signed. Sending a PDF version or mailing a paper copy to the Board does not allow the Board to verify the digital signature.*



# Disciplinary Terms Explained

**Accusation** – An accusation is the document containing the charges and allegations of violations of the law that is filed when an agency is seeking to discipline a licensee.

**Effective Date of Action** – The date the disciplinary action goes into operation.

**Revocation or Revoked** – The license is taken back by the Board as a result of disciplinary action, and the licensee’s right to practice or operate a Board-licensed entity is ended.

**Revoked, Stayed** – The license is revoked, but the revocation is not effective as long as the licensee complies with specific probationary conditions, which may include a temporary suspension of the licensee’s right to practice.

**Stipulated Settlement** – The Board and a licensee mutually agree to settle a disciplinary case brought by the board by way of a settlement agreement.

**Stayed** – The revocation or suspension action is not immediately effective, and the operation or practice may continue so long as the licensee fully complies with any specified terms and conditions.

**Probation** – The licensee may continue to practice or operate a board-licensed entity under specific terms and conditions for a specific period of time.

**Voluntary Surrender** – The licensee has agreed to surrender his or her license, and the right to practice or operate a Board-licensed entity is ended. The Board may agree to accept the surrender of a license through a “stipulation” or agreement.

**Suspension** – The licensee is prohibited from practicing or from operating a Board-licensed entity for a specific period of time.

**Suspension/Probation** – The right to practice or operate is contingent on compliance with specific terms and conditions during the probationary period, including a term of suspension.

**PC 23 Order Issued** – The licensee is restricted from practicing or operating by the terms of a court order issued under the provisions of Penal Code section 23.

**Public Reprimand** – Resulting from a disciplinary action, the licensee is issued a letter of public reprimand.

**Reinstatement of License** – A previously revoked or suspended license is reinstated with or without specified terms and conditions.

**Statement of Issues** – A legal document that details the factual or legal basis for which a license was denied.

## Disciplinary actions: April 1 - December 31, 2023

*April 1 – June 30, 2023*

### Personal Licenses

[Adam, Mark Maher, RPH 74501, AC 7109](#)

Bellflower, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to assume corresponding responsibility; unprofessional conduct, filled prescriptions that were not written on controlled substance prescription forms; committed unprofessional conduct.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily

surrendered.  
Effective 4/19/2023.

[Agbassi, Michael Jean Olivier, RPH 80700, AC 7019](#)

Oceanside, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Interfered with pharmacist in charge duties, utilized an unlicensed, offsite call center to contact patient and prescribers, maintained fax servers to receive prescriptions that the PIC could neither access or locate; unlicensed activity; unauthorized disclosure of prescription

information, ran a unlicensed call center; knowingly made false insurance claim; billed insurance claims the patient did not receive; subverting an investigation, wrote statement denying that patients were cold called; billed patients’ insurance without authorization; obstruction of prescriptions; adulterated drugs; lack of pharmacy security.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for four years,

See **Disciplinary Actions**, Page 19

## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 18

subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 5/17/2023.

### [Ahdoot, Mehrdad, RPH 43292, AC 7075](#)

Fountain Valley, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Violation of corresponding responsibility to verify prescriptions; variation from prescriptions; dispensed controlled substance prescriptions written on prescription documents lacking multiple required security features.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for five years, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 4/28/2023.

### [Arbab, Azita, RPH 47420, AC 7240](#)

Newport Beach, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to comply with Board order.

**Action:** The license is suspended subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 5/19/2023.

### [Azizzadeh, Shirin, RPH 53320, AC 7005](#)

Beverly Hills, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to exercise corresponding responsibility, operated in a grossly negligent matter, which constituted unprofessional conduct, by excessively furnishing controlled substances, with an established history of a high potential abuse, despite multiple cues of irregularity and uncertainty related to patient and prescriber factors, and in failing to comply with their corresponding responsibility to ensure that controlled substances are dispensed for a legitimate medical purpose.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the

revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 4/28/2023.

### [Azizzadeh, Shirin, RPH 53320, AC 7075](#)

Beverly Hills, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Dispensed controlled substance prescriptions written on prescription documents lacking multiple required security features; erroneous or uncertain prescriptions.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 4/28/2023.

### [Babit, David, TCH 23769, AC 7360](#)

Simi Valley, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Convicted of a substantially related crime, coercion, and enticement of a minor to engage in sexual activity; out of state discipline.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Effective 4/19/2023.

### [Benvenuto, Jamie Rose, TCH 170946, AC 7427](#)

San Bernardino, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Convicted of a substantially related crime, DUI.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Effective 5/24/2023.

### [Behdadnia, Davood, RPH 45285, AC 7131](#)

Tarzana, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Violation of corresponding responsibility to verify prescriptions; unprofessional conduct, gross negligence; clearly excessive furnishing of controlled substances, unprofessional conduct; failed to report controlled

substance prescriptions to CURES; failed to maintain required records; failed to retain records of dangerous drugs and devices on licensed premises.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for five years, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 4/28/2023.

### [Buhl, Danielle Marie, Applicant, SI 7256](#)

San Gabriel, CA

**Cause for discipline:** DUI; driving while impaired; acts warranting denial of licensure.

**Action:** The Application for a Pharmacist License is denied. Decision effective 4/19/2023.

[View SI 217256](#)

### [Cabra, Gabriella Mercedes, TCH 165465, AC 7337](#)

Whittier, CA

**Cause for discipline:**

Unprofessional conduct/unlawful possession of a controlled substance and dangerous drug; unprofessional conduct, administered a controlled substance and dangerous drug to herself.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Effective 05/31/2023.

### [Camacho, Helen, TCH 55435, AC 7406](#)

Sacramento, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Dishonest or deceitful acts; obtain controlled substances by fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or subterfuge; unlawfully furnished and self-administered controlled substances; unlawfully possessed controlled substances; unlawfully furnished controlled substances.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Effective 06/23/2023.

See **Disciplinary Actions**, Page 20

## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 19

[Cardoso, Cristian, TCH 172659, AC 7423](#)

Los Angeles, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Furnished and/or possessed controlled substances/dangerous drugs; acts involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Effective 5/24/2023.

[Dano, Paolo B., Applicant, SI 7300](#)

Jurupa Valley, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Criminal conviction for possession of marijuana; commission of act that would be grounds for suspension or revocation of license, attempted to transport marijuana, Viagra and Cialis from California to Texas; false statement of face of application, falsely answering disciplinary actions on application.

**Action:** The application for a pharmacist license is denied.

Effective 4/5/2023.

[Demian, Marian Fakhry Nimr Y., RPH 72402, AC 7244](#)

Murrieta, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Allowing unlicensed clerk to dispense remotely, furnishing drugs without prescriptions; unprofessional conduct.

**Action:** The license is publicly reprobated subject to terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 5/31/2023.

[Diaz, Jonathan, TCH 136017, AC 7342](#)

San Diego, CA

**Cause for discipline:** DUI; used alcohol in a manner dangerous to himself and others.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for four years,

subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 5/17/2023.

[Elahi, Hasti Ashlyn, RPH 79647, AC 7005](#)

Calabasas, CA

**Cause for discipline:**

Unprofessional conduct: failure to exercise corresponding responsibility.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 4/28/2023.

[Estrada, Matthew, TCH 176010, AC 7407](#)

Imperial Beach, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Criminal conviction of assault; committed acts involving moral turpitude.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 6/23/2023.

[Farzan, Shiva Kiaee, RPH 44807, AC 7075](#)

Tarzana, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Violation of corresponding responsibility to verify prescriptions.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for 30 months, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 4/28/2023.

[Gamble, Lakeshia N., TCH 33128, AC 7319](#)

Chula Vista, CA

**Cause for discipline:** DUI; alcohol-related criminal convictions; dangerous use of alcohol.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for five years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 6/23/2023.

[Garibaldi, Thomas John, RPH 30954, AC 7241](#)

Millbrae, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to ensure pharmacy was properly maintained, pharmacy was disorganized, cluttered, failed to have a sink dedicated to pharmaceutical use, and had expired drugs in its active inventory; failed to ensure policies were in place providing adequate interpretive services for all customers; failed to ensure that all deliveries of dangerous drugs and devices were signed for and/or received by a pharmacist; failed to ensure that uniform policies and procedures applicable to compounding were instituted at pharmacy; failed to complete the required master formula documents for compounded drugs; incomplete records of compounded drugs; failed to complete self-assessment; failed to have appropriate documentation of ongoing compounding training; failed to perform end-product testing of compounded drugs.

