

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

SUFFOLK COUNTY

BOARD OF REGISTRATION  
IN PHARMACY

In the Matter of )  
**KAREN L. RAMIREZ**, R.Ph. )  
Pharmacist Registration No. 16431 )  
Expiration Date 12/31/2012 )

Docket Nos. PHA-2010-0183

**ORDER OF SUSPENSION  
BASED ON VIOLATION OF CONSENT AGREEMENT**

The Board of Registration in Pharmacy ("Board") and Karen L. Ramirez, R.Ph. ("Registrant"), a pharmacist registered by the Board (Pharmacist Registration No. 16431), entered into that certain Consent Agreement ("Agreement") effective October 24, 2010 regarding Complaint Docket No. PHA-2010-0183, pursuant to the terms of which Registrant's practice as a pharmacist in the Commonwealth was permitted subject to certain probationary monitoring terms and other conditions.

As provided in the Agreement, Registrant's license was placed on probationary status for a minimum one year period, commencing October 24, 2010, subject to the monitoring terms and other conditions set forth in the Agreement. The monitoring requirement of Paragraph 3.c. of the Agreement was a crucial condition of the Board's decision to allow Registrant to practice pharmacy in the Commonwealth.

The Board is aware of Registrant's December 27, 2010 statement (to medical review officer related to a December 8, 2010 screening) that Registrant had "ingested a piece of" Subutex® (buprenorphine), a medication for which Registrant did not have a valid prescription.

**Based on Registrant's ingestion of a controlled substance for which she did not have a valid prescription, in violation of Paragraphs 3.c., 3.d., and 3.e. of the Agreement, and in accordance with Paragraph 6 of the Agreement, the Board hereby INDEFINITELY SUSPENDS Registrant's Pharmacist Registration No. 16431, as of the Effective Date of this Order.**

While Registrant's pharmacist registration is suspended, Registrant's may not:  
(1) be employed as a pharmacist or pharmacy technician to provide any services related to the practice of pharmacy or be employed to provide any services in any capacity in any pharmacy setting in the Commonwealth; or (2) have any ownership, management or other interest or involvement in any pharmacy related business in any setting.

The Board will not review any petition for termination of the suspension of Registrant's license filed sooner than one year from the date of this Order. As a condition precedent to the filing of any petition for a stay of the suspension of her license, Registrant will be



required to demonstrate successful participation in the Massachusetts Professional Recovery System (MPRS) for the one year period preceding any such petition. Additionally, Registrant will be required to complete any retraining and re-examination requirements and meet other conditions as determined by the Board prior to Board review of any petition for termination of the suspension of her pharmacist license.

Registrant is directed to return her pharmacist registration card to the Board office at 239 Causeway St., Suite 200, 2d Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02114 not later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 13, 2011.

#### RIGHT TO APPEAL

Registrant is hereby notified of her right to appeal this Order, pursuant to G.L. c. 112, s. 64 and G.L. c. 30A, ss. 14 and 15, within thirty (30) days of receipt of this Order.

BOARD OF REGISTRATION  
IN PHARMACY

By: 

Stanley B. Walczyk, R.Ph.  
President

EFFECTIVE DATE: 1/11/2011

Dec. No. 2476

Cert. Mail No. 7009 1680 0001 1520 4130 and First Class Mail  
6 Gabriel Rd.  
Sharon, MA 02067-1102