BEFORE THE ACUPUNCTURE BOARD DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

STEPHEN SHAW 58718 Buena Vista Dr. Yucca Valley, CA 92284

Acupuncture License No. AC 3923

Respondent.

Case No. 1A-2009-87

OAH No. LA2010041025

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby adopted by the

Acupuncture Board, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective on

It is so ORDERED

JUN 17 2010

JUL 1 6 2010

Robert Brewer, Chair Acupuncture Board Department of Consumer Affairs State of California

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| 1 | EDMUND G. BROWN JR. Attorney General of California | |
| 2 | VLADIMIR SHALKEVICH Supervising Deputy Attorney General RICHARD D. MARINO | |
| 3 | Deputy Attorney General | |
| 4 | State Bar No. 90471 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 | |
| 5 | Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-8644 | |
| 6 | Facsimile: (213) 897-9395 E-mail: <u>Richard Marino@doj.ca.gov</u> | |
| 7 | Attorneys for Complainant | |
| 8 | BEFORE THE ACUPUNCTURE BOARD | |
| 9 | DEPARTMENT OF | CONSUMER AFFAIRS CALIFORNIA |
| 10 | | |
| - 11 | In the Matter of the Accusation Against: | Case No. 1A-2009-87 |
| 12 | STEPHEN SHAW | OAH No. LA2010041025 |
| 13 | 58718 Buena Vista Dr. Yucca Valley, CA 92284 | STIPULATED SURRENDER OF LICENSE AND ORDER |
| 14 | A C 2023 | |
| 15 | Acupuncturist Certificate No. AC 3923 | |
| 16 | Respondent | |
| 17 | | |
| 18 | | |
| 19 | IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties in this | |
| 20 | proceeding that the following matters are true: | |
| 21 | | |
| 22 | PARTIES | |
| 23 | 1. Janelle Wedge (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the Acupuncture Board. | |
| 24 | She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this matter by Edmund | |
| 25 | G. Brown Jr., Attorney General of the State of California, by Richard D. Marino, Deputy | |
| 26 | Attorney General. | |
| 27 | | resenting himself in propria persona in this |
| 28 | proceeding and has chosen not to exercise his | right to be represented by counsel. |
| | 1 | |
| | | Stipulated Surrender of License (LA2010041025) |

Stipulated Surrender of License (LA2010041025)

On or about July 30, 1990, the Acupuncture Board issued Acupuncturist Certificate 3. No. AC 3923 to Stephen Shaw (Respondent). This license was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 1A-2009-87 and will expire on July 31, 2010, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

Accusation No. 1A-2009-87 was filed before the Acupuncture Board (Board), 4. Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on March 10, 2010. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 1A-2009-87 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

Respondent has carefully read, and understands the charges and allegations in 5. Accusation No. 1A-2009-87. Respondent also has carefully read, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order.

Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a 6. hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel, at his own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.

Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and 7. every right set forth above.

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CULPABILITY

8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 1A-2009-87, agrees that cause exists for discipline and hereby surrenders his Acupuncturist Certificate No. AC 3923 for the Board's formal acceptance.

9. Respondent understands that by signing this stipulation he enables the Board to issue an order accepting the surrender of his Acupuncturist Certificate without further process.

CONTINGENCY

This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Acupuncture Board. Respondent 10. 9 understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Acupuncture Board may 10 communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and surrender, without notice to or 11 participation by Respondent. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that 12 he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board 13 considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, 14 the Stipulated Surrender and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this 15 paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not 16 be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter. 17

18 11. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Surrender of
19 License and Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as
20 the originals.

12. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that
the (Board) may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following
Order:

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<u>ORDER</u>

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Acupuncturist Certificate No. AC 3923, issued to Respondent Stephen Shaw is surrendered and accepted by the Acupuncture Board.

1 Respondent shall lose all rights and privileges as an acupuncturist in California as of the effective date of the Board's Decision and Order.

2. Respondent shall cause to be delivered to the Board both his wall license certificate and, if one was issued, pocket license on or before the effective date of the Decision and Order.