**Action:** The license is publicly reprobated subject to terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 5/31/2023.

[Ghadishah, Morris, RPH 70585, AC 7075](#)

Beverly Hills, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Dispensed erroneous, uncertain, and/or fraudulent prescriptions; violation of corresponding responsibility to verify prescriptions; dispensing of controlled substances based on non-compliant prescription forms.

**Action:** The license is publicly reprobated subject to terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 4/28/2023.

## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 20

[Givant, Christine, RPH 41076, AC 6851](#)

San Diego, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Compounded sterile injectable drug preparations lacking in quality; manufactured, held, sold, offered for sale, and delivered adulterated drug; failed to support beyond use date; failed to have complete compounding records; compounded sterile injectable drug preparations lacking in quality.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for four years, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 4/29/2023.

[Gonzalez, Phillip Eric, RPH 66744, AC 7220](#)

Eureka, CA

**Cause for discipline:**

Unprofessional conduct: act involving moral turpitude; convicted of a crime that is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a pharmacist.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Decision effective 06/23/2023.

[Guo, Jie, RPH 52220, AC 7386](#)

Santa Clarita, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to maintain current inventory and records; committed dishonest and fraudulent acts by falsely billing Medi-Cal for brand named drugs while dispensing generic named drugs to Medi-Cal beneficiaries; unprofessional conduct, in that Guo committed dishonest and fraudulent acts by not reversing medications after patients failed to pick up their prescriptions.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 5/31/2023.

[Haroopoor, Shirin, RPH 76314, AC 7075](#)

Los Angeles, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Violation of corresponding responsibility to verify prescriptions; variation from prescriptions.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 4/28/2023.

[Inferrera, Debra Marie, TCH 482, AC 7354](#)

San Carlos, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Convicted of substantially related crime, DUI; conviction involving consumption of alcoholic beverage, involved in a single car traffic collision; use of alcoholic beverages in a dangerous manner.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for four years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 6/29/2023.

[Jerominski, Shane L., RPH 60543, AC 6336](#)

Indio, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to correctly label prescriptions, dispensed five fills of a prescription for a patient for fluticasone/salmeterol 250/50mcg inhaler but labeled the drugs as Advair 250/50mcg; failed to maintain current inventory for controlled substance; acts involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or corruption, failed to reverse adjudicated prescriptions in a timely basis which had not been picked up and were left in the will-call area for significant periods of time.

**Action:** The license is publicly reproved subject to terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 6/29/2023.

[Jin, Ying, RPH 81821, AC 7308](#)

Sacramento, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Committed acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, and corruption, respondent stole over \$1,000 of merchandise from Costco.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 6/23/2023.

[Kanu, Kevin N., INT 43161, AC 7352](#)

Fresno, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Possessed controlled substances at a music festival, psilocybin, known by the street name mushrooms and methylenedioxymethamphetamine, known by the street name ecstasy.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 5/10/2023.

[Khalifian, Mahshid Paya, RPH 44675, AC 7075](#)

Los Angeles, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Violation of corresponding responsibility to verify prescriptions, filled non-compliant controlled substance prescriptions, ignored glaring red flags and factors of irregularity, dispensed high dose opioids to naive patients and made prescription errors.; variation from prescriptions, dispensed one prescription with incorrect directions for use and two prescriptions written for oxycontin 30 mg as oxycodone 30 mg.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for four years, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 4/28/2023.

See **Disciplinary Actions**, Page 22

## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 21

### [Khan, Nusrat, Applicant, Statement of Issues Case SI 7419](#)

Bakersfield, CA

**Cause for discipline:** DUI

**Action:** Statement of Issues withdrawn.

Effective May 23, 2023.

### [Khani, Parisa, RPH 54486, AC 7005](#)

Beverly Hills, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Violation of corresponding responsibility to verify prescriptions, dispensed at least 65 controlled substance prescription in the presence of multiple factors of irregularity or red flags; dispensed controlled substance prescriptions written on prescription documents, lacking multiple required security features; unprofessional conduct: failure to exercise corresponding responsibility.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 4/28/2023.

### [Khani, Parisa, RPH 54486, AC 7075](#)

Beverly Hills, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Violation of corresponding responsibility to verify prescriptions, dispensed at least 65 controlled substance prescription in the presence of multiple factors of irregularity or red flags; dispensed controlled substance prescriptions written on prescription documents, lacking multiple required security features; unprofessional conduct: failure to exercise corresponding responsibility.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 4/28/2023.

### [La, Tony H., RPH 73904, AC 7019](#)

Irvine, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Utilized an unlicensed entity, RXMSO, to run a call center to contact prescribers and patients to obtain prescriptions and access pharmacy systems to upload patient and prescription information; insurance fraud; unprofessional conduct, test-billed insurance claims the patient did not receive, billed patient's insurance without authorization, ran an unlicensed call center that accessed patient prescription information, cold-called patients, and lied about cold calling patients; subverting an investigation; obstruction of prescriptions.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for four years, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 5/17/2023.

### [Le, Chanh V., TCH 161902, AC 7364](#)

Chino, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Criminal convictions for conspiracy, pled guilty and convicted of conspiracy; engaged in acts of moral turpitude.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 5/10/2023.

### [Lew, Po Long, RPH 35614, AC 7136](#)

Rosemead, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Convicted of a substantially related crime, engaged in aiding, and abetting the unauthorized practice of medicine related to his prescribing of controlled substances.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Decision effective 5/24/2023.

### [Lunagaria, Ravji L., RPH 44144, AC 6336](#)

Anaheim, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failure to report drug losses of promethazine

with codeine to the Board; failed to report within thirty days a change in the proposed beneficial ownership interest of White Cross Pharmacy #1.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 6/23/2023.

### [Lunagaria, Ravji L., RPH 44144, AC 6336](#)

Anaheim, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failure to report drug losses of promethazine with codeine to the Board; failed to report within thirty days a change in the proposed beneficial ownership interest of White Cross Pharmacy #1.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 6/23/2023.

### [Lunagaria, Ravji L., RPH 44144, AC 6773](#)

Anaheim, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failure to report drug losses of promethazine with codeine to the Board; failed to report within thirty days a change in the proposed beneficial ownership interest of White Cross Pharmacy #1.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 6/23/2023.

### [Lunagaria, Ravji L., RPH 44144, AC 6775](#)

Anaheim, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failure to report drug losses of promethazine with codeine to the Board; failed to report within thirty days a change in the proposed beneficial ownership interest of White Cross Pharmacy #1.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the

## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 22

revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 6/23/2023.

[Manlambus, Van Rowin F., SI 7186 Temecula, CA](#)

**Cause for discipline:** Found guilty of uniform code of military justice, attempted sexual assault of a child, and attempted sexual abuse of a child, answered an online post by a female who claimed to be 15 years old, made an attempt to meet the girl in person.

**Action:** The Application for a Pharmacy Technician registration is granted. Upon satisfaction of all statutory and regulatory requirements, the license is issued, immediately revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 5/26/2023.

[Maygboroda, Igor, TCH 22552, AC 7316](#)

Los Angeles, CA

**Cause for discipline:** DUI; dangerous use of alcohol.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Decision effective 4/5/2023.

[Mohammadi, Jila, RPH 70372, AC 7075](#)

Glendale, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failure to have theft or impairment policy; holding and/or offering for sale adulterated drugs, expired drugs on premises; dispensing erroneous, uncertain, and/or fraudulent prescriptions; dispensing of controlled substances based on non-compliant prescription forms.

**Action:** The license is publicly reproved subject to terms and

conditions in the decision.  
Decision effective 4/28/2023.

[Nguyen, Brendon C., RPH 59939, AC 7125](#)

Costa Mesa, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to comply with corresponding responsibility for controlled substance prescriptions; dispensed controlled substances based on prescriptions which contained significant errors, omissions, irregularities, uncertainties, ambiguities or alteration; failed to exercise or implement best professional judgment or corresponding responsibility when dispensing controlled substances; dispensed controlled substance prescriptions written on unauthorized forms; held or offered for sale dangerous drugs (i.e., the expired medications in the drug inventory) that were adulterated; sold or delivered dangerous drugs that were adulterated; unprofessional conduct.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for five years, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 4/26/2023.

