## State Board of Pharmacy March 17, 2020

## BOARD MEMBERS:

Terry M. Talbott, R.Ph., Chairperson
K. Kalonji Johnson, Acting Commissioner of Bureau of
Professional and Occupational Affairs
Robert B. Frankil, R.Ph., Vice Chairperson
Janet Getzey Hart, R.Ph., Secretary
Patrick M. Greene, Esquire, Office of Attorney General
Thomas P. Carey, Ed.D. - Absent

14 | 15 | BUREAU PERSONNEL:

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Juan A. Ruiz, Esquire, Board Counsel
Ray Michalowski, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison
Carolyn A. DeLaurentis, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel,
Prosecution Division
Melanie Zimmerman, R.Ph., Executive Secretary
Ted Stauffer, Executive Secretary, Bureau of
Professional and Occupational Affairs

## 25 ALSO PRESENT:

26 27 Larry Jones, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Society 28 of Health-System Pharmacists 29 Leigh Shirley, Director of Pharmacy Operations, Giant 30 Food Stores 31 Patricia A. Epple, CEO, Pennsylvania Pharmacists 32 Association 33 Christine Renfer, CVS Health 34 Nichole Cover, Walgreens 35 Jim Reed, Walgreens 36 Jeffrey Sinko, CVS Health 37 | Lauren Paul, Senior Director, Pharmacy Regulatory 38 Affairs, CVS Health 39 Carl Harting, CVS Health 40 Christine Roussel, Pharm.D., BCOP, Pennsylvania 41 Society of Health-System Pharmacists/Doylestown 42 Hospital 43 John Sisto, Express Scripts Jenna L. McCarthy, Malady & Wooten 45 Lisa Scannapieco 46 Jessica Adams 47 Lawrence Caul 48

3 \* \* \* 1 2 State Board of Pharmacy 3 March 17, 2020 \* \* \* 4 5 The regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Pharmacy was held via teleconference on Tuesday, March 17, 2020. Terry M. Talbott, R.Ph., Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m. 9 10 [Chairperson Talbott requested the introduction of Board members, Board staff, and audience members.] 11 \* \* \* 12 13 Approval of minutes of the January 28, 2020 meeting CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT: 14 15 I would entertain a motion to approve the 16 Board of Pharmacy minutes from the January 28th meeting. 17 MS. HART: 18 19 I'll make a motion. 20 CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT: 21 Second? 22 MR. FRANKIL: 23 Second. 2.4 CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT: 25 Rob will second. Any discussion on the

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minutes? Hearing none, I'll obtain a
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                roll call vote.
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                Frankil, aye; Greene, aye; Johnson, aye;
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                Talbott, aye; and Hart aye.
   [The motion carried unanimously.]
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  Report of Prosecutorial Division
   [Chairperson Talbott recognized Prosecutorial Division
10 cases for discussion in Executive Session.
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       Carolyn DeLaurentis, Esquire, Deputy Chief
12 Counsel, Prosecution Division, stated, despite
13
  operational shutdown due to COVID-19 concerns, the
14 majority of the Prosecution Division was working
15 remotely.
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17 Report of Board Counsel
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   [Juan A. Ruiz, Esquire, Board Counsel, noted two
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  proposed Adjudications and Orders as well as
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  applications for discussion during Executive Session.]
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22 Report of Probable Cause Screening Committee
23 | [Patrick M. Greene, Esquire, Office of Attorney
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   General, noted he signed a couple of Orders on
25 Petitions for Appropriate Relief.
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Chairperson Talbott inquired as to how the
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  Prosecution Division would handle communications with
  the committee. Mr. Michalowski noted communications
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  are typically conducted via email.
                                       There was
  discussion regarding a possible backup plan, if
  necessary.
       Mr. Michalowski stated the division would receive
  communications through the pa.gov email.]
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  Report of Executive Secretary
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  [Melanie Zimmerman, R.Ph., Executive Secretary, noted,
12 although Board offices are closed, staff are working
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  remotely and will continue to process applications.
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  Communications are being conducted through email, as
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  the phone system is unavailable. Given the expected
  increase in the number of e-mails, there may be delays
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  in responding to the e-mails.
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       Chairperson Talbott asked whether dedicated staff
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was working on applications upon receipt. Ms.

Zimmerman explained that each staff member is assigned specific applications. She noted the staff will be working on existing applications as well as new applications.]