3. Respondent fully understands and agrees that if he ever files an application for licensure or a petition for reinstatement in the State of California, the Board shall treat it as a petition for reinstatement. Respondent must comply with all the laws, regulations and procedures for reinstatement of a revoked license in effect at the time the petition is filed, and all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 1A-2009-87 shall be deemed to be true, correct and admitted by Respondent when the Board determines whether to grant or deny the petition.

4. Should Respondent ever apply or reapply for a new license or certification, or petition
 for reinstatement of a license, by any other health care licensing agency in the State of California,
 all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation, No. 1A-2009-87 shall be deemed to be
 true, correct, and admitted by Respondent for the purpose of any Statement of Issues or any other
 proceeding seeking to deny or restrict licensure.

5. Respondent shall pay the Board its costs of investigation and enforcement in the amount of \$1,000.00 prior to issuance of a new or reinstated license.

| 1 | ACCEPTANCE |
|----------------------|---|
| 2 | I have carefully read the Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I understand the |
| 3 | stipulation and the effect it will have on my Acupuncturist Certificate. I enter into this |
| 4 | Stipulated Surrender of License and Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to |
| 5 | be bound by the Decision and Order of the Acupuncture Board. |
| 6 | 11 Day Of |
| 7 | DATED: $S/8/20/0$ Stephen shaw |
| 8 | Respondent |
| 9 | |
| 10 | <u>ENDORSEMENT</u> |
| 11 | The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully submitted |
| 12 | for consideration by the Acupuncture Board of the Department of Consumer Affairs. |
| 13 | Dated: April 26, 2010 Respectfully submitted, |
| 14 | EDMUND G. BROWN JR. Attorney General of California |
| 15 | VLADIMIR SHALKEVICH Deputy Attorney General |
| 16 | Deputy Automoty Scholar |
| 17 | Staf Straw |
| 18 | RICHARD D. MARINO Deputy Attorney General |
| 19 | Attorneys for Complainant |
| 20 | |
| 21 | LA2010500258 |
| 22 | 50630524.doc |
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Exhibit A

Accusation No. 1A-2009-87

| 1 | EDMUND G. BROWN JR. FILED | |
|-----------------|--|--|
| 2 | Attorney General of California PAUL C. AMENT MAR 1 0 2010 | |
| 3 | Supervising Deputy Attorney General MAH 10 2010 RICHARD D. MARINO | |
| 4 | Deputy Attorney General ACUPUNCTURE BOARD | |
| 5 | 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013 | |
| 6 | Telephone: (213) 897-8644 Facsimile: (213) 897-9395 | |
| 7 | E-mail: Richard.Marino@doj.ca.gov Attorneys for Complainant | |
| 8 | BEFORE THE ACUPUNCTURE BOARD | |
| · 9 | DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA | |
| 10 | | |
| 11 | In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 1A-2009-87 | |
| 12 | STEPHEN SHAW | |
| 13 | 58718 Buena Vista Dr. Yucca Valley, CA 92284A C C U S A T I O N | |
| 14 | t menter int Licomon No. AC 3073 | |
| 15 | Acupuncturist License No. AC 3923 Respondent. | |
| 16 | | |
| 17 | Complainant alleges: | |
| 18 | | |
| 19 | PARTIES | |
| 20 | 1. Janelle Wedge (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity as | |
| 21 | the Executive Officer of the Acupuncture Board, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of | |
| 22 | | |
| 23 [.] | 2. On or about July 30, 1990, the Board issued Acupuncturist License Number AC 3923 | |
| 24 | to Stephen Shaw (Respondent). The Acupuncturist License was in full force and effect at all | |
| 25 | times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on July 31, 2010, unless renewed. | |
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| | 1 Accusation | |
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JURISDICTION

