

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION  
COMMISSION OF PHARMACY  
January 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 zoom.

Commissioners Present: Angelo DeFazio, Chairperson

Richard Carbray  
Mary Inguanti  
Bryan Cafferelli  
Kristin Linder

Debbie Chisolm, Not in Attendance

Staff Present: Gina Samples, Board Administrator

**Request for Pharmacy Internship(s)**

Dana Dawoud appeared before the Commission of Pharmacy to request a pharmacy internship. The Commission of Pharmacy granted Dana Dawoud permission to apply for a pharmacy internship

**New Pharmacy Applications (s)**

Bridge Pharmacy  
161 Boston Avenue  
Bridgeport, CT 06610

Andrew Fyne, Pharmacy Manager

**Commission Action:** Commissioner Carbray moved, seconded by Commissioner Linder and passed by a vote of 5-0 to approve the above request and submission of a revised floor plan 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 Relocation (s)**

Walgreens #17586  
From:  
88 W. Stafford Road  
Stafford Springs, CT  
06076

Walgreens #17433  
To:  
84 W. Stafford Road  
Stafford Springs, CT  
06076

James Rose, Pharmacy Manager

**Commission Action:** Commissioner Carbray moved, seconded by Commissioner Linder the above relocation request 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: 2022-1486 **Benzer Pharmacy; PCN.3657**

Attorney Michael Ando presented this case.

Respondent is a Nonresident Pharmacy that was investigated following a complaint of improper licensing. It was determined that this pharmacy had changed its name in its home state and had failed to notify the Connecticut Commission of Pharmacy of a change in name of the pharmacy.

### **Proposed Resolution:**

Counsel for Drug Control proposes a resolution in which the Respondent shall appropriately change the pharmacy name as required under Connecticut Statutes and shall pay a voluntary monetary settlement payment of \$1,000.

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

Case Number: 2022-1487 **Benzer NJ 3 LLC; PCN.3585**

Attorney Michael Ando presented this case.

Respondent is a Nonresident Pharmacy that was investigated for failure to report disciplinary action in its home state to the Connecticut Commission of Pharmacy. It was determined that the pharmacy failed to report discipline and subsequently changed ownership. The new ownership also failed to report the discipline. Additionally, the new ownership changed the pharmacy's name in its home state but failed to appropriately notify the Connecticut Commission of Pharmacy of a change in name of the pharmacy.

## **Legal Matters Cont.**

### **Proposed Resolution:**

Counsel for Drug Control proposes a resolution in which the Respondent shall appropriately change the pharmacy name as required under Connecticut Statutes, and shall follow the requirements of Connecticut law, including reporting requirements to the Commission and Drug Control Division. Respondent shall additionally pay a voluntary settlement amount of \$2,000.

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

Case Number: 2021-1184 **Optum Infusion Services 500 Inc.; PCY.2363**

Attorney Michael Ando presented this case.

Respondent is a Connecticut Pharmacy determined to have failed to notify the Department of Consumer Protection in writing no later than ten days prior to installing a new primary engineering Control (PEC) in the pharmacy's clean room. Following contact from Drug Control Division, management indicated failure to notify was an error and immediately altered standard operating procedures to ensure such oversight would not reoccur. Environmental monitoring tested appropriately during this time, and the pharmacy was at all times cooperative and responsive.

### **Proposed Resolution:**

Counsel for the Drug Control Division proposes an agreement in which Respondent shall pay a voluntary settlement amount of \$1,000, which has been paid. Respondent has additionally and voluntarily adjusted operating procedures.

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

Case Number: 2021-85 **Costco Pharmacy #324; PCY.1751**

Attorney Michael Ando presented this case.

Respondent is a Connecticut Pharmacy investigated following a notification of multiple controlled substance losses. During investigation, violations were discovered including incomplete recordkeeping in a suitable file; misbranded drugs in pharmaceutical stock; failure to adequately controlled substances except for the actual time required to remove or replace needed items, and failure to timely report loss of controlled substances. This investigation also resulted in disciplinary actions against a pharmacist manager and staff pharmacist. As a result of Drug Control and internal investigation, the pharmacy replaced the staff of this pharmacy.

## **Legal Matters Cont.**

### **Proposed Resolution:**

Counsel for Drug Control proposes a settlement in which Respondent shall pay a voluntary monetary settlement amount of \$15,000. Respondent has voluntarily undertaken extensive staffing and oversight changes and has voluntarily implemented changes to improve and maintain drug security.

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

Case Number: 2022-1546 **Rite Aid #10376; PCY.1264**

Attorney Michael Ando presented this case.