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25 New Business

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[Chairperson Talbott noted there were no names to put in for the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) Recognition Resolution as no one passed away in the past year.

Ms. Zimmerman updated the Board regarding the NABP Annual meeting Scheduled for May 14-16, 2020. An out-of-state travel ban is currently in place. She noted Ms. Hart had been selected as the Board's voting delegate and Chairperson Talbott is listed as the alternate voting delegate.]

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12 Old Business

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[The Board discussed school rotation sites at 1.3 14 marijuana dispensaries. Chairperson Talbott had 15 requested that Ms. Zimmerman seek information from the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) on 16 17 the acceptability of marijuana dispensaries as 18 internship sites. While ACPE does not require internship sites to be licensed pharmacies, the 19 20 internship sites must comply with state laws and regulations. 21

Chairperson Talbott noted the Board does not regulate marijuana dispensaries in Pennsylvania. She noted schools are looking for guidance as they organize rotations for the next year. Ms. Zimmerman

commented there are many out-of-state applicants, and the Board is unaware of the practices of schools in other states. Chairperson Talbott concurred, noting in some states the Board of Pharmacy does oversee the marijuana dispensaries.

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Ms. Hart reminded the Board that regulations in Pennsylvania mandate there be a pharmacist or another health care provider/prescriber at the dispensary, so she supported allowing the hours.

Mr. Frankil was not in favor of allowing the hours since dispensaries are not overseen by the Board and 12 the Board does not have any control over them. Hart countered that dispensaries are actually more regulated than pharmacies. Mr. Frankil agreed but reiterated his opinion.

There was further discussion regarding other entities whose education hours are accepted, despite a lack of regulation by the Board of Pharmacy, including Indian reservations and insurance companies.

Mr. Ruiz quoted Regulation 27.26 (e), "The Board will grant internship credit only for activities related to the practice of pharmacy. The following are examples of these activities: Scrutinizing prescriptions or drug orders, taking oral orders for prescriptions by telephone or otherwise, compounding

1 medications and filling prescriptions. The Board will not grant internship credit for activities which are not related to the practice of pharmacy."

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He noted the question deals with defining the practice of pharmacy. He cautioned, from a legal standpoint, working at a dispensary was not considered the practice of pharmacy.

There was discussion regarding so-called nonpharmacy externships, such as those at dispensaries, and whether students would fall below the 1500 intern hours requirement if the hours earned at these sites did not count towards licensure.

Ms. Hart pointed out the Medical Marijuana Program recently issued licenses for various schools, such as LECOM, to work with dispensaries on research and development. Some schools were now working with the dispensaries, growers and processors.

Chairperson Talbott suggested continuing the discussion on the matter at the Board's May meeting. She asked Ms. Zimmerman to reach out to LECOM for information.

Chairperson Talbott asked Mr. Michalowski about contacts with the Medical Marijuana Board. 24 Michalowski noted he did have contact with the Medical 25 | Marijuana Board and the Board of Pharmacy may want to

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consider inviting a representative from the Department of Health (DOH) to speak to the Board of Pharmacy.

Mr. Michalowski also noted, since dispensaries can be overseen clinically either by a physician, osteopath or pharmacist, there may be the possibility to require students to perform their hours in the presence of a pharmacist.

A consensus was reached to revisit the issue in May for further discussion under old business and also to obtain additional information.]

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smoothly.

12 Report of Acting Commissioner

13 [K. Kalonji Johnson, Acting Commissioner of the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs, reported on BPOA's extensive work with the Department of Health and the Policy Office to ensure the waivers under the Governor's emergency declaration are implemented

He emphasized, although there was an impact on operations due to availability of resources, applications are still being processed by the majority of staff, who are working from home.

Chairperson Talbott stated the people in the pharmacy industry have reached out to her with questions regarding patient safety, what to do if

somebody is exposed to coronavirus, and how to social distance at a mail site.

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She noted the Board may not be able to issue quidance on waivers or issue blanket statements, but opined there should be an announcement to the community. As an example, there was an inquiry as to waiving enforcement of USP 797 due to the current shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE).

Chairperson Talbott inquired of Commissioner Johnson as to the information the Board may offer to provide guidance to the individuals who are asking questions. Mr. Johnson expressed a concern about making blanket waivers, noting most of the Board's functions are discretionary and reviewed on a case-bycase basis in determining whether discipline is appropriate or a certain action may have been justified. He asserted, if there was a process in place for exceptions, protections would be built into that process and suggested a wait-and-see approach.

