IN THE MATTER OF

* BEFORE THE

RICHARD BARRY STRAUSS, P.D.

* MARYLAND STATE

LICENSE NO. 08271,

* BOARD OF PHARMACY

RESPONDENT

*

* * * * * * * * * *

CONSENT ORDER

Based on information received and a subsequent investigation by the Maryland State Board of Pharmacy (the "Board") and subject to Health Occupations Article §12-315, Annotated Code of Maryland (the "Act") the Board charged Richard Barry Strauss, P.D., License No. 08271 (the "Respondent") with violation of certain provisions of Maryland Health Occupations Article, Code Ann. §12-101 et seq. Repl. Vol. (1994) under the Maryland Pharmacy Act (the "Act").

Specifically, the Board charged the Respondent with violation of the following provisions of §12-313(b) of the Act:

Subject to the hearing provisions of §12-315 of this subtitle, the Board, on the affirmative vote of a majority of its members then serving, may deny a license to any applicant, reprimand any licensee, place any licensee on probation; or suspend or revoke a license if the applicant or licensee:

(23) Is disciplined by a licensing or disciplinary authority of any other state or country or convicted or disciplined by a court of any state or country for an act that would be grounds for disciplinary actions under the Board's disciplinary rules.

ALLEGATIONS OF FACT

The Board bases its charges on the following facts that the Board has cause to believe are true:

- 1. At all times relevant to the charges herein, Respondent was licensed to practice pharmacy in the State of Maryland.
 - 2. Respondent applied for renewal of his Maryland license to

practice pharmacy with the State Board of Pharmacy on August 6, 1995.

- 3. Respondent disclosed in the renewal application that his pharmacy license in the State of New Jersey had been subjected to a disciplinary proceeding for unprofessional conduct.
- 4. On February 23, 1994 the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety found that Respondent's actions of submitting fraudulent pharmacy receipts to collect reimbursement from his personal health insurance company, violated NJSA 45:1421 Unprofessional Conduct.
- 5. Respondent could not obtain insurance reimbursement for prescriptions of his family members whose prescriptions were filled at Respondent's pharmacy. In an effort to obtain reimbursement, Respondent made fraudulent receipts falsely identifying other pharmacies as the pharmacies dispensing the prescriptions. The prescriptions were in fact filled at Respondent's pharmacy.
- 6. The Respondent was give a three month, stayed suspension by the New Tersey board.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board finds Respondent violated Health Occupations Article §12-313 (b) (23) (Is disciplined by a licensing or disciplinary authority of any other state or country or convicted or disciplined by a court of any state or country for an act that would be grounds for disciplinary actions under the Board's disciplinary rules) to wit §12-313 (b)

(2) (fraudulently or deceptively uses a license) and (6) (willfully makes or files a false report or record as part of practicing pharmacy) of the Act.

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is this day of fact, 1996, by a majority of the Board, hereby

 $\mbox{\tt ORDERED}$ that Respondent be placed on $\mbox{\tt PROBATION}$ subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Respondent shall take and pass, with a B average or better, a Board approved ethics course at the college level **prior** to practicing pharmacy in the State of Maryland.
- 2. Respondent shall not engage in the type of conduct which led to his being disciplined and placed on probation.
- 3. Respondent may petition the Board to be released from probation after meeting the probationary conditions above.

OPPERED that in the event the Board finds for any reason in good faith the Respondent has substantially violated any provision of Title 12 of the Health Occupations Article, Maryland Annotated Code or the regulations thereunder, or if the Respondent violated any of the foregoing conditions of Probation, the Board, after notification to the Respondent, and an opportunity to be heard, may take immediate action or impose any lawful disciplinary sanction it deems appropriate, including but not limited to revocation or suspension of Respondent's licensee to practice pharmacy; and be it

further

ORDERED that the conditions of the Consent Order be, and the same hereby are, effective as of the date of this Order; and be it further

ORDERED that for purposes of public disclosure, as permitted by §10-317 (h), State Government Article, Maryland Code Annotated, this document consists of the contents of the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

110/1/

Date

George Voxakis, Pharm. D.

President

CONSENT of Richard Strauss, P.D.

- I, Richard Strauss, by affixing my signature hereto, acknowledge that:
 - 1. I am not represented by an attorney
- 2. I am aware that without my consent, my license to practice pharmacy in this State cannot be limited, except pursuant to the provisions of §12-3 of the Act and §10-205 et seq. of the Administrative Procedure Act, State Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland.
- 3. I am aware that I am entitled to a formal evidentiary hearing before the Board or an Administrative Law Judge.

By this Consent Order, I hereby consent and submit to the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order provided

the Board adopts the foregoing Final Consent Order in its entirety. By doing so, I waive my right to a formal hearing as set forth in §12-3 of the Act and §10-215 of the Administrative Procedure Act except on connection with any alleged violation of this Order. I acknowledge that by failing to abide by the conditions set forth in this Order, I may, after an opportunity to be heard, suffer disciplinary action, including revocation of my license to practice pharmacy in the State of Maryland.

1-28-97	Ruhard Shaus
DATE	RICHARD STRAUSS, P.D.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY CITY/COUNTY OF: YNO WMOUT A

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 38 day of January,

1997, a Notary of the State of New Jersey and (City/County),

Mormouth, personally appeared Richard

STRAUSS, P.D. License No. 08271, and made oath in due form of law that signing the foregoing Consent Order was his voluntary act and deed, and the statements made herein are true and correct.

AS WITNESS my hand and notarial seal.

Notary Public of Mo J.

My commission expires: 2-22-99



THE STATE: EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Office of Professional Discipline, 163 West 125th Street — Room 819, New York, NY 10027 Tel. 212 961-4369 Fax 212 961-4361

July 17, 2003

LaVerne G. Nasea
Maryland Board of Pharmacy
Executive Director
4201 Pattersor Avenue
Bali, MD 21215-2299

Re:

Richard Strauss, RPH Your Case No. NABP026658

Dur File No. 2303908

Dear Sir or Ma Jam:

The above-referenced individual holds professional licenses issued by your jurisdiction and by the New York State Education Department. By virtue of the disciplinary action taken by your agency, the licensee may be subject to disciplinary action by our agency as well. Accordingly, for the official use of the New York State Education Department, I request that you supply me with certified copies of the following documents:

- 1. accusatory instrument (statement of charges, specifications of misconduct) under which the person was found guilty of professional misconduct;
- ε pplication for consent order, if applicable;
- 3. It earing panel report, if applicable;
- 4. findings of fact, conclusions of law, and disciplinary order.

Because the requested documents may be offered into evidence at a disciplinary hearing in New York State, your certifications should comply with New York's certification requirements: the copies must be certified to be true copies by the officer having legal custody of the originals, or by his or her deputy; the certification should bear an original ink signature (or facsimile thereof) of the person certifying the copies; and, if your agency has a seal, it should be affixed.

If your agenc / imposes a fee for the requested documents, and does not waive such fee for sister-state agencies, please inform me by letter, telephone, or E-mail (hdew@mail.nysed.gov) of the total cost, the exact payee's name, and the payee's federal

taxpayer ident fication number, and I will request the issuance of a check from our Fiscal Management c ffice.

Thank you for your anticipated assistance in this matter.

Very truly yours,

HERBERT DEW
Senior Investigator

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