[Nguyen, Oanh Nhu, RPH 54585, AC 7475](#)

San Jose, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Obtained, conspired to obtain, and/or assisted in or abetted the obtaining of a controlled substance, by fraud, deceit, subterfuge, or concealment of material fact, on more than 40 occasions while employed as a staff pharmacist respondent diverted tramadol and hydrocodone/acetaminophen by creating and filling fraudulent prescriptions for her personal use. In total, respondent diverted approximately 3,000 tablets of tramadol 50mg, and more than 2,000 tablets of hydrocodone/acetaminophen

10/325mg; possession of a controlled substance or substances without a prescription; furnished to herself or another without a valid prescription, and/or conspired to furnish, and/or assisted or abetted furnishing of, a dangerous drug and/or a controlled substance; committed act or acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Decision effective 06/23/2023.

[Niculai, Leon C., TCH 158904, AC 7377](#)

Roseville, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Convicted of crimes substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a pharmacist technician; committed acts involving moral turpitude and/or dishonesty when he vandalized the victims' vehicle and then denied having done so in his statement to the police; used alcoholic beverages to an extent or in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself or to any other person or the public; multiple convictions involving drugs and/or alcohol.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Decision effective 5/10/2023.

[Niculai, Leon C., TCH 182904, AC 7377](#)

Roseville, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Convicted of crimes substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a pharmacist technician; committed acts involving moral turpitude and/or dishonesty when he vandalized the victims' vehicle and then denied having done so in his statement to the police; used alcoholic beverages to an extent or in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself or to any other person or the public; multiple convictions involving drugs and/or alcohol.

See **Disciplinary Actions**, Page 24

## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 23

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Decision effective 5/10/2023.

[Ochoa, Catherine, TCH 8295, AC 7408](#)

La Puente, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Convicted of a DUI; dangerous use of alcohol.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 6/23/2023.

[Pirooz, Farzad Jack, RPH 48428, AC 7329](#)

Santa Monica, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to exercise or implement their best professional judgment or corresponding responsibility with regard to the dispensing or furnishing of controlled substances or dangerous drugs, or with regard to the provision of services; filled or dispensed controlled substance prescriptions that contained a significant error, omission, irregularity, uncertainty, ambiguity or alteration.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for five years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 6/29/2023.

[Plumlee, Jenifer Leigh, TCH 156199, AC 7322](#)

Santa Maria, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Convicted of obtaining and possessing a dangerous drug; unlawfully possessing controlled substances; obtaining controlled substances by fraud; engaging in unprofessional conduct including acts of moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption and violating statutes regulating controlled substances and dangerous drugs.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 6/23/2023.

[Ramos, Sarah R., TCH 140233, AC 7389](#)

Sanger, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Convicted of crimes that are substantially related to the functions, qualifications, and duties of a pharmacy technician; dangerous use of alcohol; misrepresentation in renewal application.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 6/23/2023.

[Roberson, Brett A., RPH 54390, AC 7073](#)

Phoenix, AZ

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to maintain all records of acquisition and disposition for at least three years and maintain a current inventory of dangerous drugs; failed to maintain security of drug; filed and dispensed prescriptions without the correct prescriber information required to validate the prescriptions; failed to provide a physical description of the tablets on the prescription label/ bottle; shared common files with unlicensed entity; allowed a pharmacy technician to work in Florida on their California prescription and dispensing activities, without the direct supervision of a pharmacist; dishonest, fraudulent, deceitful and corrupt acts; knowingly making or signing certificates or documents that falsely represent the existence or nonexistence of a state of facts; unprofessional conduct.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Decision effective 4/19/2023.

[Rouhani, Mojdeh, RPH 46639, AC 7163](#)

Porter Ranch, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to exercise or implement their best professional judgment or corresponding responsibility with regard to the dispensing or furnishing of controlled substances or dangerous drugs, or with regard to the provision of services; filled or dispensed controlled substance prescriptions that did not comply with the requirements.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 5/24/2023.

[Ruiz, Leticia, TCH 26688, AC 7204](#)

Visalia, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Convicted of crimes substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a licensed pharmacy technician; used dangerous drugs in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to the public; convicted of more than one misdemeanor involving the use of dangerous drugs.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 5/26/2023.

[Samouha, Bahram, RPH 45531, AC 7005](#)

Beverly Hills, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Operated in a grossly negligent matter, which constituted unprofessional conduct, by excessively furnishing controlled substances, with an established history of a high potential abuse, despite multiple cues of irregularity and uncertainty related to patient and prescriber factors, and in failing to comply with their corresponding responsibility to ensure that controlled substances are dispensed for a legitimate medical purpose.

See **Disciplinary Actions**, Page 25



## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 24

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for five years, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 4/28/2023.

[Seidman, Steven N., RPH 25419, AC 7152](#)

Indio, CA

**Cause for discipline:** engaged in unprofessional conduct; committed acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, or deceit; unlawfully furnished himself with controlled substances and dangerous drugs without a prescription; unlawfully possessed controlled substances and dangerous drugs without a prescription; obtained controlled substances and dangerous drugs by fraud, deceit or subterfuge, or concealment of a material fact when he stole those drugs from his employer.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for five years, with suspension, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 4/5/2023.

[Shakeraneh, Hengameh, RPH 45821, AC 7075](#)

Los Angeles, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Violation of corresponding responsibility to verify prescriptions; variation from prescriptions.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for thirty-five months, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 4/28/2023.

[Short, Debra L., RPH 50183, AC 7393](#)

Elk Grove, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Committed

numerous acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit or corruption; possessed controlled substances (hydrocodone products) without a prescription; administered to herself controlled substances (hydrocodone products) without a prescription; furnished to herself controlled substances and dangerous drugs without a valid prescription; obtained controlled substances by fraud, deceit, subterfuge, or concealment; convicted of crime; violated statutes regulating controlled substances and dangerous drugs; violated the laws governing pharmacy.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Decision effective 06/23/2023.

[Szkotak, Jonathan L., RPH 66330, AC 6432](#)

San Carlos, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Convicted of an offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a licensed pharmacist; possessed a Schedule V narcotic drug without a valid prescription; self-administered controlled substances and dangerous drugs in a manner injurious to himself, another person, and/or the public; unlawfully possessed a controlled substance and dangerous drug; committed acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption; committed unprofessional conduct.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Decision effective 06/23/2023.

[Silva, Ivan, TCH 115304, AC 7373](#)

Hanford, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Convicted of crimes that are substantially related to the functions, qualifications, and duties of a pharmacy technician; dangerous use of alcohol; convicted of more than one misdemeanor involving the use, consumption, or self-administration of alcohol.

**Action:** The license is revoked  
Decision effective 5/17/2023.

[Solano, Juan F., TCH 140120, AC 7415](#)

Sacramento, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Convicted of crimes that are substantially related to the functions, qualifications and duties of a pharmacy technician; administered to himself or otherwise used alcohol to an extent or in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself and others; convicted of more than one misdemeanor involving the use, consumption or self-administration of alcohol.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 5/31/2023.

[St. John, Christopher R., TCH 182061, AC 7242](#)

Sonora, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Committed acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption, took Covid-19 vaccination cards from CVS for his own use and without permission of CVS, possessed Covid-19 vaccination cards with the intent to sell or furnish the vaccination cards with false or fraudulent information.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Decision effective 5/10/2023.

[Suter, Justin R., TCH 160399, AC 7302](#)

Orange, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Convicted of crimes that are substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a licensee; multiple alcohol-related criminal convictions; used alcoholic beverages to an extent or in a manner that was dangerous and injurious to himself and the public when he operated a motor vehicle while impaired by

See **Disciplinary Actions**, Page 26

## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 25

alcohol.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 4/19/2023.

[Trout, Margie B., TCH 172080, AC 7324](#)

National City, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Convicted of a crime that is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a registered pharmacy technician; used alcohol in a manner dangerous to herself and others.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 4/5/2023.

[Van Seggern, Emily Caitlin, TCH 160059, AC 7318](#)

Santa Cruz, CA

**Cause for discipline:** DUI conviction; used alcohol in a manner dangerous to herself or others.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 4/5/2023.

[Wong, Bryan Han, TCH 176120, AC 7372](#)

El Monte, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Convicted of carrying a loaded handgun on one's person or in a vehicle, not registered; unprofessional conduct.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 4/19/2023.

[Wright, Krystal L., TCH 155285, AC 7349](#)

Diamond Springs, CA

**Cause for discipline:**

Unprofessional conduct, committed acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption; knowingly furnished, gave away or administered to her then-boyfriend, a heroin addict, the controlled substances she had diverted from the pharmacy; possessed the controlled substances, Adderall, Adderall XR, Suboxone, and Norco, without a valid or lawful prescription for the medication.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 6/29/2023.

