COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

SUFFOLK COUNTY BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN PHARMACY

In the Matter of )

Helen Chu ) Docket No. PHA-2023-0074

PH233193 ) CAS-2023-0077

Expires 12/31/2024 )

**CONSENT AGREEMENT FOR VOLUNTARY SURRENDER**

The Massachusetts Board of Registration in Pharmacy (“Board”) and Helen Chu (“Licensee”), pharmacist licensed by the Board, License No. PH233193, do hereby stipulate and agree that the following information shall be entered into and become a permanent part of the Licensee’s record maintained by the Board:

1. The Licensee acknowledges that the Board opened a complaint against their Massachusetts pharmacist license related to the conduct set forth in Paragraph 2, identified as Docket No. PHA-2023-0074 (“the Complaint”).[[1]](#footnote-1)
2. The Licensee and the Board agree to resolve this Complaint without making any admissions or findings and without proceeding to a formal adjudicatory hearing.  The Complaint alleges the following:
   1. The Licensee worked as a pharmacist for CVS Pharmacy from at least February 12, 2019 until approximately January 12, 2023, and at all times relevant to this Agreement.
      1. While employed by CVS Pharmacy as a pharmacist, the Licensee uttered false prescriptions for over the counter (OTC) and Schedule VI medications for [Redacted] for a period of approximately two years from February 12, 2019 through July 22, 2022 totaling approximately one-hundred twenty-nine (129) fraudulent prescriptions including:
         1. Two (2) prescriptions filled on February 12, 2019 and March 18, 2019 at CVS Pharmacy #746 in Randolph, MA;
         2. Eight (8) prescriptions filled from February 15, 2019 through March 19, 2020 at CVS Pharmacy #1249 in Hanson, MA;
         3. Sixty-eight (68) prescriptions filled from May 14, 2020 through January 21, 2022 at CVS Pharmacy #281 in Rockland, MA; and
         4. Fifty-one (51) prescriptions filled from February 4, 2022 through July 22, 2022 at CVS Pharmacy #242 in Holbrook, MA;
         5. Pilfered OTC items including facemasks and gloves; and
         6. Modified copays for three (3) prescriptions to $0 (zero) on June 24, 2022.
      2. The Licensee signed a written admission that they “falsified OTC and Schedule VI prescriptions.”[[2]](#footnote-2)
3. The Board and Licensee acknowledge and agree that Licensee’s conduct described in Paragraph 2 constitutes a violation of M.G.L. c. 94C, §33(b) and warrants disciplinary action by the Board under M.G.L. c. 112, §§ 42A and 61, 247 CMR 10.03(1)(a), (e), (f), (l), (r), (w), & (x).
4. The Licensee agrees to SURRENDER their pharmacist license for an indefinite period of time and refrain from practicing as a pharmacist and from working in any pharmacy-related setting in Massachusetts, commencing with the date on which the Board signs this Agreement (“Effective Date”).
5. The Licensee agrees that they will not practice as a pharmacist or work in a pharmacy related setting in Massachusetts from the Effective Date unless and until the Board reinstates their license.[[3]](#footnote-3)
6. The Board agrees that in return for the Licensee’s execution of this Agreement it will not prosecute the Complaint.
7. The Licensee understands that they have a right to a formal adjudicatory hearing concerning the allegations against them and that during said adjudication they would possess the right to confront and cross-examine witnesses, to call witnesses, to present evidence, to testify on their own behalf, to contest the allegations, to present oral argument, to appeal to the courts, and all other rights as set forth in the Massachusetts Administrative Procedures Act, M.G.L. c. 30A, and the Standard Adjudicatory Rules of Practice and Procedure, 801 CMR 1.01 *et seq.* The Licensee further understands that by executing this Agreement they are knowingly and voluntarily waiving theirright to a formal adjudication of the Complaint.
8. The Licensee acknowledges that they have been at all times represented by legal counsel in connection with the Complaint and this Agreement.
9. The Licensee acknowledges that after the Effective Date, the Agreement constitutes a public record of disciplinary action by the Board. The Board may forward a copy of this Agreement to other licensing boards, law enforcement entities, and other individuals or entities as required or permitted by law.
10. The Licensee certifies that they have read this Agreement. The Licensee understands and agrees that entering into this Agreement is a final act and not subject to reconsideration, appeal, or judicial review.

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Witness (sign and date) Helen Chu Licensee (sign and date)

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David Sencabaugh, R. Ph.

Executive Director

Board of Registration in Pharmacy

\_\_\_\_December 4, 2023\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Effective Date

Fully Signed Agreement Sent to Licensee on \_\_12/4/2023\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_by Certified Mail No.\_7020 0090 0000 1273 1769\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. The term “license” includes a current license and the right to renew an expired license. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. In the signed statement, the Licensee admitted to writing “approximately 82 prescriptions for medications for myself and my parents using the store’s telephone prescription pad.” [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. The Licensee understands that practice as a licensed pharmacist includes, but is not limited to, seeking and/or accepting a paid or voluntary position as a licensed pharmacist, or a paid or voluntary position requiring that the applicant hold a current pharmacist license. The Licensee further understands that if they accept a voluntary or paid position as a pharmacist, or engages in any practice of pharmacy after the Effective Date and before the Board formally reinstates their license, evidence of such practice shall be grounds for the Board’s referral of any such unlicensed practice to the appropriate law enforcement authorities for prosecution. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)