

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION
COMMISSION OF PHARMACY
October 25, 2023

10:00 a.m. The regular meeting of the Commission of Pharmacy was called to order by Commissioner DeFazio. The meeting was conducted by physical attendance and virtually on TEAMS.

Commissioners Present: Angelo DeFazio, Chairperson

Richard Carbray
Debbie Chisolm
Mary Inguanti
Ann Taylor

Kristin Linder – Not in Attendance

Staff Present: Gina Samples, Board Administrator

New Pharmacy Application (s)

Elm City Pharmacia Corp
222 Grand Avenue
New Haven, CT 06513

Rodrique Cooley, Pharmacy Manager

Commission Action: Commissioner Carbray moved, seconded by Commissioner Chisolm and passed by a vote of 5-0, to approve the above request for a new pharmacy premise provided all the requirements set forth in the Connecticut Pharmacy and Drug Laws as enforced by the Commission of Pharmacy are met.

Branford Pharmacy
972 W Main Street
Branford, CT 06405

Muhammad Furqan, Pharmacy Manager

Commission Action: Commissioner Carbray moved, seconded by Commissioner Chisolm and passed by a vote of 5-0, to approve the above request for a new pharmacy premise provided all the requirements set forth in the Connecticut Pharmacy and Drug Laws as enforced by the Commission of Pharmacy are met.

Pharmacy Remodel (s)

Geona Healthcare LLC
941 Bridgeport Avenue, Suite M5
Milford, CT 06460
Teresa Garlick, Representative

Commission Action: Commissioner Carbray moved, seconded by Commissioner Chisolm the above remodel request with revised square footage revision, passed by a vote of 5-0 to and provided all the requirements set forth in the Connecticut Pharmacy and Drug Laws as enforced by the Commission of Pharmacy are met.

Kabila Wellness LLC dba Vital Care of Shelton
345 Main
Danbury, CT 06810
Jillann Knowlton, Pharmacy Manager

Commission Action: Commissioner Carbray moved, seconded by Commissioner Chisolm the above remodel request with an approved 797 certification passed by a vote of 5-0 to and provided all the requirements set forth in the Connecticut Pharmacy and Drug Laws as enforced by the Commission of Pharmacy are met.

Legal Matters

Case Number: 2022-720 **Walgreens #01451; PCY.0001950**

Attorney Michael Ando presented this case.

Respondent is a Connecticut Pharmacy investigated following a patient complaint of unscheduled closure. During investigation, the Department received a second complaint concerning the same location during the same period. Due to staffing issues, there was a period in which the pharmacy operated less than 35 hours per week, and was closed for consecutive days during a 30-day period.

Proposed Resolution:

Counsel for Drug Control proposes a settlement in which Respondent shall pay a voluntary monetary payment amount of \$3,000, which has been paid.

Commission Action: Commissioner Inguanti moved, seconded by Commissioner Taylor and passed by a vote of 5-0 to accept and approve the aforementioned settlement agreement.

Case Number: 2023-512 **Stop & Shop Pharmacy #682; PCY.0001297**

Attorney Michael Ando presented this case.

Respondent is a Connecticut Pharmacy investigated following a patient complaint of unscheduled closure. During investigation, the Department received a second complaint concerning the same location during the same period. Due to staffing issues, there was a period in which the pharmacy operated less than 35 hours per week, and was closed for consecutive days during a 30-day period.

Proposed Resolution:

Counsel for Drug Control proposes a settlement in which Respondent shall pay a voluntary monetary payment amount of \$3,000, which has been paid.

Commission Action: Commissioner Inguanti moved, seconded by Commissioner Taylor and passed by a vote of 5-0 to accept and approve the aforementioned settlement agreement.

CE Waiver Request

Jenny Lin was a PGY1 Pharmacy Resident at Hartford Hospital in 2021, and transitioned to CVS Pharmacy as a Pharmacist and Pharmacy Manager role she left in January 2022. She was diagnosed with a medical condition in 2022 and is asking the Commission for a waiver to complete the 2022 calendar year CE credits.

Commission Action: Commissioner Taylor moved, seconded by Commissioner DeFazio and passed by a vote of 5-0 to grant and the extension to complete continuing education requirements for 2022, CE's credits needed are 2.75 Live. In review of Ms. Lin's CPE Monitor Transcript on 10/21/2023, she has completed credits needed. The CE credits that she obtained in 2023 and applied to the 2022 calendar year to be compliant cannot be used going forward for the upcoming renewal on January 31, 2024.

'First Time' Pharmacy Manager (s)

The following pharmacists presented themselves to the Commission of Pharmacy as 'first time' pharmacy managers in the State of Connecticut:

Commissioner DeFazio provided a summary of the responsibilities that a first-time pharmacy manager has and appreciated their appearance before the Commission. Commissioner DeFazio emphasized the importance of the pharmacy manager's role in contrast to the front-store manager (in many retail settings). Some responsibilities include leadership, technician registration, license renewals, reporting pharmacy operation hours, and prescription error reporting. Provided Information on utilization of the Med-watch Program.