[Zhu, Bing Bing, RPH 53181, AC 7386](#)

San Marino, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to maintain and produce records to account for the inventory overage and/or shortage of the audit medications as determined by DHCS and later by Board inspectors; committed dishonest and fraudulent acts by falsely billing Medi-Cal for brand named drugs while dispensing generic named drugs to Medi-Cal beneficiaries; committed dishonest and fraudulent acts by not reversing medications after patients failed to pick up their prescriptions.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 5/31/2023.

## Facility Licenses

[Century Beverly Hills Pharmacy, PHY 43361, AC 7131](#)

Los Angeles, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Violation of corresponding responsibility to verify prescriptions; unprofessional conduct, gross negligence; unprofessional conduct, clearly excessive furnishing of controlled substances; unprofessional conduct;

reporting controlled substance prescriptions to CURES; failure to maintain required records; failure to retain records of dangerous drugs on licensed premises.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Decision effective 4/28/2023.

[Century Pharmacy, PHY 34252, AC 7075](#)

Los Angeles, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failure to have theft or impairment policy; holding and/or offering for sale adulterated drugs; dispensing erroneous, uncertain, and/or fraudulent prescriptions; violation of corresponding responsibility to verify prescriptions; dispensing of controlled substances based on non-compliant prescription forms; failure to maintain security of pharmacy; dispensing controlled substances with variations from prescriptions; violation of corresponding responsibility to verify prescriptions; variation from prescriptions; dispensed controlled substance prescriptions written on prescription documents lacking multiple required security features; operating without pharmacist-in-charge for more than 30 days.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Decision effective 4/28/2023.

[Century Pico Pharmacy, PHY 41037, AC 7005](#)

Los Angeles, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failure to Exercise Corresponding Responsibility.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Decision effective 4/28/2023.

[Cole's Village Pharmacy, PHY 55630, AC 6773](#)

Corona, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failure to maintain current inventory.

See **Disciplinary Actions**, Page 27

## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 26

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Decision effective 6/23/2023.

[I Care Pharmacy, PHY 55946, AC 7109](#)

Bellflower, CA

**Cause for discipline:**

Unprofessional conduct in that they failed to assume their corresponding responsibility to ensure that controlled substances are dispensed for a legitimate medical purpose; filled prescriptions that were not written on controlled substance prescription forms; committed unprofessional conduct.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Decision effective 4/19/2023.

[La Vita Compounding Pharmacy, LSC 99842, AC 6851](#)

San Diego, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Compounded sterile injectable drug preparations lacking in quality; manufactured, held, sold, offered for sale and delivered adulterated drugs; failure to support beyond use date; failure to have complete compounding records.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Effective 4/29/2023.

[La Vita Compounding Pharmacy, PHY 48731, AC 6851](#)

San Diego, CA

**Cause for discipline:**

Compounded sterile injectable drug preparations lacking in quality; manufactured, held, sold, offered for sale and delivered adulterated drugs; failure to support beyond use date; failed to have complete compounding records; failed to quarantine until end product testing confirms sterility and acceptability; sterile compounding

process validation and training; furnished a dangerous drug to an unlicensed entity.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for four years, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 4/29/2023.

[La Vita Compounding Pharmacy, PHY 58677, 6851](#)

San Diego, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Compounded sterile injectable drug preparations lacking in quality; manufactured, held, sold, offered for sale and delivered adulterated drugs; failure to support beyond use date; failed to have complete compounding records; failed to support beyond use date; failed to have complete compounding records; failed to quarantine until end product testing confirms sterility and acceptability; sterile compounding process validation and training; furnished a dangerous drug to an unlicensed entity.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for four years, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 4/29/2023.

[Porter Ranch Pharmacy, PHY 58025, AC 7163](#)

Porter Ranch, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to exercise or implement corresponding responsibility; filled or dispensed improper or erroneous or uncertain prescriptions for controlled substances; failed to maintain records of dangerous drugs, current inventory; purchased dangerous drugs with canceled permit; violation regarding reporting of CURES data; failed to complete compounding self-assessment.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is

placed on probation for three years, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 5/24/2023.

[Purescience Rx, PHY 54618, AC 7073](#)

Poway, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to maintain all records of acquisition and disposition for at least three years and maintain a current inventory of dangerous drugs; failed to maintain security of drug; filed and dispensed prescriptions without the correct prescriber information required to validate the prescriptions; failed to provide a physical description of the tablets on the prescription label/bottle; shared common files with unlicensed entity; allowed a pharmacy technician to work in Florida on their California prescription and dispensing activities, without the direct supervision of a pharmacist; dishonest, fraudulent, deceitful and corrupt acts; knowingly making or signing certificates or documents that falsely represent the existence or nonexistence of a state of facts; failed to report the dispensing of controlled substance prescriptions to the California Department of Justice or the contracted prescription data processing vendor; failed to identify the pharmacist reviewing final drug preparations; assigned a beyond use date to a non-sterile drug preparation which was later than the shortest expiration date of an ingredient in that compounded drug preparation; unprofessional conduct.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Effective 5/10/2023.

[Rite Aid #5860, PHY 48295, AC 7402](#)

Selma, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to maintain its pharmacy in a clean

See **Disciplinary Actions**, Page 28

## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 27

and orderly condition and failed to keep its pharmacy free from rodents; failed to maintain its facilities so that drugs were safely and properly prepared, maintained, secured, and distributed.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years, subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 4/26/2023.

### Sunshine Center Pharmacy, PHY 46165, AC 7241

South San Francisco, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Pharmacy was disorganized, cluttered, failed to have a sink dedicated to pharmaceutical use, and had expired drugs in its active inventory; failed to ensure policies were in place providing adequate interpretive services for all customers; failed to ensure that all deliveries of dangerous drugs and devices were signed for and/or received by a pharmacist; engaged in compounding medications but failed to ensure that uniform policies and procedures applicable to compounding were instituted; failed to complete the required master formula documents for compounded drugs; incomplete records of compounded drugs prepared; self-assessment was not prepared; did not have appropriate documentation of ongoing compounding training; failed to perform end-product testing of compounded drugs.

**Action:** The license is publicly revoked subject to terms and conditions in the decision.  
Effective 5/31/2023.

### Westside Pharmacy, PHY 50065, AC 7329

Los Angeles, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failed

to exercise or implement their best professional judgment or corresponding responsibility with regard to the dispensing or furnishing of controlled substances or dangerous drugs, or with regard to the provision of services; filled or dispensed controlled substance prescriptions that did not comply with the requirements.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.  
Effective 06/29/2023.

### White Cross Pharmacy, PHY 39991, AC 6336

Brawley, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Held and offered for sale misbranded drugs; dispensed prescriptions that contained significant irregularities, uncertainties, or ambiguities; failed to maintain medication profile; committed dishonest acts by creating false prescriptions and filling and dispensing those prescriptions unauthorized by the prescriber; made documents that falsely represented the existence of a state of facts by creating false prescriptions; failed to correctly label prescriptions; failed to maintain current inventory; committed acts involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or corruption when they failed to reverse adjudicated prescriptions in a timely basis which had not been picked up and were left in the will-call area for significant periods of time; held or offered for sale dangerous drugs that were misbranded; accepted or possessed prescription drugs from skilled nursing facilities, residential care homes, health care practitioners or any other entity; received returns of controlled substances even though they were not registered as a collector with the Drug Enforcement Administration; held or offered for sale dangerous drugs; failed to maintain the security of drugs; did not maintain a current

inventory of oxycodone; failed to execute a power of attorney for ordering Schedule II controlled substances; y did not possess an individual certificate and private key to order controlled substances; did not perform an initial controlled substance inventory upon commencing business at the new location; failed to contact the prescriber on prescriptions that were erroneous or uncertain; dispensed refills not authorized by the prescriber; deviating from the requirements of a prescription by dispensing a quantity that was different than what was prescribed; act involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or corruption for creating fraudulent prescriptions; made documents that falsely represent the existence of a state of facts, created prescriptions not authorized by prescribers and had signature logs from patients who denied signing for deliveries; made documents that falsely represent the existence of a state of facts, created prescriptions not authorized by prescribers and had signature logs from patients who denied signing for deliveries.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.  
Effective 6/23/2023.

