BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF PHARMACY

In Re:

ANJALI LAROIA (License No. 18615)  

ORDER REINSTATING LICENSE WITH CONDITIONS

THIS MATTER was heard on July 9, 2013, by the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy ("Board") located at 6015 Farrington Road, Suite 201, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, upon the request of Angali Laroia ("Petitioner") for reinstatement of her license to practice pharmacy. Board members Minton, McLaughlin, Chesson, Day, and Mixon heard this matter. After hearing the testimony of witnesses, adjudging the credibility of the witnesses, and receiving evidence, the Board makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Petitioner formerly held North Carolina license to practice pharmacy number 18615.

2. On September 13, 2012 Board staff accepted the voluntary surrender of Petitioner’s license to practice pharmacy.

3. While practicing as a pharmacist on July 24, 2012 at UNC Hospital, Petitioner was admitted to the hospital’s emergency room after suffering what appeared to be a seizure. Petitioner’s toxicology work-up in the emergency room was positive for opiates, and concerns about potential opiate abuse were noted. UNC Hospital staff reported that Petitioner had exhibited odd behavior prior to the seizure.

4. Petitioner has a history of seizure disorder and of post-partum depression.
5. Petitioner was arrested and charged with driving under the influence on February 29, 2012.

6. Petitioner surrendered her license to practice pharmacy after admitting to taking a controlled substance prescribed for her – hydrocodone cough syrup, a Schedule III medication – inappropriately. Petitioner also admitted to taking hydromorphone, a Schedule II medication, provided to her by a friend.

7. Concerns were raised about potential diversion of hydromorphone by Petitioner at her practice site. Investigation, however, did not substantiate any such diversion.


9. Petitioner did so, successfully completing a 12-week inpatient program at the Pavillon Treatment Center.

10. Upon discharge from the Pavillon Treatment Center, Petitioner entered into a five-year treatment and monitoring agreement with NCPRN. During the course of treatment and monitoring with NCPRN to date, Petitioner has engaged in group and individual therapy, attended substance abuse meetings, and been tested numerous times.

11. Petitioner’s seizure disorder is being treated medically. Petitioner’s depression is being treated medically.

12. Petitioner had one instance of non-compliance with her NCPRN treatment and monitoring obligations (one late report). NCPRN’s Cindy Clark that this instance was of noncompliance is not clinically indicative of substance abuse relapse behavior.
13. NCPRN advocates for Petitioner’s return to the practice of pharmacy with appropriate conditions.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Petitioner has demonstrated that she has been in a period of successful recovery and compliance with her NCPRN treatment and monitoring obligations. The Board, in its discretion, concludes that Petitioner can safely resume the practice of pharmacy with the conditions stated below.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Petitioner’s license to practice pharmacy is REINSTATED, SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

1. Petitioner shall complete an Application to Reinstate a Lapsed or Inactive License and pay the appropriate fee.

2. As part of her Application to Reinstate a Lapsed or Inactive License, Petitioner shall provide proof that she has obtained thirty (15) hours of continuing education, sixteen (8) of which must be live or contact hours. These hours represent the continuing education obligation Petitioner would have been required to meet to renew her pharmacy license for 2013.

3. Petitioner shall successfully complete her NCPRN treatment and monitoring agreement.

4. Petitioner may not be employed as a pharmacist more than a number of hours per week determined by NCPRN to be clinically appropriate.

5. Petitioner must obtain advance approval of all employment as a pharmacist from NCPRN.
6. Petitioner may not serve as a pharmacist-manager. If, no earlier than one year from the date of this order, NCPRN determines that Petitioner’s serving as a pharmacist-manager would not jeopardize her substance abuse recovery program, it may so inform the Board’s Executive Director, who is authorized to lift this restriction if and when appropriate to do so.

7. Petitioner may not serve as a preceptor of pharmacy students. If, no earlier than one year from the date of this order, NCPRN determines that Petitioner’s serving as a preceptor would not jeopardize her substance abuse recovery program, it may so inform the Board’s Executive Director, who is authorized to lift this restriction if and when appropriate to do so.

8. Petitioner shall promptly advise the Board’s Executive Director, in writing, of the final resolution of her February 29, 2012 DUI charge. Based on that resolution, the Executive Director may, in his discretion, bring this matter for a second hearing before the Board for any modification to this Order that may be appropriate.

9. Petitioner shall violate no laws governing the practice of pharmacy or the distribution of drugs.

10. Petitioner shall violate no rules or regulations of the Board.

10. If Petitioner fails to comply with any term or condition of this Order, Petitioner may be subject to additional disciplinary action by the Board.
This is the 9th day of July, 2013.

NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF PHARMACY

By: [Signature]
Jack W. Campbell IV
Executive Director
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on July 10, 2013, I caused a copy of this Order Reinstating License With
Conditions to be served on Petitioner by registered mail, return-receipt requested:

[Signature]
Jack W. Campbell IV
Executive Director

cc: Laroia License File
Cindy Clark, North Carolina Pharmacist Recovery Network
1011 Pemberton Hill Road
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Apex, NC 27502-4266