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FILED

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BOARD OF PHARMACY

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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 :
:
JEFFREY WILLIAM STROUGO, R.P. :
License No. **28RI01486700** :
:
TO PRACTICE PHARMACY IN THE :
STATE OF NEW JERSEY :

Administrative Action

**INTERIM
CONSENT ORDER**

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Pharmacy (the "Board") upon receipt of information that on July 30, 2010, respondent Jeffrey William Strougo ("Respondent") was arrested by the Newton Town Police for three counts of theft in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:20-3, two counts of Possession PLD Stramonium Preparation in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:35-10.5E, and one count of Possession of Controlled Dangerous Substances (CDS) in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:35-10A(1). The criminal complaint-summons specifically alleged that Respondent was in possession of 21 Methocarbamol pills and 11 Hydrocodone pills without a valid prescription, having taken the pills from Rite Aid Pharmacy on or about June 22, 2010.

Subsequently, on October 18, 2010, Respondent was charged in an Accusation with one count of Possession of Hydrocodone, a 3rd degree crime, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:35-10a(1), and one count of Theft of Movable Property, a 3rd degree crime, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:20-3. On that same date, Respondent, in resolution of the criminal charges resulting from the incident at Rite Aid, signed a Waiver of Indictment, and entered into Pretrial Intervention (PTI). The Order of Postponement provides for a twelve (12) month period of supervision, and requires, among other things, that he undergo substance abuse evaluation and treatment and random urinalysis.

Respondent has been the subject of prior Board discipline. After the Board received information that alleged that between July 1989 and May 1990, respondent improperly diverted CDS from various pharmacies where he had been employed, by Order entered October 18, 1990, respondent voluntarily agreed to refrain from the practice of pharmacy and to surrender his license pending a plenary hearing before the Board. On February 14, 1994, Respondent entered into a second Consent Order with the Board. In that Order, respondent admitted to "improperly diverting and consuming controlled dangerous substances obtained from his employer's active drug stock." Pursuant to the 1994 Consent Order, Respondent's license was suspended for five (5) years and four (4) months, the first three (3) years and four (4) months of the suspension were active with the remaining two years stayed and served as a period of probation. At that time, Respondent received credit for the time since October 15, 1990 when he had voluntarily agreed to refrain from practicing pharmacy. In addition, the 1994 Consent Order required that respondent continue in weekly psychotherapeutic treatment as well as be subject to random urine monitoring at a frequency of twice per month.

Respondent, through his attorney, Francesco Taddeo, Esq., has provided the Board with an explanation of the circumstances that led to respondent taking the pills from his employer. Respondent also asserts that he has voluntarily refrained from practice since June 22, 2010, and has passed all random drug screens.

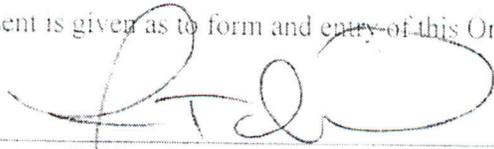
The Board, having reviewed all of the information presented, including the respondent's prior discipline, letters of support and letters from his attorney, finds that respondent's admitted actions provide grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21 (b), (e), (f) and (l) in that Respondent has engaged in deception, professional misconduct, and in acts constituting a crime or offense relating adversely to the activity regulated by the Board. In addition to taking disciplinary action, the Board has the authority, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-22(e) and (f), to order that respondent obtain a evaluation from an addictions professional, and follow whatever treatment recommendations may be made. Respondent, being desirous of resolving this matter without the necessity of further formal proceedings, and agreeing to waive any right to same and the Board having determined that this Order is sufficiently protective of the public health, safety and welfare, and all parties agreeing to the terms of this Order;

IT IS THEREFORE on this 22nd day of FEBRUARY, 2012,

ORDERED AND AGREED that:

1. Within 30 days from the date this Order is served upon him, Respondent shall submit to an evaluation from the Professional Assistance Program of New Jersey (PAPNJ). Respondent shall abide by any treatment recommendations in that evaluation, including a requirement that he enroll in the PAPNJ program. A copy of the evaluation and any treatment recommendations shall be provided to the Board by PAPNJ at the same time such evaluation is provided to Respondent.

Consent is given as to form and entry of this Order.



Francesco Taddeo, Esq.
Attorney for Jeffrey William Strougo, R.P.

I agree to the conduct the evaluation
specified above on behalf of the Professional
Assistance Program of New Jersey

Louis E. Baxter, Sr., M.D., FASAM
Medical Director
Professional Assistance Program