Mr. Michalowski noted he had dealt with similar questions even before COVID-19 with inspectors. stated inspectors often ask if new practices are a 23 violation and the regulations are reviewed. He used the example of compounding regulations and noted there was some flexibility to allow for performing different

1 methods within the regulations.

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Mr. Michalowski referred to the opioid disaster declaration, noting there were waivers regarding the use of naloxone before any regulatory change was made. He stated any waivers would have to be granted in a very specific way at the Governor's discretion.

Chairperson Talbott referred to the Board's compounding regulations at 27.601 regarding sterile and non-sterile preparations. She noted USP and CDC were working with PPE manufacturers. She questioned whether enforcement could be waived temporarily.

Mr. Ruiz warned against making blanket waivers, asserting regulations were to protect both patient and practitioner safety. He indicated there may be more discussion if the situation worsens.

Chairperson Talbott noted it may be necessary to have an emergency meeting of the Board to take a look at specific regulations that may need to be waived.

Mr. Ruiz assured the Board he would pass any Board waiver request on to the Commissioner.

Mr. Johnson suggested placing the Pharmacy

Application Review Committee in charge of identifying

key elements that can be waived.]

\* \* \*

25 New Business

[Chairperson Talbott shared correspondence from 1 Walgreens, which is evaluating current contingency 3 plans in the event of an outbreak of COVID-19 in one of the facilities. She noted the company does not currently allow pharmacists to access their system to conduct data entry or pharmacist verification from a remote location.

Chairperson Talbott stated this was not prohibited in the statute or regulation.

There was a discussion regarding Walgreens' question with regard to technicians. Chairperson Talbott noted the statute calls for the direct, immediate, personal supervision of technicians by a pharmacist, which might limit remote work that can be performed by technicians.

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Mr. Michalowski opined that it would likely be acceptable for technicians to perform remote data entry that could be verified by the pharmacist. He cautioned, when physically filling prescriptions, there would need to be direct supervision.

Chairperson Talbott noted the need for further discussion in the future.

Commissioner Johnson encouraged the Board to 24 provide him with input that he may pass on to state 25 policy makers.

There was discussion regarding when it would be appropriate for a pharmacy to report a non-permanent closure to the Board. Mr. Johnson noted that it makes sense to notify the Board if a business would be closed for an extended period of time, but encouraged pharmacies to implement plans on how to manage hygiene first. He noted any proposed procedures should be reported to the Governor's Policy Office so guidance could be issued.

Mr. Frankil noted the pharmacy boards in New Jersey and Ohio have sent out notices on how to deal with certain situations, and Pennsylvania should do the same ASAP.

Chairperson Talbott suggested compiling a list of possible waivers during Executive Session.

Mr. Michalowski stressed the importance of pharmacies notifying customers about closures. He noted customers should have information as to how long a facility would be closed, any transfers to other pharmacies via a sign on their door, on their phone lines or email. He suggested guidelines for pharmacies that are closing for more than four hours.]

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24 Audience Member Comments

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25 | [Ms. Roussel addressed USP 797, noting it allows for

the reuse of gowns in a shift, but not masks.

She mentioned facilities also go through sterile

gloves quickly. She expressed a concern for these

items being thrown away with the current shortage.

She also noted gloves can be sterilized using alcohol and asked for guidance on alternative methods for using PPE.

Mr. Jones pointed out the industry was not expecting waivers on basics, such as training, checks

and balances, labeling, and a pharmacist's

supervision.

Ms. Roussel reminded the Board of the updated USP 800, which requires non-sterile compounders to wear N95 respirators for certain activities.

Ms. Paul, CVS, thanked the Board for the discussion. She reiterated the need to act quickly to provide guidance in the pharmacy community. Ms. Paul requested clear direction on the status of technicians. She noted CVS has two very large pharmacies in Pennsylvania. Ms. Paul requested guidance on enforcement waivers or other processes as soon as possible.

Ms. Cover noted there are 51 different state boards trying to enforce regulations in a unique situation.

Ms. Epple urged the Board provide guidance as soon as possible.

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Mr. Sisto reiterated that when technicians work remotely there is electronic supervision. He noted it would be helpful to take a large population out of the pharmacy. He stated it would also leave a smaller footprint of people in the pharmacy to perform dispensing functions, which would reduce their exposure.

