ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Pursuant to Md. State Govt. Code Ann. §10-226 (c)(2) (2009 Repl. Vol.), the State Board of Pharmacy (the "Board") hereby summarily suspends the registration of Jennifer A. Gurule, Registration Number: T00842 ("the Respondent"), to practice as a registered pharmacy technician, under the Maryland Pharmacy Act (the "Act"), Md. Health Occ. Code Ann. ("H. O.") §§12-101 et seq. (2009 Repl. Vol.). This Order is based on the following investigative findings, which the Board has reason to believe are true:¹

INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS

1. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was registered to practice as a pharmacy technician in the State of Maryland. The Respondent was originally registered to practice as a pharmacy technician in Maryland on or about June 19, 2008.


¹ The statements regarding the Respondent's conduct are only intended to provide the Respondent with notice of the basis for the Board's action. They are not intended as, and do not necessarily represent a complete description of the evidence, either documentary or testimonial, to be offered against the Respondent in this matter.
3. At all times relevant hereto, Respondent worked as pharmacy technician at Pharmacy A located in Anne Arundel County, Maryland.\(^2\)

4. In or about March 4, 2014, the management of Pharmacy A notified the Board that the Respondent was terminated after Pharmacy A management discovered that the Respondent had stolen hydrocodone from Pharmacy A.

5. Following an internal investigation conducted by Pharmacy A management, it was determined that 3,277 tablets of Hydrocodone-APAP 10-325 mgs. and 4178 tablets of Hydrocodone BT- Ibuprofen were missing from Pharmacy A.

6. Additionally, a video tape located in Pharmacy A showed the Respondent opening pill bottles she had taken from the pharmacy shelf and placing the contents of the bottles in her mouth.

7. After being confronted by Pharmacy A’s investigative staff, the Respondent admitted in a written statement that she had been stealing hydrocodone from Pharmacy A for approximately six (6) months.

8. Pharmacy A’s investigative staff also retrieved a bottle containing approximately twenty-five (25) Hydrocodone pills from the Respondent’s purse. The Respondent admitted that she had stolen these pills from Pharmacy A.

9. The Respondent was subsequently arrested by the Anne Arundel Police. The Respondent was charged with three (3) counts of theft in violation of Md. Crim. Law Code Ann. § 7-104, and one (1) count of possession of a control dangerous substance not marihuana, in violation of Md. Crim. Law art. § 5-602. (a) (1).

\(^2\) The name of the Pharmacy A is omitted in order to protect the identity of Pharmacy A.
CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing investigative findings, the Board concludes that the public health, safety, and welfare imperatively require emergency action in this case, pursuant to Md. State Gov't. Code Ann. § 10-226(c) (2).

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Investigative Findings and Conclusions of Law, it is this 13th day of June, 2014, by a majority of the quorum of the Board, hereby 

ORDERED that the registration issued to the Respondent to practice as pharmacy technician in the State of Maryland under registration number T00842 is hereby SUMMARILY SUSPENDED; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent is prohibited from practicing as a pharmacy technician in the State of Maryland; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent shall immediately return all registrations to the Board; and it is further

ORDERED that this ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION is a PUBLIC DOCUMENT as defined in Md. State Gov't Code Ann. §§ 10-611 et seq. (2009 Repl. Vol.)

_6/13/14_
Date

LaVerne G. Naesee, Executive Director
State Board of Pharmacy