Respondent is a Connecticut Pharmacy that was investigated following a complaint that the retail pharmacy was closed on several occasions during business hours. It was determined that there were four unscheduled closings in a short period. The unscheduled closings were resolved when the location was able to address a staffing shortage. The location failed to timely report the closures to the Commission of Pharmacy within 72 hours as required.

### **Proposed Resolution:**

Counsel for Drug Control Proposes a settlement in which Respondent shall pay a voluntary monetary settlement amount of \$1,000. Respondent shall follow notification requirements as outlined in Connecticut law.

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

## **'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.

Reeya Bhavsar  
Samuel Josh Brimer  
Dominique E Camilleri  
Garrett Cavanaugh  
Matthew Chaber  
Chelsea Clifford  
Katie Coleman

Rite Aid Pharmacy – Ridgefield  
Walgreens Pharmacy – Danbury  
Rite Aid Pharmacy – Danbury  
Walmart Pharmacy – Newington  
Griffin Pharmacy & Gifts – Derby  
Stop & Shop Pharmacy – Cromwell  
Walmart Pharmacy – Newington

**'First Time' Pharmacy Manager (s) Cont.**

Michael Costa	Walmart Pharmacy – Newington
Jacob Duffus	CVS Pharmacy – Enfield
Christopher Epps	CVS Pharmacy – Glastonbury
Andrew Fyne	Bridge Pharmacy – Bridgeport
Tara Hubbard	CVS Pharmacy – East Hampton
Maham Khan	Metro Pharmacy LLC – New Haven
Arkadiy Khanimov	Rite Aid Pharmacy – Bridgeport
Jatin Kukreja	Rite Aid Pharmacy – West Haven
Katherine Michaud	First Choice Health Centers – East Hartford
Liz Calderon Montes	Walgreens Pharmacy – Meriden
James Perugini	Walgreens Pharmacy – Waterbury
David Prussack	North Norwalk Pharmacy – Norwalk
Erin Strong	Hope Charitable Pharmacy – Bridgeport

**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.

Christopher T Batista	Reciprocity from North Carolina
Troy D Biery	Reciprocity from Ohio
Arkadiy Khanimov	Reciprocity from New York
Joe A Klimpel	Reciprocity from Montana
Sneha Krishnakumar	Reciprocity from Massachusetts
Iliia Mashkin	Reciprocity from New York
Jennifer Ofori-Kyerewah	Reciprocity from New York
Milan J Patel	Reciprocity from Massachusetts
Miranda C Raguindin	Reciprocity from Virginia
Muhammad Rizwan	Reciprocity from Virginia
Ann C Smith	Reciprocity from Virginia
Selise E Spector	Reciprocity from Florida
Jasmine Tankard	Reciprocity from Massachusetts

### **Request to Increase Pharmacy Technician Ratio**

ProCare LTC Pharmacy of CT, LLC, Farai D. Mazhandu, Pharmacy Manager  
ProCare LTC Pharmacy of CT's fulfillment center's functions handles customer incoming/outgoing calls, data entry, and the primary responsibility is to verify that the medications dispensed are accurate to the labels produced by the clinical hub. The pharmacy is requesting a waiver to increase the Pharmacy Technician's to a 6 to 1 ratio.

**Commission Action:** Commissioner DeFazio made a motion to accept the 6 to 1 Pharmacy Technician Ratio proposal, hearing no motion to second the waiver request is denied.

### **Request(s) for Continuing Education Program Approval**

NASCSA

Trends in Illicit Drug Threats and Technology Used to Combat the Threat  
Scott Fitzpatrick, Safety & Security Specialist

1.0 CEU Live

December 7, 2022, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m., Webinar

**Commission Action:** Commissioner DeFazio moved, seconded by Commissioner Linder and passed by a vote of 5-0 to approve the continuing education program credit.

### **Request(s) for Non-Resident Pharmacy Approval**

Blondell RX NY LLC dba Quick RX – Brooklyn, NY

Ivation Pharmacy LLC – Pflugerville, TX

BMS Pharmacy Inc – Wappingers Falls, NY

Healthsource Pharmacy Inc – New York, NY

Pharmko Inc – Lawrence, NY

Quark Inc – Sunnyvale, CA

RX 2 You Inc – Lehigh Acres, FL

VRX Solutions LLC – Framingham, MA

Westbury Drug Corp – Westbury, NY

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

Epic Scripts– Richardson, TX

Everwell Specialty Pharmacy Inc – Los Angeles, CA

Fletcher Panacea Inc – Arden, NC

Medication Management Partners LLC – Crestwood, IL

OSRX Inc #2865 – Missoula, MT

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

**Approval to Accept Commission of Pharmacy Meeting Minute(s)**

November 30, 2022

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

Respectively Submitted,

*Angelo DeFazio*

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Angelo DeFazio, Chairperson

Prepared by

*Gina Samples*

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Gina Samples, Board Administrator