Chairperson Talbott questioned the number of people working at some of the pharmacy sites. 12 Sisto estimated between two sites at least 400 to 500 people. Ms. Cover estimated at least 200 to 300 Ms. Renfer stated close to 700 in Wilkespeople. Barre and approximately 500 in Pittsburgh.

Mr. Sinko opined that the question regarding technicians did not need to go through a waiver. noted electronic supervision of data entry was common.

Mr. Sinko urged the Board to make a prompt decision.

Chairperson Talbott noted that Mr. Sinko sits on the New Jersey Board of Pharmacy.]

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[Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at 24 12:47 p.m. the Board entered into Executive Session with Juan A. Ruiz, Esquire, Board Counsel, for the 25

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1 purpose of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations.
  The Board returned to open session at 1:28 p.m.]
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  MOTIONS:
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   CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT:
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                 The Board of Pharmacy met in Executive
                 Session.
                     Were there any and are there any
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                 motions?
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  MR. GREENE:
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                 I make the motion that we approve the
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                 Consent Agreement at Case No. 19-54-
                 015527.
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   CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT:
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                 Second?
16 MR. FRANKIL:
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                 Frankil, second.
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   CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT:
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                 Any discussion? Call the vote.
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                 Frankil, aye; Greene, aye; Johnson, aye;
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                 Talbott, aye; and Hart, aye.
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   [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's
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   name is James F. Franks, R.Ph.]
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  MR. GREENE:
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                 I make the motion that we approve the
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                 Consent Agreement at Case No. 16-54-10954
   CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT:
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                 Do we have a second?
  MR. FRANKIL:
                 Frankil second.
   CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT:
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                 Any discussion? Call the vote.
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                 Frankil, aye; Greene, aye; Johnson, aye;
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                 Talbott, aye; and Hart, aye.
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   [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's
14 name is Erich J. Cushey, R.Ph.]
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16 MR. GREENE:
                 I make the motion that we approve the
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                 Consent Agreement at Case No. 18-54-
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                 02779.
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   MR. FRANKIL:
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                 Frankil second.
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   CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT:
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                 Any discussion? Call the vote.
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                 Frankil, aye; Greene, aye; Johnson, aye;
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18 Talbott, aye; and Hart, aye. 1 2 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's name is Denise Clare Racano, R.Ph.] 3 \* \* \* 4 MR. GREENE: 6 I make the motion that we approve the Consent Agreement at Case No. 19-54-008580. 8 MR. FRANKIL: 10 Frankil second. 11 CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT: 12 Any discussion? Call the vote. 13 Frankil, aye; Greene, aye; Johnson, aye; 14 15 Talbott, aye; and Hart, aye. [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's 16 17 name is Drugs Are Us, Inc. t/d/b/a Hopewell Pharmacy.] \* \* \* 18 19 MR. GREENE: 20 I make the motion that we approve the 21 Consent Agreement at Case No. 19-54-22 014931. 23 MR. FRANKIL: 24 Frankil second.

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CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT:

19 Any discussion? Call the vote. 1 2 3 Frankil, aye; Greene, aye; Johnson, aye; Talbott, aye; and Hart, aye. 4 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's name is Robert Patrick Osborne, R.Ph.] \* \* \* MR. FRANKIL: 9 I make the motion to approve File No. 10 19-54-016424. 11 MS. HART: 12 Hart second. CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT: 13 14 Any discussion? Call the vote. 15 16 Frankil, aye; Greene, recuse; Johnson, 17 aye; Talbott, aye; and Hart, aye. [The motion carried. Mr. Greene recused himself from 18 19 deliberations and voting on the motion. The 20 Respondent's name is Steven Paul Teti, R.Ph.] \* \* \* 21 22 MR. FRANKIL: 23 I make the motion to approve File No. 19-24 54-016425. 25 CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT:

20 Do we have a second? 1 MS. HART: 2 3 Hart second. CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT: 4 5 Any discussion? Call the vote. 6 Frankil, aye; Greene, recuse; Johnson, 8 aye; Talbott, aye; and Hart, aye. [The motion carried. Mr. Greene recused himself from 10 deliberations and voting on the motion. The Respondent's name is Amy Jill Zandonella, R.Ph.] 11 \* \* \* 12 MR. GREENE: 13 14 I make the motion that we approve the 15 Consent Agreement at Case No. 18-54-012272 and 18-54-012271. 16 17 CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT: 18 Janet, you may have to second this one. 19 MS. HART: 20 Hart second. CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT: 21 22 Any discussion? Call the vote. 23 24 Frankil, recuse; Greene, aye; Johnson, 25 aye; Talbott, aye; and Hart, aye.