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| 2 | 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board under the authority of the following |
| 3 | laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated. |
| 4 | 4. Section 4927, subdivision (d), of the Code defines "acupuncture" as "the stimulation |
| 5 | of a certain point or points on or near the surface of the body by the insertion of needles to |
| 6 | prevent or modify the perception of pain or to normalize physiological functions, including pain |
| 7 | control, treatment of certain diseases or dysfunctions of the body and includes the techniques of |
| 8 | electroacupuncture, cupping, and moxibustion." |
| 9 | 5. Section 4937 of the Code provides: |
| 10 | "An acupuncturist's license authorizes the holder thereof: |
| 11 | "(a) To engage in the practice of acupuncture. |
| 12 | "(b) To perform or prescribe the use of oriental massage, acupressure, |
| 13 | breathing techniques, exercises, or nutrition, including the incorporation of drugless |
| 14 | substances and herbs as dietary supplements to promote health. Nothing in this |
| 15 | section prohibits any person who does not possess an acupuncturist's license or |
| 16 | another license as a healing arts practitioner from performing, or prescribing the use |
| 17 | of, oriental massage, breathing techniques, exercises, or nutrition, to promote health, |
| 18 | so long as those activities are not performed or prescribed in connection with the |
| 19 | practice of acupuncture." |
| 20 | 6. Section 4955 of the Code provides: |
| 21 | "The board may deny, suspend, or revoke, or impose probationary conditions upon, |
| 22 | the license of any acupuncturist if he or she is guilty of unprofessional conduct. |
| 23 | "Unprofessional conduct shall include, but not be limited to, the following: |
| 24 | "(a) Using or possessing any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 |
| 25 | (commencing with Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code, or dangerous drug |
| 26 | or alcoholic beverage to an extent or in a manner dangerous to himself or herself, or |
| 27 | to any other person, or to the public, and to an extent that the use impairs his or her |
| 28 | ability to engage in the practice of acupuncture with safety to the public. |
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"(b) Conviction of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of an acupuncturist, the record of conviction being conclusive evidence thereof.

"(c) False or misleading advertising.

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"(d) Aiding or abetting in, or violating or conspiring in, directly or indirectly, the violation of the terms of this chapter or any regulation adopted by the board pursuant to this chapter.

"(e) Except for good cause, the knowing failure to protect patients by failing to follow infection control guidelines of the board, thereby risking transmission of blood-borne infectious diseases from licensee to patient, from patient to patient, and from patient to licensee. In administering this subdivision, the board shall consider referencing the standards, regulations, and guidelines of the State Department of Health Services developed pursuant to Section 1250.11 of the Health and Safety Code and the standards, regulations, and guidelines pursuant to the California Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1973 (Part 1 (commencing with Section 6300) of Division 5 of the Labor Code) for preventing the transmission of HIV, hepatitis B, and other blood-borne pathogens in health care settings. As necessary, the board shall consult with the Medical Board of California, the California Board of Podiatric Medicine, the Dental Board of California, the Board of Registered Nursing, and the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, to encourage appropriate consistency in the implementation of this subdivision.

"The board shall seek to ensure that licensees are informed of the responsibility of licensees and others to follow infection control guidelines, and of the most recent scientifically recognized safeguards for minimizing the risk of transmission of blood-borne infectious diseases.

"(f) The use of threats or harassment against any patient or licensee for providing evidence in a disciplinary action, other legal action, or in an investigation contemplating a disciplinary action or other legal action.

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"(g) Discharging an employee primarily for attempting to comply with the terms of this chapter.

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"(h) Disciplinary action taken by any public agency for any act substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of an acupuncturist or any professional health care licensee.

"(i) Any action or conduct that would have warranted the denial of the acupuncture license.

"(j) The violation of any law or local ordinance on an acupuncturist's business premises by an acupuncturist's employee or a person who is working under the acupuncturist's professional license or business permit, that is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of an acupuncturist. These violations shall subject the acupuncturist who employed the individuals, or under whose acupuncturist license the employee is working, to disciplinary action.

"(k) The abandonment of a patient by the licentiate without written notice to the patient that treatment is to be discontinued and before the patient has had a reasonable opportunity to secure the services of another practitioner.

"(1) the failure to notify the board of the use of any false, assumed, or fictitious name other than the name under which he or she is licensed as an individual to practice acupuncture."

7. Section 4955.1 of the Code provides:

"The board may deny, suspend, revoke, or impose probationary conditions upon the license of any acupuncturist if he or she is guilty of committing a fraudulent act including, but not be limited to, any of the following:

"(a) Securing a license by fraud or deceit.