### Zoey Pharmacy, PHY 47050, AC 7386

Santa Clarita, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to maintain and produce records to account for the inventory overage and/or shortage of the audit medications as determined by DHCS and later by Board inspectors; committed dishonest and fraudulent acts by falsely billing Medi-Cal for brand named drugs while dispensing generic named drugs to Medi-Cal beneficiaries; committed dishonest and fraudulent acts by not reversing medications after patients failed to

See **Disciplinary Actions**, Page 29

## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 28

pick up their prescriptions.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Effective 5/31/2023.

*July 1 – September 30, 2023*

### Personal Licenses

[Aceves Tamayo, Saul Antonio, TCH 168766, AC 7428](#)

Desert Hot Springs, CA

**Cause for discipline:** DUI.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Effective 7/7/2023.

[Akhavan, Mehrnaz, RPH 40805, AC 7076](#)

Los Angeles, CA

**Cause for discipline:**

Unprofessional conduct failed to comply with corresponding responsibility requirements.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for four years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 8/30/2023.

[Akontewe, Temi, TCH 113327, AC 7294](#)

South San Francisco, CA

**Cause for discipline:** administered to himself alcoholic beverages to the extent or in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself and/or the public; convicted of an offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a licensed pharmacy technician.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 9/13/2023.

[Arteaga Rodriguez, Yahaira, TCH 178759, AC 7469](#)

San Diego, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Engaged in acts involving moral turpitude and/or corruption, charged with felony counts of carrying a loaded firearm in vehicle.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Effective 7/26/2023.

[Ashby, Veronique, TCH 99451, AC 7509](#)

Newhall, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Dangerous use of alcohol; unprofessional conduct.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Effective 8/30/2023.

[Barzegar, Sharyar, RPH 75669, AC 7272](#)

Los Angeles, CA 91601

**Cause for discipline:** unprofessional conduct with respect to their record keeping and billing for the audited dangerous drugs; violation of pharmacy law, inventory/acquisition records; dishonest acts; made a false or fraudulent claim for payment of a health care benefit and/or knowingly submitted a claim for a health care benefit that was not used by, or on behalf of, the claimant.

**Action:** The license is publicly reprobated subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 9/13/2023.

[Chan, Henry Mauhang, RPH 53602, AC 7137](#)

San Francisco, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Incomplete compounding log.

**Action:** The license is publicly reprobated subject to terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 8/25/2023.

[Farzamdoost, Kambiz, RPH 48839, AC 7229](#)

Encino, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to comply with corresponding responsibility to ensure that controlled substances were dispensed for a legitimate medical purpose; committed acts of unprofessional conduct.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for five years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 7/7/2023.

[Griffith, Connor M., INT 50965, SI 7489](#)

Santa Clarita, CA

**Cause for discipline:** DUI

**Action:** The application for an Intern Pharmacist License is granted. Upon issuance of a license, it will be immediately revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 7/25/2023.

[Guinn, Blaine Scot, RPH 42192, AC 7137](#)

Reno, NV

**Cause for discipline:** Aided and abetted the violation of the Board's regulations governing pharmacy law; inappropriate exercise of his pharmacist education, training, or experience.

**Action:** The license is publicly reprobated subject to terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 8/25/2023.

[Hang, Sreng D., TCH 164777, AC 7530](#)

Modesto, CA

**Cause for discipline:**

Unprofessional conduct, conviction of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and

See **Disciplinary Actions**, Page 30

## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 29

duties of licensee; unprofessional conduct, act involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Effective 9/13/2023.

[Harrington, Gregory O., RPH 63139, AC 6527](#)

Redlands, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Prohibited acts: purchased, traded, sold, or transferred of adulterated drugs; prohibited acts; purchased, traded, sold, or transferred of misbranded drugs; unprofessional conduct, dishonesty, fraud and/or deceit; unprofessional conduct.

**Action:** Accusation Withdrawn  
Effective July 26, 2023

[Hong, Jane Hyun, RPH 70481, AC 7076](#)

Marina Del Rey, CA

**Cause for discipline:** dispensed prescriptions which deviated from prescribers' orders and failed to document verbal order prescriptions for hospice patients; unprofessional conduct failed to comply with corresponding responsibility requirements; gross negligence; unprofessional conduct, ignored and/or failed to appropriately respond to numerous warning signs or red flags that should put a reasonable and prudent dispensing pharmacist on notice that prescriptions for patients may not have been legitimate; failed to maintain accountability of dangerous drugs; failed to maintain, secure, and distribute dangerous drugs; unprofessional conduct, dishonest and fraud; failed to maintain accountability and records of dangerous drugs.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Effective 8/30/2023.

[Hovasapyan, Vahe, RPH 78233, AC 7272](#)

Tujunga, CA 91042

**Cause for discipline:** Engaged in unprofessional conduct with respect to their recordkeeping and billing for the audited dangerous drugs; failed to maintain appropriate acquisition and inventory records related to the audited dangerous drugs; committed acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption with respect to their billing for the audited dangerous drugs.

**Action:** The license is publicly reprobated subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 9/13/2023.

[Johnson, Ra'shi M., Applicant, SI 7467](#)

Stockton, CA

**Cause for discipline:** convicted of crimes which are substantially related to the qualifications, functions and duties of a pharmacy technician; used alcoholic beverages to an extent, or in a manner, as to be dangerous or injurious to himself, others, and the public; convicted of more than one misdemeanor involving the use, consumption or self-administration of alcohol.

**Action:** The Application for Registration as a Pharmacy Technician is denied.

Effective 7/26/2023.

[Kramer, Megan Ashley, RPH 70124, AC 7027](#)

Cedar Crest, NM

**Cause for discipline:** Improper sink in pharmacy, only sink in the sterile compounding pharmacy was in a restroom; failed to maintain adequate records of training, and failed to demonstrate knowledge of sterile compounding practical skills required by Pharmacy Law; failed to ensure that all required information for compounded drug products

was kept in the required records for those compounded drugs; failed to wear adequate clothing and wash their hands according to regulation; inadequate written policies and procedures were provided to the Board investigator; annual review of policies and procedures was not conducted, and pharmacy staff were not required to review on an annual basis; failed to maintain records of training and competency for three years; Pharmacy was not cleaned with a germicidal detergent, and areas were not cleaned according to policy; required tests to ensure process validation and quality assurance were not completed prior to compounding; dishonestly, fraud, deceit, completed a compounding pharmacy self-assessment attesting to facts that did not exist.

**Action:** The license is publicly reprobated subject to terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 7/26/2023.

[Martinez, Chante Lizette, TCH, 134114, AC 7320](#)

Long Beach, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Convicted of crimes substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a pharmacy technician; convicted of two misdemeanor violations involving the use, consumption, or self-administration of alcoholic beverages; used alcoholic beverages to the extent or in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to herself or others.

**Action:** Through a disciplinary action of the Board, the license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for five years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.  
Effective 7/26/2023.

[Martinez-Godinez, Giovanni, TCH, 129594, AC 7452](#)

Hemet, CA

See **Disciplinary Actions**, Page 31

## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 30

**Cause for discipline:** DUI; multiple alcohol-related criminal convictions; dangerous use of alcohol.

**Action:** Through a disciplinary action of the Board, the license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended. Effective 7/7/2023.

[Nazarian, Zareh, TCH 48670, AC 7272](#)

Glendale, CA 91202

**Cause for discipline:** Engaged in unprofessional conduct with respect to their recordkeeping and billing for the audited dangerous drugs cited; failed to maintain appropriate acquisition and inventory records related to the audited dangerous drugs; committed acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption with respect to their billing for the audited dangerous drugs cited; knowingly made or caused to be made a false or fraudulent claim for payment of a health care benefit and/or knowingly submitted a claim for a health care benefit that was not used by, or on behalf of, the claimant.

**Action:** Through a disciplinary action of the Board, the license is publicly reprobated subject to the terms and conditions in the decision. Effective 9/13/2023.

[Nguyen, Tiffany N., RPH 59516, AC 7330](#)

Westminster, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Furnished drugs without prescriptions from prescribers; dispensed dangerous drugs based on prescriptions which contained significant errors, omissions, irregularities, uncertainties, ambiguities, or alterations; failed to exercise or implement their best professional

judgment; unprofessional conduct; failure to designate a PIC.

**Action:** Through a disciplinary action of the Board, the license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended. Effective 7/26/2023.

[Ramirez, Aiyana, TCH 142155, AC 7426](#)

Whittier, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Criminal conviction for taking vehicle without owner's consent; criminal conviction for multiple identifying information theft; committed acts and was convicted of crimes involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, and/or corruption.