21 [The motion carried. Mr. Frankil recused himself from 1 deliberations and voting on the motion. The 3 Respondent's name is Bethany L. Miller, R.Ph., and Lion Pharmacy.] \* \* \* 5 MR. GREENE: I make the motion that we approve the following VRP Consent Agreements at Case 8 9 No. 19-54-018633 and Case No. 19-54-10 012387. 11 MS. HART: 12 Hart, second. CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT: 13 14 Any discussion? Call the vote. 15 16 Frankil, aye; Greene, aye; Johnson, aye; 17 Talbott, aye; and Hart, aye. 18 [The motion carried unanimously.] \* \* \* 19 20 MR. GREENE: 21 I make the motion that we approve the 22 Consent Agreement at Case No. 19-54-23 017033.

Frankil second.

MR. FRANKIL:

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22 CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT: 1 Any discussion? Call the vote. 2 3 Frankil, aye; Greene, aye; Johnson, aye; 4 5 Talbott, aye; and Hart, aye. [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's name is Amanda Crowe, R.Ph.] 8 MR. GREENE: 10 I make the motion that we approve the 11 Consent Agreement at Case No. 20-54-000618. 12 MR. FRANKIL: 13 Frankil second. 14 15 CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT: 16 Any discussion? Call the vote. 17 Frankil, aye; Greene, aye; Johnson, aye; 18 Talbott, aye; and Hart, aye. 19 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's 20 name is Gerald S. Effland, Jr., R.Ph.] \* \* \* 21 [The Final Adjudication and Order in the matter of 22 23 BPOA vs. James Conrad Burke, R.Ph., Case Nos. 15-54-01250 and 15-54-00537, was tabled due to lack of a 24 25 quorum.]

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2 MR. GREENE:

I make a motion that we adopt the Final Adjudication and Order in the matter of BPOA vs. Gino S. Cordisco, R.Ph., Case Nos. 15-54-01804 and 17-54-11497.

7 MR. FRANKIL:

Frankil second.

9 CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT:

10 Any discussion? Call the vote.

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Frankil, aye; Greene, aye; Johnson, aye;

Talbott, aye; and Hart, aye.

14 [The motion carried unanimously.]

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16 MR. GREENE:

I make a motion that we conditionally
approve the application of Metro Care
Pharmacy, pending receipt of information
requested by the Board.

21 MR. FRANKIL:

22 Frankil second.

23 CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT:

Any discussion? Call the vote.

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                 Frankil, aye; Greene, aye; Johnson, aye;
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                 Talbott, aye; and Hart, aye.
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   [The motion carried unanimously.]
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   [The application of Carepharm Pharmacy, LTC, was
   tabled.]
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  [Chairman Talbott announced that the regulatory
   Committee would meet on March 18, 2020, to review the
10 regulations that may need to be waived due to the
11
  pandemic situation.]
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13 Adjournment
14 CHAIRPERSON TALBOTT:
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                 I will entertain a motion to adjourn and
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                 practice good social distance.
17 MS. HART:
                 So moved.
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  MR. JOHNSON:
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                 Second.
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                              * * *
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   [Mr. Johnson thanked the Board for their discussion of
23 the pandemic situation.]
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   [There being no further business, the State Board of
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Pharmacy Meeting was adjourned at 1:41 p.m.]

\* \* \*

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing summary minutes of the State Board of Pharmacy, was reduced to writing by me or under my supervision, and that the minutes accurately summarize the substance of the State Board of Pharmacy meeting.

Alicia Gascoigne,

Minute Clerk

Sargent's Court Reporting
Service, Inc.

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12345678901234567890123456789012345678		STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY REFERENCE INDEX March 17, 2020
	TIME	AGENDA
	11:35	Official Call to Order
	11:36	Roll Call and Audience Members Introduced
	11:40	Adoption of Minutes
	11:42	Report of Prosecutorial Division
	11:44	Report of Board Counsel
	11:45	Report of Probable Cause Screening Committee
	11:46	Report of Executive Secretary
	11:48	New Business
	11:59	Old Business
	12:03	Report of Commissioner and Report of Board Chairperson
	12:30	Audience Member Comments
	12:47	Executive Session
	1:28	Return from Executive Session
	1:28	Motions
	1:41	Adjournment
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