"(b) Committing a fraudulent or dishonest act as an acupuncturist.

"(c) Committing any act involving dishonesty or corruption with respect to the qualifications, functions, or duties of an acupuncturist.

"(d) Altering or modifying the medical record of any person, with fraudulent intent, or creating any false medical record.

"(e) Failing to maintain adequate and accurate records relating to the provision of services to their patients."

COST RECOVERY

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8. Section 125.3 of the Code, in pertinent part, provides that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Practicing Outside Scope of Practice)

Respondent is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Business and Professions · 9. 14 Code section 4937 in that Respondent has practice outside the scope of his acupuncture license, 15 as follows: 16 Between September 2008 and February 2009 Respondent was aligned with the А. 17 California Alternative Medicinal Services (CAMS). Respondent provided 18 acupuncture services. At the time, Respondent did not have his own place of 19 practice and was allowed to use CAMS business address. Respondent saw 20 patients once or twice a week. Toward the end of February 2009, CMS learned 21 that Respondent was writing recommendation statements for medical 22 marijuana. The director for CAMS confronted Respondent who said that he 23 24 was licensed by the Medical Board of California and that he had the authority 25 to write recommendations. After consulting with legal counsel, CAMS ended 26 its contract with Respondent. A few days later, Shaw took his equipment and 27 patient files. 28 5