**Action:** Through a disciplinary action of the Board, the license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended. Effective 7/7/2023.

[Sedlacek, Julie A., RPH 63612, AC 7502](#)

Bentonville, AR

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to enroll and participate in the pharmacist recovery program; failed to comply with drug testing protocols; failed to seek approval for and attend a group recovery and/or support meeting; failed to attend substance abuse recovery relapse prevention and support groups; failed to maintain active license; failed to cooperate with the board.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered. Effective 9/13/2023.

[Teague, Brenna L., TCH 129182, AC 7409](#)

Escondido, CA

**Cause for discipline:** DUI; unlawful possession of a controlled substance; use of alcohol in a dangerous manner; dishonest act; making or signing a document that falsely represents facts.

**Action:** The license is revoked and

the right to practice or operate has ended.

Effective 9/13/2023.

[Ton, Tramanh N., RPH 59598, AC 7330](#)

Orange, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Furnished drugs without prescriptions; dispensed prescriptions with significant errors, omissions, irregularities, uncertainties, ambiguities or alterations; failed to exercise or implement best professional judgment; unprofessional conduct; failed to designate a PIC.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Effective 7/26/2023.

[Witherspoon, Leigh Ann, RPH 72914, AC 7137](#)

Santa Rosa, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Aiding and abetting violations of pharmacy law.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for two years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 8/25/2023.

### Facility Licenses

[Arden Medical Pharmacy, PHY 53636, AC 7229](#)

Glendale, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to exercise corresponding responsibility.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for five years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 7/7/2023.

[Bella Terra Pharmacy Inc., PHY 55479, AC 7330](#)

Huntington Beach, CA

See **Disciplinary Actions**, Page 32

## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 31

**Cause for discipline:** Furnished drugs without prescriptions from prescribers; dispensed dangerous drugs based on prescriptions which contained significant errors, omissions, irregularities, uncertainties, ambiguities or alterations; unprofessional conduct; operated for more than 30 days without a PIC.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 7/26/2023.

[BET Pharm LLC, NRP 1759, AC 7212](#)  
Lexington, KY

**Cause for discipline:** Misbranded drug, violated statutes regulating controlled substances and dangerous drugs as they relate to misbranded drugs; failed to provide documentation to support extension of beyond use date for sterile drug preparation; compounded a drug preparation that is commercially available.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 7/26/2023.

[BET Pharm LLC, NSC 100946, AC 7212](#)

Lexington, KY

**Cause for discipline:** Misbranded drug, violated statutes regulating controlled substances and dangerous drugs as they relate to misbranded drugs; failed to provide documentation to support extension of beyond use date for sterile drug preparation; compounded a drug preparation that is commercially available.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years subject to the terms and conditions

in the decision.

Decision effective 7/26/2023.

[Corbin Pharmacy, PHY 55733, AC 7076](#)

Tarzana, CA

**Cause for discipline:** dispensed prescriptions which deviated from prescribers' orders and failed to document verbal order prescriptions for hospice patients; Failed to Comply with Corresponding Responsibility Requirements; failed to report a new PIC to the Board within 30 days as required; failed to maintain complete accountability of all dangerous drugs; failed to properly maintain, secure, and distribute dangerous drugs; unprofessional conduct, dishonesty and fraud; failed to maintain complete accountability of all dangerous drugs; failed to distribute dangerous drugs; unprofessional conduct: dishonesty and fraud.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Decision effective 8/30/2023.

[CVS Caremark or Ingenio Rx Home Delivery, NRP 680, AC 7258](#)

Wilkes-Barre, PA

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to comply with the requirements for dispensing controlled substance prescriptions; failed to exercise or implement its best professional judgment or corresponding responsibility with regard to the dispensing or furnishing of controlled substances or dangerous drugs, or with regard to the provision of services; gross negligence; clearly excessive furnishing of controlled substances; failed to comply with specific Pennsylvania regulation; unprofessional conduct.

**Action:** Through a disciplinary action of the Board, the license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years subject to the terms

and conditions in the decision.

Effective 7/7/2023.

[La Care Pharmacy, PHY 57545, AC 7245](#)

Glendale, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Furnished dangerous drugs without authorized prescriptions; dispensed dangerous drugs pursuant to prescriptions that did not meet requirements.

**Action:** Through a disciplinary action of the Board, the license is voluntarily surrendered.

Effective 7/7/2023.

[Primemed Pharmacy, PHY 55643, AC 7272](#)

Glendale, CA 91202

**Cause for discipline:** Engaged in unprofessional conduct with respect to their recordkeeping and billing for the audited dangerous drugs; failed to maintain appropriate acquisition and inventory records related to the audited dangerous drugs; committed acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption with respect to their billing for dangerous drugs; knowingly made or caused to be made a false or fraudulent claim for payment of a health care benefit and/or knowingly submitted a claim for a health care benefit that was not used by, or on behalf of, the claimant.

**Action:** Through a disciplinary action of the Board, the license is publicly reprobated subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Effective 9/13/2023.

[Providence Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital, HSP 55890, AC 7137](#)

Santa Rosa, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Immediate use compounding not used in limited situations; incomplete compounding log documentation;



## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 32

final quantity of drug not present; failed to maintain its facilities, space, fixtures, and equipment so that drugs are safely and properly prepared, maintained, secured, and distributed; violated sterile compounded drug preparations; incomplete compounding log.

**Action:** Through a disciplinary action of the Board, the license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for two years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision. Effective 8/25/2023.

### [Providence Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital, LSC 101129, AC 7137](#)

Santa Rosa, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Immediate use compounding not used in limited situations; incomplete compounding log documentation; final quantity of drug not present; failed to maintain its facilities, space, fixtures, and equipment so that drugs are safely and properly prepared, maintained, secured, and distributed; violated sterile compounded drug preparations; incomplete compounding log.

**Action:** Through a disciplinary action of the Board, the license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for two years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision. Effective 8/25/2023.

### [Sutter Coast Hospital Pharmacy, HSP 37160, AC 7027](#)

Crescent City, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Improper sink in pharmacy; failed to train sterile compound staff; failed to maintain compounding records; failed to wear adequate clothing and wash their hands according to regulation; failed to maintain and follow written procedures; failed to complete annual review of

policies; failed to maintain records of training and competency for three years; not cleaned with a germicidal detergent, and areas were not cleaned according to policy; failed to conduct process validation; sterile compounded drug preparation was compounded under conditions that did not meet regulations; late self-assessment of pharmacy by PIC.

**Action:** Through a disciplinary action of the Board, the license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision. Effective 7/26/2023.

### [Sutter Coast Hospital Pharmacy 690A, LSC 100197, AC 7027](#)

Crescent City, CA

**Cause for discipline:** Improper sink in pharmacy; failed to train sterile compound staff; failed to maintain compounding records; failed to wear adequate clothing and wash their hands according to regulation; failed to maintain and follow written procedures; failed to complete annual review of policies; failed to maintain records of training and competency for three years; not cleaned with a germicidal detergent, and areas were not cleaned according to policy; failed to conduct process validation; sterile compounded drug preparation was compounded under conditions that did not meet regulations; late self-assessment of pharmacy by PIC.

**Action:** Through a disciplinary action of the Board, the license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision. Effective 7/26/2023.

### [Wells Pharmacy Network LLC, NRP 1325, AC 7101](#)

Dyersburg, TN

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to

complete and maintain dissolution studies for compounded pellets to ensure quality of product; failed to maintain quality of compounded sterile preparations; failed to exercise strict control over labeling; production and furnishing of adulterated products; out of state discipline.

**Action:** Through a disciplinary action of the Board, the license is cancelled subject to the terms and conditions in the decision. Effective 9/13/2023.

### [Wells Pharmacy Network LLC, NSC 99824, AC 7101](#)

Dyersburg, TN

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to complete and maintain dissolution studies for compounded pellets to ensure quality of product; failed to maintain quality of compounded sterile preparations; failed to exercise strict control over labeling; production and furnishing of adulterated products; out of state discipline.

**Action:** Through a disciplinary action of the Board, the license is cancelled subject to the terms and conditions in the decision. Effective 9/13/2023.

