IN THE MATTER OF \* BEFORE THE

KISA BRIDGES, PHARM TECH \* STATE BOARD

Registration No.: T11311 \* OF

Respondent \* PHARMACY

\* Case No. PT-15-024

FINAL ORDER OF REVOCATION
OF PHARMACY TECHNICIAN'S REGISTRATION

On March 16, 2016, the State Board of Pharmacy (the "Board"), notified **KISA BRIDGES**, Pharmacy Technician (Pharm Tech), the Respondent, of its Intent to

Revoke her pharmacy technician registration.

The Notice also informed the Respondent that, unless she requested a hearing in writing within 30 days of receipt of said Notice, the Board would sign the Final Order, which was enclosed. More than 30 days have elapsed and the Respondent failed to timely request a hearing. Therefore, this revocation is final.

The basis for the Board's action was pursuant to State Gov't Code Ann. ("S.G.") § 10-226 (c) (1) (2014 Repl. Vol. II), and the Maryland Pharmacy Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Heath Occ. ("H.O.") §§ 12-101 *et seq.* (2014 Repl. Vol. II).

The relevant provisions are as follows:

S.G. § 10-226:

- (c) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a unit may not revoke or suspend a license unless the unit first gives the licensee:
  - (i) written notice of the facts that warrant suspension or revocation; and
  - (ii) an opportunity to be heard.

H.O. § 12-6B-09. Grounds for reprimand or denial, probation, suspension, or revocation of registration.

Subject to the hearing provision of § 12-315 of this title, the Board may deny a pharmacy technician's registration to any applicant, reprimand a registered pharmacy technician, place any pharmacy technician's registration on probation, or suspend or revoke a pharmacy technician's registration if the applicant or pharmacy technician registrant:

- (22) Pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to, or has been found guilty of, a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude, regardless of whether:
  - (i) An adjudication of guilt or sentencing or imposition of sentence is withheld; or
  - (ii) Any appeal or other proceeding is pending regarding the matter [;].

## FACTS THAT WARRANT THE REVOCATION OF THE RESPONDENT'S REGISTRATION

- At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was registered as a
   Pharmacy Technician. The Respondent was first registered on August 14, 2012. The
   Respondent's registration expired on February 29, 2016.
- 2. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent worked as a Pharm Tech for a National chain pharmacy located in Waldorf, Charles County, Maryland, hereinafter "Pharmacy A".
- 3. On or about May 19, 2014, during a loss prevention review of ordering and dispensing history for Pharmacy A, it was discovered that several controlled substances were missing; consequently, Pharmacy A began an investigation revealing the following::
  - A. The Respondent admitted stealing drugs from Pharmacy A and selling them on the street since May 2013;

- B. The Respondent stated that she would put the drugs in a basket, as though she were going to fill a prescription, then put them in her purse when she was leaving Pharmacy A, and no one checked her bags;
- C. The Respondent stated that she stole Promethazine VC Codeine Syrup¹;
- D. The Respondent also acknowledged that she stole
   Alprazolam²/Xanax³ in the same manner for street sales;
- E. As a result of the admissions, Pharmacy A had the Respondent sign a promissory note for \$6,098.97, the loss the Respondent caused Pharmacy A by stealing the drugs. The Respondent was also terminated from her employment with Pharmacy A.
- 4. On or about July 31, 2014, Pharmacy A filed a DEA report of "Theft or Loss of Controlled Substances" as required, listing the following losses due to employee pilferage (by the Respondent):

Promethazine VC Codeine Syrup

5mg-10mg 6.25 mg/5ml 4257 ml;

Alprazolam 2 mg

1500 tablets:

Promethazine-Codeine Syrup,

10 mg. 625 mg/5 ml 27,907 ml.

5. On April 9, 2015, in the Circuit Court for Charles County, the Respondent pled guilty to and was found guilty of "Conspire—theft, \$100 to under \$10, 0000." The

<sup>2</sup>Alprazolam treats anxiety and panic disorder.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Promethazine VC Codeine's generic name is codeine, phenylephrine, and promethazine. Codeine is a narcotic, a pain reliever and a cough suppressant. Promethazine is an antihistamine. It blocks the effects of the naturally occurring chemical histamine in the body. Phenylephrine is a decongestant that shrinks blood vessels in the nasal passages. Dilated blood vessels can cause nasal congestion (stuffy nose). Codeine, phenylephrine, and promethazine is a combination medicine used to treat cold or allergy symptoms such as stuffy nose, sneezing, and cough.

Respondent was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment of which nine years, 10 months and 20 days were suspended. The unsuspended sentence of one month and ten days became effective on May 29, 2015 at 8:00 p.m. to be served on consecutive weekends from Friday at 8:00 p.m. to Sunday at 8:00 p.m. Thereafter, the Respondent was placed on unsupervised probation for two years.

- 6. As a result of the above, on August 6, 2015, the Board issued a summary suspension of the Respondent's registration. The Respondent failed to request a hearing.
- 7. By pleading guilty to a felony and to a crime of moral turpitude, the Respondent violated H.O. §12-6B-09 (22) of the Act.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Based upon the aforegoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes that the Respondent violated §12-6B-09 (22) of its Act.

## **ORDER**

As set forth above, the Board hereby Orders, that the registration to practice as a Pharmacy Technician in Maryland held by **KISA BRIDGES**, the Respondent, be and is **REVOKED**, and that this Order is public, pursuant to Md. Code Ann. General Provisions §§4-101 *et seq.* (2014 Vol.).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Xanax is a trade name for alprazolam.

## **NOTICE OF RIGHT OF APPEAL**

In accordance with § 12-316 of the Act and the SG. §§ 10-201, et seq., you have a right to a direct judicial appeal of this decision. A petition for appeal of the Final Board Order shall be filed within thirty days from your receipt of this Final Order and shall be made in accordance with the aforecited authority.

7/20/2016 Date

Mitra Gavgani, Pharm. D., President

Board of Pharmacy