| 1 | B. On or about and between July 1, 2008, and July 31, 2009, Respondent wrote | |
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| 2 | between 120 and 160 Recommendation Statements for marijuana pursuant to | |
| 3 | Health and Safety Code section 11362.5. ¹ | |
| 4 | C. Among others, on February 6, 2009, Respondent executed a "Recommendation | |
| 5 | Statement" which reads, as follows: | |
| 6 | "This certifies that [¶] [Patient R.K. ² was examined in my office. This | |
| 7 | patient has a serious medical condition which, in my professional opinion, | |
| 8 | may benefit from the use of medical cannabis. I have discussed at length | |
| · 9 | | |
| | ¹ Health and Safety Code section 11362. 5 provides: | |
| 10 | "a) This section shall be known and may be cited as the Compassionate Use Act of | |
| 11 | 1996. "(b) (1) The people of the State of California hereby find and declare that the purposes | |
| 12 | of the Compassionate Use Act of 1996 are as follows: "(A) To ensure that seriously ill Californians have the right to obtain and use marijuana | |
| 13 | for medical nurposes where that medical use is deemed appropriate and has been recommended | |
| 14 | by a physician who has determined that the person's health would benefit from the use of marijuana in the treatment of cancer, anorexia, AIDS, chronic pain, spasticity, glaucoma, arthritis, | , |
| 15 [.] | migraine, or any other illness for which marijuana provides relief. | |
| 16 | for medical purposes upon the recommendation of a physician are not subject to criminal | |
| 17. | prosecution or sanction. "(C) To encourage the federal and state governments to implement a plan to provide for | |
| 18 | the safe and affordable distribution of marijuana to all patients in medical need of marijuana. (2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to supersede legislation prohibiting | |
| 19 | persons from engaging in conduct that endangers others, nor to condone the diversion of | |
| 20 | marijuana for nonmedical purposes. "(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no physician in this state shall be | |
| 21 | punished, or denied any right or privilege, for having recommended marijuana to a patient for medical purposes. | |
| 22 | "(A) Section 11357 relating to the possession of marijuana, and Section 11358, relating | |
| 23 | to the cultivation of marijuana, shall not apply to a patient, or to a patient's primary caregiver, who possesses or cultivates marijuana for the personal medical purposes of the patient upon the | |
| 24 | written or oral recommendation or approval of a physician. "(e) For the purposes of this section, "primary caregiver" means the individual | |
| 25 | designated by the person exempted under this section who has consistently assumed | |
| 26 | responsibility for the housing, health, or safety of that person. | |
| 27 | ² For the purpose of protecting the privacy interests of the patients referred to in this accusation, all n are by initials only. The true names of the patients are known to Respondent | |
| 28 | and, in any event, will be disclosed to him upon his timely request for discovery. | |
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| 1 | the potential risks and benefits of medical cannabis use with the patient. I |
| 2 | approve of the patient's use of cannabis as medication treatment. If my |
| 3 | patient chooses to use cannabis as medication, I will continue to monitor the |
| . 4 | patient's use. I have advised the patient not to use this medication with |
| 5 | alcohol or other mind altering medications. Further, I have advised the |
| · | patient not to drive, operate heavy machinery or engage in any activity |
| 6 7 | which requires alertness while using medical cannabis." |
| | D. On or about March 5, 2009, Patient R.K. was arrested for and charged with |
| 8 9 | possession of less than 28.5 grams of marijuana, in violation of Health and |
| | Safety Code section 11357, subdivision (b), a misdemeanor. At the time of his |
| 10 | arrest, Patient R.K. stated that he had "a medical marijuana care issued by his |
| 11 | doctor." When asked to produce the card, Patient R.K. presented the arresting |
| 12 | officer with the "Recommendation Statement" executed by Respondent on |
| 13 | February 6, 2009. |
| 14 | E. A complaint against Respondent was brought before the Acupuncture Board. |
| 15 | On or about November 17, 2009, Respondent was interviewed by investigators |
| 16 | for the Division of Investigation. Respondent stated the following: |
| 17 | 1) He has been an acupuncturist since 1990. |
| 18 | 2) He rented office space at California Alternative Medicinal Services |
| 19 20 | (CAMS) where he was approached by the Executive Director for CAMS |
| 20 | and asked if he would be able to write recommendations for medical |
| 21 | marijuana. Respondent said that he did not think he was allowed but that |
| 22 | the Executive Director stated that he, the Executive Director, had |
| 23 24 | consulted with his attorney and that Respondent was qualified to write the |
| | recommendations. Respondent treated approximately 4-10 patients a |
| 25 26 | week while at CAMS. He was paid by the patient and not by CAMS. |
| 20 27 | 3) Respondent initially denied ever signing anything with CAMS. He |
| 27 | indicated that it was a verbal agreement. When presented with a CAMS |
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| 1 | employment agreement bearing his signature, Respondent indicated that |
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| 2 | he forgot he signed an agreement. He added that he did not mean to |
| 3 | "accidentally lie[.]" |
| 4 | 4) The agreement signed with CAMS contains the following: "the Agency |
| 5 | agrees to pay the Contractor \$40.00 for treatment performed on an Agency |
| 6 | client." |
| 7 | 5) When asked if he ever confirmed with the Acupuncture Board that he was |
| 8 | qualified to write recommendations for medical marijuana, Respondent |
| 9 | said, "No." |
| 10 | 6) Respondent stated that he began writing recommendations for medical |
| 11 | marijuana in approximately July 2008 and stopped in February 2009. |
| 12 | During this period, he wrote approximately 120-160 recommendations. He |
| 13 | denied being involved in medical marijuana dispensing. He stated that his |
| 14 | patients averaged 45 years of age; that they have low income; and, that |
| 15 | they have chronic pain and cannot afford medications such as Vicodin. |
| 16 | He also indicated that some of his patients were 60 to 70 years of age and |
| 17 | did not have medical insurance. Some of his patients are taking high |
| 18 | levels of pain killers. Respondent added that he felt bad for them and was |
| . 19 | just trying to help them. |
| 20 | 7) When asked why his agreement with CAMS was terminated, Respondent |
| 21 | said that he was informed by the Executive Director that a chiropractor |
| 22 | wanted to rent the office occupied by Respondent and that they were |
| 23 | going to use a physician to write the recommendations. Respondent said |
| 24 | that he was very hurt by the decision; took his patient charts; and; cleaned |
| 25 | out his office. A few weeks later, he found out that CAMS was no longer |
| 26 | honoring his medical marijuana recommendation letters. |
| 27 | 8) When asked how he learned that CAMS was no longer honoring his |
| 28 | recommendations, Respondent stated that he had received several calls |
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| 1 | | from some of his patients complaining that his letters were not being |
| 2 | | honored at CAMS. |
| 3 | • | 9) Respondent said that after his contract was terminated with CAMS, in |
| 4 | | March 2009, he "ended up at Good Time Smoke Shop." Respondent |
| 5 | | further elaborated that "David," the owner of the smoke shop, called him |
| 6 | | requesting a letter of recommendation for medical marijuana and, |
| 7 | | subsequently, offered Respondent the opportunity to see patients at the |
| 8 | | smoke shop. Respondent explained that there was no set schedule. He |
| 9 | | saw patients "as needed." |
| 10 | | 10) When reminded that earlier he had indicated he stopped writing |
| 11 | | recommendations in February 2009, Respondent said, "Oh that's right, I |
| 12 | · | meant to say July 2009." |
| 13 | | 11) When asked if he performed examinations on his patients prior to |
| 14 | | providing them with a recommendation statement, Respondent explained |
| 15 | | that he always went over their medical history and reviewed documents. |
| 16 | | He indicated that he required everyone to bring their medical records or |
| 17 [·] | | any documentation confirming their diagnosis. |
| 18 · | | 12) When asked how he confirmed the legitimacy of documents provided to |
| 19 | | him by his patients, Respondent stated that his patients had no reason to |
| 20 | | lie and that the documents reviewed looked legitimate. |
| 21 | | 13) When asked if he continued to see patients needing acupuncture |
| 22 | | treatment, Respondent replied that most of his patients were dealing with |
| 23 | | chronic pain issues and mostly interested in the recommendation letters. |
| 24 | | He added that he does not have an office at which to treat acupuncture |
| 25 | | patients. |
| 26 | | 14) When presented with the recommendation written for R.K., Respondent |
| 20 | | admitted to having written it. He also said that R.K. called him to thank |
| 28 | | him. He further said that R.K. was one of the two patients who got |
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arrested for possession of marijuana, but later had their charges dropped because of his letter. Respondent could not recall the other patient's name.