### [Wells Pharmacy Network LLC, NSF 129, AC 7101](#)

Dyersburg, TN

**Cause for discipline:** Failed to complete or maintain dissolution studies for compounded pellets to ensure quality of product; failed to complete or maintain shipping studies for shipping frozen vials of Quad Mix and Tri Mix to ensure that the vials remained frozen throughout the shipping process; failed to exercise strict control over labeling; failed to comply with multiple regulations set forth below, thereby causing all drug products produced at their facility to be adulterated; disciplined by other states in which it holds licensure.

See **Disciplinary Actions**, Page 34

## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 33

**Action:** Through a disciplinary action of the Board, the renewal for nonresident outsourcing facility permit is granted. Upon inspection, the license is renewed, revoked, stayed, and placed on probation for three years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision. Effective 9/13/2023.

### [Wells Pharmacy Network LLC, NSF 129, SI 7156](#)

Dyersburg, TN

**Cause of discipline:** Failed to complete or maintain dissolution studies for compounded pellets to ensure quality of product; failed to complete or maintain shipping studies for shipping frozen vials of Quad Mix and Tri Mix to ensure that the vials remained frozen throughout the shipping process; failed to exercise strict control over labeling; failed to comply with multiple regulations set forth below, thereby causing all drug products produced at their facility to be adulterated; disciplined by other states in which it holds licensure.

**Action:** Through a disciplinary action of the Board, the renewal for nonresident outsourcing facility permit is granted. Upon inspection, the license is renewed, revoked, stayed, and placed on probation for three years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision. Effective 9/13/2023.

October 1 – December 31, 2023

### Personal Licenses

### [Amaral, Alexa G., TCH 167599, AC 7571](#)

Madera, CA

**Cause of discipline:** DUI.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 11/29/2023.

### [Arnold, Christina Y., TCH 80753, AC 7620](#)

Vista, CA

**Cause of discipline:** DUI; unprofessional conduct.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 12/6/2023

### [Bae, Lola, RPH 83345, AC 7344](#)

Fullerton, CA

**Cause of discipline:** DUI; dangerous use of alcohol.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for four years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 12/6/2023.

### [Baluyot, Ryan Narag, TCH 105509, AC 7399](#)

American Canyon, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Violated and assisted in violation of pharmacy law, possessed cocaine, a controlled substance, without prescription; administered to himself a controlled substance and using a dangerous drug to the extent or in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself, to another person or to the public; moral turpitude, fraud, deceit, or corruption.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for five years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 11/9/2023.

### [Barrios, Ryan A., TCH 166047, AC 7514](#)

North Highlands, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Convicted of crimes that are substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a pharmacy technician; committed acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit or corruption; used dangerous drugs and/or alcohol to the extent or in a manner as to be dangerous

or injurious to himself and to the public; violated statutes regarding controlled substances and dangerous drugs.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 10/5/2023.

### [Bautista, Jaime, RPH 53890, AC 7448](#)

Fresno, CA

**Cause of discipline:** DUI; used alcoholic beverages in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to oneself, to a person holding a license under this chapter, or to any other person or to the public.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for five years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 10/5/2023.

### [Bennett, Chad C., TCH 52173, AC 7516](#)

Mission Viejo, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Furnished oxycodone, dextroamphetamine, and methadone to himself on 48 occasions in one year without a prescription; furnished controlled substance to himself; false transactions; failed to cooperate with investigator; unprofessional conduct.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 12/6/2023.

### [Bhakta, Pranav, RPH 83641, AC 7413](#)

Cerritos, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Licensing exam subversion, possessed CPJE content that the Board did not authorize for public release, and shared or distributed the content with three pharmacist applicants; violation of examination security, violated the security of an examination by possessing CPJE content that the Board did not authorize for public release, and sharing or distributing

See **Disciplinary Actions**, Page 35

## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 34

the content with pharmacist applicants; unprofessional conduct.

**Action:** The license is publicly reprobated subject to the terms and conditions in the decision. Decision effective 10/18/2023.

[Budman, Michelle R., RPH 45877, AC 7518](#)

Palm Desert, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Convicted of crimes substantially related to the practice of a pharmacist; dangerous use of alcohol; convicted of more than one crime involving the use, consumption, or self-administration of an alcoholic beverage; unprofessional conduct.

**Action:** Through a disciplinary action of the Board, the license is voluntarily surrendered. Decision effective 11/8/2023.

[Chou, Kochen, RPH 61097, AC 7436](#)

Lomita, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Failed to comply with the Board's order of abatement.

**Action:** The license is publicly reprobated subject to the terms and conditions in the decision. Decision effective 10/18/2023.

[Cortez, Jocelyn, TCH 156560, AC 7490](#)

Lompoc, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a pharmacy technician; convicted of a substantially related crime, child abuse under circumstances or conditions likely to cause GBI or death; driving under the influence of alcohol causing injury and leaving the scene of an accident; alcohol related felony conviction, convicted of a felony violation involving the use, consumption, or self-administration of alcoholic beverages; used

alcoholic beverages to the extent or in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to herself or others; acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended. Decision effective 11/8/2023.

[Ensslin Vargas, Joseph M., TCH 173305, AC 7276](#)

Manteca, CA

**Cause of discipline:** DUI, conviction of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a licensee; consumed alcohol to the extent or in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to oneself and to the public.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for five years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 10/18/2023.

[Epling II, Edward C., TCH 165783, AC 7236](#)

Roseville, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Ability to practice is impaired.

**Action:** Through a disciplinary action of the Board, the license is voluntarily surrendered. Decision effective 10/18/2023.

[Espina, Aldrin D., TCH 119665, AC 7480](#)

Los Angeles, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Convicted of second degree burglary; unprofessional conduct by committing second degree felony burglary; committed acts involving moral turpitude, deceit or corruption; violated pharmacy law.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended. Decision effective 12/20/2023.

[Gamarro, Anita M., TCH 54472, AC 7279](#)

Lake Elsinore, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Failed to comply with Board order.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended. Decision effective 10/5/2023.

[Ha, Phu T., RPH 57498, AC 7522](#)

Garden Grove, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Held or offered sale of adulterated drugs; failed to maintain accurate inventories of controlled substances; failed to complete pharmacy self-assessments; engaged in unprofessional conduct.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended. Decision effective 12/20/2023.

[Hanna, Ashraf T., Applicant, SI 7417](#)

South River, NJ

**Cause of discipline:** Subjected to formal discipline by a licensing board outside California; submitted false information to the Board; unprofessional conduct.

**Action:** The Application for Registration as a Pharmacy Technician is denied. Decision effective 10/18/2023.

[Hernandez, Erick, TCH 102440, AC 7479](#)

Palmdale, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Unprofessional conduct, which includes, but is not limited to acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption; unprofessional conduct and being a danger to the public; provided services to customers, including providing services at the drive-thru window, while intoxicated.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for five years subject to the terms and conditions

See **Disciplinary Actions**, Page 36

## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 35

in the decision.

Decision effective 10/18/2023.

[Hernandez, Joseph J., TCH 95630, AC 7554](#)

Indio, CA

**Cause of discipline:** DUI; dangerous use of alcohol.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 12/20/2023.

[Jeong, Daniel Hee Young, RPH 73137, AC 7087](#)

Los Angeles, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Incorrectly filled prescription.

**Action:** The license is publicly reproved subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 11/29/2023.

[Kumar, Ann D., TCH 144940, AC 7565](#)

Sacramento, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Ability to practice is impaired.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 10/25/2023.

[Lee, Sung Woo, RPH 85308, AC 7572](#)

Norwalk, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a pharmacy technician; used alcoholic beverages to the extent or in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself, another person, or to the public.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 11/8/2023

[Lo, Nolan, RPH 82208, AC 7513](#)

Fresno, CA

**Cause of discipline:** DUI.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 10/18/2023.

[Lopez, Carlo, TCH 170852, AC 7283](#)

Huntington Park, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Failed to comply with mental/physical examination.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 11/8/2023.

[Lund, Stephen Erik, RPH 59884, AC 7314](#)

Bakersfield, CA

**Cause of discipline:** DUI; used alcoholic beverages to the extent or in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to oneself, any other person, or to the public.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for four years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 10/25/2023.

[Magness, Debra Ann, RPH 48381, AC 7363](#)

San Jose, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Engaged in the administration and use of alcoholic beverages in a manner that was dangerous or injurious to herself or another person or to the public; convicted of seven misdemeanors that are substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a pharmacist; engaged in unprofessional conduct when she was convicted of seven misdemeanors involving the use and consumption of alcoholic beverages; unprofessional conduct.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for five years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 10/25/2023.

