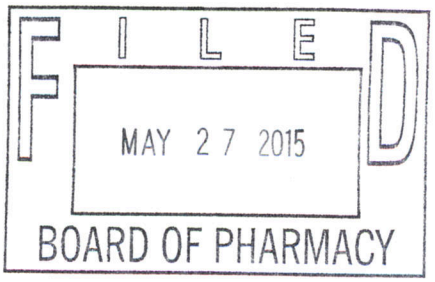

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF THE REGISTRATION OF **CARA PALUCHOVIC** **License No. 28RW00506000** TO PRACTICE AS A PHARMACY TECHNICIAN IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY	ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION **FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE**

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Pharmacy (the "Board") upon receipt of information that Cara Paluchovic ("Respondent") had been dismissed from employment at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital following allegations that she had diverted Oxycontin for her personal use.

Respondent's removal of controlled dangerous substances, from her employer pharmacy without authorization, if proven, would provide grounds to take disciplinary action against Respondent's registration to practice pharmacy in New Jersey pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b), (e), and (f), in that Respondent engaged in the use or employment of dishonesty, deception, and misrepresentation, in professional misconduct, and in acts constituting a crime or offense of moral turpitude

and/or relating adversely to the activity regulated by the Board.

DISCUSSION

Based upon the foregoing, a Provisional Order of Discipline was filed on August 19, 2014 seeking the suspension of respondent's registration for a minimum of five years and requiring, among other things, proof of sobriety prior to any restoration of registration. Although the Provisional Order was mailed to respondent's address of record, service of process could not be proven and a copy of the Order was forwarded to respondent's last known address of record again on January 7, 2015. The regular mail was not returned and the USPS website indicates that the certified mail was "not deliverable as addressed."

A review of Board records reflects that respondent allowed her registration to expire in August 2014. Accordingly, although the Order was successfully served at respondent's last known address of record, the Board has determined to withdraw the Provisional Order entered in this matter.

However, Respondent's failure to submit her biennial renewal in New Jersey in August 2014 has resulted in a lapsed status and the automatic suspension of Respondent's registration

to practice as a pharmacy technician in the State of New Jersey without a hearing pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-7.1(b).

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 27th day of May, 2015,

ORDERED that:

1. Respondent's license registration to practice as a pharmacy technician is suspended by operation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-7.1(b), without a hearing.

2. The Provisional Order filed in this matter on August 19, 2014 is hereby withdrawn in its entirety.

3. In the event that Respondent seeks reinstatement of her New Jersey registration at any time in the future, Respondent may be required to appear before the New Jersey State Board of Pharmacy to establish that she is fit to practice as a pharmacy technician in New Jersey and provide information concerning her termination from employment at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. Additionally, the Board reserves the right to take disciplinary action and place restrictions and/or limitations upon Respondent's registration to practice as a pharmacy technician in the State of New Jersey.

4. Respondent shall immediately cease and desist from engaging in practice as a pharmacy technician, which includes, but is not limited to the following: Respondent shall not retrieve prescription files or patient files; shall not prepare

medication labels; shall not engage in data entry for any pharmacy, shall not count, weigh, measure, pour or compound prescription medication or stock legend drugs and controlled substances; shall not fill an automated medication system; shall not accept authorization for a prescription refill or renewal; shall not handle anything requiring prescription, including devices and medications; Respondent shall not handle prescriptions; and shall not be present within a prescription filling area of a pharmacy.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

By: Thomas F.X. Bender, Jr. RPh
Thomas F.X. Bender, R.Ph.
Board President