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15) When asked if he was ever contacted by a law enforcement officer regarding his recommendation letters, Respondent said that an officer from the Palm Desert Sheriff's department called him to confirm that he wrote the letter.

16) When asked why he stopped writing the letters of recommendation for medical marijuana, Respondent said that he began receiving threatening phone calls from people demanding their money back, because his recommendations were no longer being honored by CAMS. According to Respondent, in July 2009, one of his patients threatened him with a gun. The patient was upset that his recommendation letter was not honored and demanded his money back. Respondent then said that it was because of this incident that he found out his letters were no longer being honored at CAMS.

17) When asked which patient threatened him, Respondent said that he was too nervous to notice who it was.

18) When reminded he had stated that he found out his letters were no longer being honored at CAMS in March 2009 when his agreement with CAMS ended. Respondent initially said nothing and then, "I just remembered what actually happened." He explained that he went to see the Executive Director to request an explanation about the recommendations, and that is when the incident occurred.

19) When asked he reported the threat, Respondent said, "No." Respondent further said that he feared for his life and that the "guy" may have known where Respondent lived. When asked to explain why he thought the "guy" knew where he lived, Respondent said that he had spoken with him

earlier and they had agreed to meet at CAMS. The "guy" told him that if he did not show, he would go find him.

20) When reminded that earlier he indicated he went to CAMS to speak with the Executive Director about the recommendation letter and that he was "too nervous to notice who the guy was," Respondent said, "I'm sorry, I did not mean to accidentally lie." Respondent admitted to forgetting a few details. He said that after the incident, he no longer wanted to write letters of recommendations. He knew that his life was in danger and CAMS was no longer honoring his letters. Respondent decided to stop writing recommendations in June 2009 or July 2009. Respondent said that after he stopped he had no intentions of starting again.

21) When reminded that he had written a letter to the Board on July 31, 2009, requesting help and confirmation from the Board that he was qualified to write recommendations, Respondent remained quiet for a moment and then said that he had spoken to the Board on two occasions and just wanted to follow up with a letter. When asked why, if he was no longer interested in writing recommendations, Respondent said, "Ok, I give up, I made a mistake. I should not have written the letter. I just want all this to go away."

