IN THE MATTER OF

BEFORE THE

MICHELLE HAHN, Pharm Technician *

STATE BOARD

REGISTRATION NO.: T02323

OF

Respondent

PHARMACY

Case No.: PT-14-027

FINAL ORDER OF REVOCATION OF PHARMACY TECHNICIAN'S REGISTRATION

On March 18, 2016, the State Board of Pharmacy (the "Board"), notified MICHELLE HAHN, 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
 - an opportunity to be heard. (ii)

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 to practice as a Pharmacy Technician in Maryland. The Respondent was first registered on August 22, 2008. The Respondent's registration expired on January 31, 2014.
- 2. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was employed as a Pharmacy Technician for a pharmacy ("Pharmacy A") within a National grocery store in Howard County.
- 3. By a document dated January 10, 2014, the Board received from Pharmacy A a letter and a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) report indicating that the Respondent had admitted, orally and in writing, to stealing from Pharmacy A various strengths of Hydrocodone.¹

¹Hydrocodone is a semi-synthetic opioid derived from codeine used orally as a narcotic analgesic and antitussive, often in combination with paracetamol (acetaminophen/aspirin) or ibuprofen (a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID)).

- 4. The DEA report indicated that the following amounts of Hydrocodone were stolen:
 - A. Hydrocodone-APAP 10/325², 300 tablets;
 - B. Hydrocodone Bitartrate and Acetaminophen³, 10/325 mg, 300 tablets;
 - C. Hydrocodone-APAP 10/325, 400 tablets.
- 5. As a result of the above, the Respondent's employment at Pharmacy A was terminated.
- 6. The Respondent was criminally charged in the District Court of Maryland for Howard County with theft, less than \$100. On April 30, 2014, the Respondent pled guilty to that charge and was given Probation Before Judgment: she was fined and sentenced to one year unsupervised Probation.
- 7. On May 1, 2014, based upon the above, the Board summarily suspended the Respondent's registration. The Respondent failed to request a hearing.
- 8. Pleading guilty to theft is a crime of moral turpitude and a violation of §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.

²Hydrocodone-APAP 10-325 indicates that aspirin has been added to the Hydrocodone to increase its effects. In this combination, Hydrocodone = 10mg and APAP =325 mg.

³A Bitartrate is a salt or monoester (a chemical compound), with the same properties as Footnote Number 2.

<u>ORDER</u>

As set forth above, the Board hereby Orders, that the registration to practice as a Pharmacy Technician in Maryland held by MICHELLE HAHN, 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.).

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.

7/20/16 Mitra Gavgani, Pharm. D., President Date

Board of Pharmacy