Mohamed Hanaif
Engi Kaba

CX Pharmacy – Shelton
CVS Pharmacy – Stamford

First Time' Pharmacy Manager (s) Not in Attendance

Vanessa Pierre-Louis	Walgreens Pharmacy – New Britain
Julia E Thayer	Walgreens Pharmacy – Norwich
Alice Tse	Rite Aid Pharmacy – Wolcott
Risa Wan	Walgreens Pharmacy – Torrington

Reciprocity Interview Candidate (s)

The following candidates(s) were interviewed over the telephone and attested that the information provided was true and accurate to the best of their belief and understood that any misrepresentation of the fact could result in a fine and/or denial of pharmacist licensure in Connecticut.

Paraskevi M Alevra	Reciprocity from Massachusetts
Adedolapo Akintola	Reciprocity from District of Columbia
Sarah Bottiglio	Reciprocity from Massachusetts
Gianna Bryan	Reciprocity from North Carolina
Elizabeth A Cafalone	Reciprocity from Maryland
Nicholas D' Angelo	Reciprocity from Arizona
Matthew R May	Reciprocity from Virginia
Clayton V Mitchell	Reciprocity from Tennessee
Ai Quynh Nguyen	Reciprocity from Florida
Mutahir Niaz	Reciprocity from South Carolina
Joseph Russell	Reciprocity from Massachusetts
Michael E Salrin, Jr.	Reciprocity from Illinois
Kristina M Scaccia	Reciprocity from Vermont
Michael T Stuart	Reciprocity from New York
Adonis j Vegarra, III	Reciprocity from Ohio

Commission Action: Commissioner Taylor moved, seconded by Commissioner Carbray and passed by a vote of 5-0 to accept the above application(s) for licensure by reciprocity.

Request (s) for Non-Resident Pharmacy Approval

AccessRX LLC – Decatur, GA
Hackensack Meridian Health Pharmacy – Eatontown, NJ
Healthsmart Pharmacy LLC – Clayton, NC
The Mount Sinai Hospital – New York, NY
dba Mount Sinai Pharmacy on Madison
Quality Drug Corporation – Irvine, CA
dba Quality Drug Clinical Carce

Commission Action: Commissioner Taylor moved Commissioner Carbray seconded passed by a vote of 5-0 to accept the above non-resident pharmacy applications.

Request (s) for Non-Resident Pharmacy Approval Cont.

Aperture RX LLC – Dublin, OH
Bronx Hope RX LLC dba Medking Pharmacy – Bronx, NY
Crartedrx LLC – Warrentown, MO
Curative Pharmacy LLC – Austin, TX
JRC Compounding LLC – Brooksville, FL
dba Fortress Pharmaceuticals
Tremont RX Pharmacy Inc dba Best Pharmacy – Bronx, NY

Commission Action: Commissioner Inguanti is requesting additional documents for the above non-resident pharmacy applications for further review.

Miscellaneous Matters

Procure Pharmacy Specialty / Wholesale Request

ProCare LTC Pharmacy of CT, LLC is requesting to add Specialty services to their license credential after reviewing the requirements of Chapter 400j of the Connecticut General Statutes and §20-576-1 Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, ProCare proposes to provide the following for pharmaceutical services under the auspices of a specialty pharmacy license due to entering into a contract with Masonicare Behavioral Health Hospital.

DCP Drug Control Agent Pamela Jones spoke regarding the specifications of Procure entering into the contract with Masonicare Hospital and the importance of reporting to Department of Consumer Drug Control Division when entering into a contract.

Bincy Varghese, Director of Compliance and Farai Mazhhandu, Pharmacy Manager spoke about the specific services this contract entails for CT patients. In addition, pharmacy is also applying for a controlled substance wholesaler registration to be able to supply the medical director with controlled substances for emergency stock.

DCP Drug Control Agent Pamela Jones spoke about the condition for Procure to appoint a consultant, supervisor and/or pharmacy manager at Masonicare to maintain the flow of services. Commissioner DeFazio confirmed with Procure, that they would be hiring a representative for Masonicare Hospital.

Approval to Accept Commission of Pharmacy Meeting Minute(s)

September 27, 2023

Commission Action: Commissioner DeFazio motion to accept,
Commissioner Inguanti moved and seconded by Commissioner DeFazio
passed by a vote of 5-0 to accept.

There being no further business, Commissioner DeFazio adjourned the meeting.

Commission Action: Commissioner DeFazio motion to accept,
Commissioner Inguanti moved, seconded by Commissioner Taylor
seconded, and passed by a vote of 5-0 to adjourn.

Respectively Submitted,

Angelo DeFazio

Angelo DeFazio, Chairperson

Prepared by

Gina Samples

Gina Samples, Board Administrator