[Moreno, Neana E., TCH 181848, AC 7476](#)

Wildomar, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption; furnished to herself and illegally possessed of a controlled substance; unprofessional conduct for stealing medication from her employer.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Decision effective 10/5/2023.

[Ndukwe, Ndubisi Nwabueze, RPH 62180, AC 7508](#)

Santa Monica, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Convicted of a substantially related crime; DUI.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for five years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 11/29/2023.

[Nguyen, Jennifer T., RPH 55406, AC 7401](#)

Irvine, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Convicted of a crime substantially-related to the practice of pharmacy; committed acts of moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption; violated laws regulating controlled substances; violated laws and regulations governing the practice of pharmacy; inappropriate exercise of her education, training, or experience as a pharmacist when she entered into a criminal conspiracy to fill and dispense illegal prescriptions; failing to enact effective controls against the diversion of dangerous drugs; furnished dangerous drugs without valid prescriptions; incompetence; gross negligence; clearly excessively furnished controlled substances; eschewing corresponding responsibility.

## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 36

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 11/8/2023.

[Ocampo, Kaelinn Castro, TCH 165820, AC 7371](#)

Vallejo, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Unprofessional conduct; moral turpitude or corruption.

**Action:** The license is voluntarily surrendered.

Decision effective 10/5/2023.

[Olea, Lourdes, TCH 58362, AC 7556](#)

Corona, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a pharmacy technician in that she was convicted of two misdemeanors for violation of driving under the influence; convicted of two misdemeanors related to the use, consumption, or self-administration of any dangerous drug or alcoholic beverage; used alcoholic beverages to an extent or in a manner dangerous or injurious to herself, any person, or the public.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 10/5/2023.

[Park, Shin Sook, RPH 40465, AC 7194](#)

Loma Linda, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Misbranded, adulterated, or expired drug stock; illegal operation of drug take-back service; unauthorized disclosure of prescription contents; unprofessional conduct in that respondent committed acts or omissions that involved, in whole or in part, the inappropriate exercise of her education, training, or experience as a pharmacist;

committed an act involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for four years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 11/8/2023.

[Rahimi, Fareed I., INT 45593, AC 7549](#)

Folsom, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Failed to comply with the Pharmacists Recovery Program.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 10/18/2023.

[Santiago, Sandy, Applicant, SI 7511](#)

Canyon Country, CA

**Cause of discipline:** DUI, convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a registered pharmacy technician.

**Action:** The Application for Pharmacy Technician is granted. Upon satisfaction of all statutory and regulatory requirements, the license is issued and immediately revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 10/18/2023.

[Sayago Meleza, Richard, TCH 146539, AC 7395](#)

Yuba City, CA

**Cause of discipline:** DUI.

**Actions:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 12/20/2023.

[Smoler, Stacy, RPH 79098, AC 7526](#)

Alamo, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Unprofessional conduct, moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit or corruption.

**Actions:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 12/20/2023.

[Thao, Brandon T., TCH 66873, AC 7270](#)

Fresno, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Committed acts of moral turpitude, charged in Fresno County Superior Court with two counts of lewd and lascivious acts with a minor.

**Action:** Through a disciplinary action of the Board, the license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 11/8/2023.

[Toney, Christopher S., RPH 70070, AC 7299](#)

Cottonwood, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Self-administration of a controlled substance; worked as a pharmacist while under the influence of a dangerous drug; unprofessional conduct.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for five years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 10/18/2023.

[Vu, John Phuong N., INT 47927, AC 7404](#)

Westminster, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Engaged in unprofessional conduct, arrested for identity theft; moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit or corruption; knowingly making a false document.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 10/5/2023.

[Ziaee, Amir, RPH 71171, AC 7335](#)

Los Angeles, CA

See **Disciplinary Actions**, Page 38

## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 37

**Cause of discipline:** Unprofessional conduct-commission of acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit or corruption; furnishing dangerous drugs without prescription; unprofessional conduct; misuse of education.

**Action:** Through a disciplinary action of the Board, the license is publicly reprovved subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 12/06/2023.

### Facility Licenses

[Absolute Pharmacy, LLC, NRP 1666, AC 7100](#)

Lutz, FL

**Cause of discipline:** Unprofessional conduct, failed to maintain the quality of compounded sterile preparations; vials of compounding drugs preparations which were adulterated; failed to confirm sterility prior to dispensing; incomplete compounding log; use of non-compliant bulk drug substance.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the vocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for four years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 11/8/2023.

[Absolute Pharmacy, LLC, NSC 100827, AC 7100](#)

Lutz, FL

**Cause of discipline:** Unprofessional conduct, failed to maintain the quality of compounded sterile preparations; vials of compounding drugs preparations which were adulterated; failed to confirm sterility prior to dispensing; incomplete compounding log; use of non-compliant bulk drug substance.

**Action:** Through a disciplinary action of the Board, the license is voluntarily surrendered.

Decision effective 11/8/2023.

[Bristol Pharmacy, PHY 50659, AC 7401](#)

Irvine, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Failed to safely maintain and secure the controlled substances it possessed.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 11/8/2023.

[CVS Pharmacy #3943, PHY 49619, AC 7311](#)

Sacramento, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Failure to timely notify Board of changes of Pharmacist-In-Charge

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for two years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 12/20/2023.

[CVS Pharmacy #9649, PHY 47946, AC 7321](#)

Yucaipa, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Failed to maintain operational standards, unsanitary conditions, rodent infestation.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for three years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 10/25/2023.

[CVS Pharmacy #9750, PHY 48002, AC 7322](#)

Santa Maria, CA 93454

**Cause of discipline:** Failed to secure controlled substances and prevent theft; failed to timely report employee diversion; failed to maintain accurate current inventory; failed to document medication errors; failed to provide interpretive services for patients;

failed to maintain pharmacy in clean and orderly condition; failed to maintain restroom accessible and suitable for pharmacists; failed to complete and maintain self-assessments; unprofessional conduct, gross negligence.

**Action:** The license is publicly reprovved subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 11/08/2023.

[Loma Linda Health Pharmacy, PHY 39477, AC 7194](#)

Loma Linda, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Misbranded, adulterated, or expired drug stock; illegal operation of drug take-back service; unauthorized disclosure of prescription contents.

**Action:** The license is revoked, the revocation stayed, and the license is placed on probation for four years subject to the terms and conditions in the decision.

Decision effective 11/8/2023.

[Rite Care Pharmacy, PHY 56020, AC 7481](#)

Concord, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Failed to notify the Board of the disassociation of former PIC.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 12/20/2023.

[Pharm90 LLC, PHY 58063, AC 7481](#)

Concord, CA

**Cause of discipline:** Failed to produce records; subversion of Board investigation; failed to receive instructions from Board on how to transfer its inventory of dangerous drugs, deices or hypodermics.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 12/20/2023.

[Wellcare Rx, PHY 50473, AC 7522](#)

Fountain Valley, CA

This newsletter is published by the

**California State Board of Pharmacy  
Department of Consumer Affairs**

2720 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 100  
Sacramento, CA 95833  
(916) 518-3100  
Fax: (916) 574-8618  
www.pharmacy.ca.gov

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**Seung Oh**, Pharm.D.  
*President*

**Jessica Crowley**, Pharm.D.  
*Vice President*

**Trevor Chandler**, Public Member  
*Treasurer*

**Renee Armendariz Barker**, Pharm.D.  
**Indira Cameron-Banks**, Public Member  
**Jose De La Paz**, Public Member  
**Jeff Hughes**, Public Member  
**Kartikeya “KK” Jha**, Licensee Member  
**Jason Newell**, Public Member  
**Satinder Sandhu**, Pharm.D.  
**Maria D. Serpa**, Pharm.D.  
**Nicole Thibeau**, Pharm.D.  
**Jason Weisz**, Public Member

**STAFF**

**Anne Sodergren**  
Executive Officer

**Sara Jurens**  
Editor

**Victor Perez**  
Layout/Design



California State  
Board of Pharmacy



## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 45

**Cause of discipline:** Held or offered for sale dangerous drugs that were adulterated; y failed to maintain complete and accurate inventories of all controlled substances; failed to develop written policies and procedures for performing controlled substance inventory activities and inventory reconciliation reports and failing to prepare inventory reconciliation reports; y failed to maintain the premises so that drugs could be safely and properly prepared, maintained, secured and distributed; failed to complete pharmacy self-assessments; unprofessional conduct.

**Action:** The license is revoked and the right to practice or operate has ended.

Decision effective 12/20/2023.