22) Respondent was questioned about the recommendation letter and, in particular, the heading which reads, "From the Medical Offices of Stephen Shaw." When asked if he considered himself a medical doctor, physician or M.D., Respondent said, "No." but that he did not think it would be an issue to use the term "medical offices" because the seal in his original certificate clearly states that his license was issued by the "Medical Board of California."

23) The heading bore the address of 58967 Business Center Drive, Yucca Valley, CA 92284 (CAMS address). When asked if CAMS was aware

that he, Respondent, had continued to use its business address, Respondent said, "No[.]" He explained that he had been using the CAMS address for so long that he did not think it would be an issue if he continued and added that he does not currently have his own business address and he felt it would not be a "big deal" to continue using CAMS address.

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24) Respondent was then asked to read and review Health & Safety Code Section 11362.5. Respondent noted that it specifically states, in part, "To ensure that seriously ill Californians have the right to obtain and use marijuana for medical purposes where that medical use is deemed appropriate and has been recommended by a physician who has determined that the person's health would benefit from the use of marijuana in the treatment of cancer, anorexia, AIDS, chronic pain, spasticity, glaucoma, arthritis, migraine, or any other illness for which marijuana provides relief." Respondent admitted that what he read specifically refers to physicians and he could not tell me why he failed to read it before today.

25) When asked if he owned <u>http://www.losecancer.com</u>, Respondent said that he did and has for many years. He added, however, he is no longer able to afford a webmaster or the fee to keep it. He thinks that it will be taken down any day now. He indicated that everything in his life is going wrong. He is losing his house. He lost his business locations because he could not afford the rent. He is down to one vehicle and has to share it with his wife. He cannot afford the website or anything that is related to his business because in trouble with the Acupuncture Board. Respondent repeated that he just wants everything to go away.

| 1. | SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE | |
|------|--|--|
| 2 | (Acts Involving Corruption or Dishonesty) | |
| 3 | 10. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Business and Professions Code | |
| 4 | section 4955.1, subdivision (c), in that Respondent has committed acts involving dishonesty or | |
| . 5 | corruption, as follows: | |
| 6 | A. Complainant refers to and, by this reference, incorporates herein paragraph 9, | |
| 7 | subparagraphs A through E, inclusive, above, as though fully set forth. | |
| 8 | | |
| 9 | PRAYER | |
| 10 | WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, | |
| .11 | and that following the hearing, the Acupuncture Board issue a decision: | |
| 12 | 1. Revoking or suspending Acupuncturist License Number AC 3923, issued to Stephen | |
| 13 | Shaw Stephen Shaw; | |
| 14 | | |
| 15 | investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section | |
| 16 | 4959; and, | |
| 17 | 3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper. | |
| 18 | and a point of Malina | |
| 19 | DATED: | |
| 20 | Executive Officer Acupuncture Board | |
| 21 | Department of Consumer Affairs State of California | |
| 22 | Complainant | |
| 23 | LA2010500258 | |
| 24 | 50591153.doc | |
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| 26 | | |
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| . 28 | 13 | |
| | Accusatio | |

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DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY MAIL

In the Matter of the Accusation Filed Against:

STEPHEN SHAW

Case No. 1A-2009-87

I, the undersigned, declare that I am over 18 years of age and not a party to the within cause; my business address is 444 N. 3rd Street, Suite 260, Sacramento, CA 95811-0228. I served a true copy of the attached:

STIPULATED SURRENDER OF LICENSE AND ORDER

by certified/regular mail on each of the following, by placing same in an envelope(s) addressed (respectively) as follows:

NAME and ADDRESS

CERTIFIED MAIL NO.

7009 1410 0002 2164 0191

Stephen Shaw, L.Ac. 58718 Buena Vista Dr. Yucca Valley, CA 92284

Richard Marino, Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General/HQE 300 S. Spring St., Ste. 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013

Vladimir Shalkevich, Supervising Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General/HQE 300 S. Spring St., Ste. 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013

Each said envelope was, on June 17, 2010, sealed and deposited in the U.S. mail at Sacramento, California, the county in which I am employed, with the postage thereon fully prepaid for an attempt at service.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on June 17, 2010 at Sacramento, California.

Kinting Brother

regular mail

regular mail