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FILED

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BOARD OF PHARMACY

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION :
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF :

Administrative Action

Karen Littman, R.P. :
License No.:28RI01642300 :

**FINAL ORDER
OF DISCIPLINE**

TO PRACTICE PHARMACY IN THE :
STATE OF NEW JERSEY :
_____ :

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Pharmacy (the "Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and on which the following preliminary findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent, Karen Littman ("Respondent") is a pharmacist in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.

2. By Order filed June 5, 2009, the Ohio State Board of Pharmacy suspended respondent's license to practice pharmacy in Ohio pending an adjudicatory hearing and the issuance of a final Order based upon the following allegations:

- ◆ Respondent is addicted to or abusing drugs and/or impaired physically or mentally to such a degree as to render her unfit to practice pharmacy, to wit: she has admitted to a Board agent that she is addicted to the use of Stadol, a Schedule IV Controlled Substance. Such conduct indicates that she is within the ambit of Sections 3719.121 and/or 4729.16(A)(3) of the Ohio Revised Code.
- ◆ Respondent did, on multiple dates, by deception, procure a prescription for a dangerous drug, to wit: she signed a pain contract to solely receive pain medications from one physician, violated that contract and obtained prescriptions for Morphine, Oxycodone, and Stadol nasal spray from other physicians in violation of Section 2925.22 of the Ohio Revised Code, and if proven constitutes being guilty of a felony or gross immorality; guilty of dishonesty or unprofessional conduct in the practice of pharmacy; and/or guilty of willfully violating a provision of Chapter 2925. Of the Ohio Revised Code within the meaning of Section 4729.16 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- ◆ Respondent did, on multiple dates, intentionally create and/or knowingly possess a false or forged prescription, and/or made a false statement in a prescription, to wit: she took prescriptions for Stadol nasal spray, having no refills, and altered them to reflect five refills in violation of Section 2925.23 of the Ohio Revised Code, and if proven constitutes being guilty of a felony or gross immorality; guilty of dishonesty or unprofessional conduct in the practice of pharmacy; and/or guilty of willfully violating a provision of Chapter 2925. of the Ohio Revised Code within the meaning of Section 4729.16 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- ◆ Respondent did, on various dates, knowingly make a false statement with purpose to secure the issuance of a license or registration, to wit: she indicated on her pharmacist license renewal application that she had not been charged with a crime when in fact she had been arrested on February 2, 2007, and subsequently convicted of theft on March 7, 2007, and she had been arrested on December 5, 2007, and subsequently convicted of theft on January 24, 2008. Such conduct is in violation of Section 2921.13 of the Ohio Revised Code, and if proven constitutes being guilty of gross immorality and/or guilty of dishonesty or unprofessional conduct in the practice of pharmacy within the meaning of Section 4729.16 of the Ohio Revised Code.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The above disciplinary action taken by the sister State of Ohio provides grounds to take disciplinary action against Respondent's license to practice pharmacy in New Jersey pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(g), in that Respondent has had her authority to engage in the activity regulated by the Board suspended or revoked by another state for reasons consistent with N.J.S.A. 45:1-21.

DISCUSSION

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline suspending Respondent's certification to practice as a pharmacist in the State of New Jersey was entered on September 0, 2009 and a copy was forwarded to Respondent's address of record by means of both regular and certified mail. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th business day following entry unless Respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting Respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor. The certified mail was signed for by Respondent and the regular mail was not returned. The Board deems service to have been effected. To date, Respondent has not submitted a response to the Provisional Order of Discipline. Accordingly the Board considered the matter, determined that further proceedings were not necessary and the Provisional Order should be made final.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 19th day of NOVEMBER, 2009

ORDERED that:

1. Respondent's license to practice pharmacy in the State of New Jersey be and hereby is suspended until her Ohio license is actively reinstated with no restrictions or conditions.
2. In the event that Respondent seeks reinstatement of her New Jersey pharmacy license at any time in the future, this Order shall require Respondent to demonstrate fitness to practice pharmacy and show proof that she holds an active unrestricted license to practice pharmacy in the State of Ohio. After considering all available information the Board will determine whether to

reinstate Respondent's license and may impose restrictions or conditions on Respondent's license at the time of reinstatement

3. Respondent shall immediately cease and desist from engaging in the practice of pharmacy including the following: respondent shall not handle, order, inventory, compound, count, fill, refill or dispense any drug; she shall not handle anything requiring a prescription including devices and medications; she shall not handle prescriptions; she shall not advise or consult with patients, and she is prohibited from being present within a prescription filling area of a pharmacy.

4. Within five days following the entry of this Order, Respondent shall surrender her original wall certificate, her wallet certificate, and the most recent renewal card of her license to an authorized representative of the Board or mail these items to: Executive Director Joanne Boyer, New Jersey Board of Pharmacy, P.O. Box 45013, Newark, New Jersey 07101.

5. Any practice in this State prior to reinstatement shall constitute grounds for the charge of unlicensed practice.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

By: Edward G. McGinley
Edward G. McGinley, R.Ph.
President