BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF PHARMACY

In Re:

PATRICIAL LYNN WILLIAMS (License No. 09245)

ORDER REINSTATING LICENSE WITH CONDITIONS

THIS MATTER was heard on February 15, 2011, by the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy ("Board") located at 6015 Farrington Road, Suite 201, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, upon the request of Patricia Lynn Williams ("Petitioner") for reinstatement of her license to practice pharmacy. Board members Chater, McLaughlin, Dennis, Chesson, Minton and Marks 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 09245.

2. On July 29, 2009, Board staff received a report that Petitioner, while practicing pharmacy, was suspected of having diverted several hundred dosage units of various controlled substances, mostly hydrocodone/APAP, a Schedule III controlled substance.

3. Petitioner admitted to Board investigative staff that she had, in fact, diverted a number of controlled substances for personal use while practicing as a pharmacist.

4. Petitioner surrendered her license to practice of pharmacy on August 5, 2009.

5. Petitioner immediately contacted North Carolina Pharmacists Recovery Network ("NCPRN") and, at NCPRN's suggestion, reported to an inpatient substance
abuse treatment facility, where she successfully completed an approximately four-month course of treatment.

6. Since her completion of inpatient treatment, Petitioner has been compliant with all counseling and monitoring obligations of her NCPRN treatment and monitoring agreement. These obligations include individual and group therapy, as well as random drug screenings.

7. Petitioner testified that post-surgical pain and emotionally traumatic family events triggered her diversion and substance abuse.

8. Petitioner testified that in 2002, she became dependent on hydrocodone-containing products following a surgical procedure. At that time, she consulted with NCPRN and successfully completed a period of monitoring and treatment.

9. Petitioner attributed her relapse behavior in 2009 to inadequate support systems, an inadequate appreciation of the nature of substance abuse dependence, and a reluctance to seek help in time of stress. Both Petitioner and a representative from NCPRN testified that Petitioner has in place sufficient support systems and crisis plans to help prevent future relapse behavior.

10. As a result of her diversion, Petitioner pleaded guilty to one misdemeanor count of embezzlement of a controlled substance. Petitioner’s sentence was 24 months of probation, with probation keyed to her ongoing compliance with treatment and monitoring obligations to NCPRN.

11. 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 contract. 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 successfully complete her NCPRN contract, which shall be renewed to extend five (5) years from the date of this Order.

2. Petitioner shall advise the Board promptly in writing of any change of address or change in practice status.

3. Petitioner shall obtain prior approval of all employment as a pharmacist from the Board’s Executive Director.

4. Petitioner shall not serve as pharmacist manager of any pharmacy.

5. Petitioner shall not serve as a preceptor of pharmacy students.

6. Petitioner may not be employed as a pharmacist more than 20 hours per week, on the average. This limitation may be extended at the discretion of NCPRN, and Petitioner shall notify the Board’s Executive Director if NCPRN extends this limitation.

7. Petitioner shall be subject to unannounced drug screens to be performed at her expense by the Board or its agents, and shall supply urine, blood, hair, nail or any other bodily fluid or tissue sample required for the screening. Results of the screening shall not disclose the presence of any controlled substances, prescription drug, or alcohol, which was not previously
prescribed for Petitioner by a practitioner acting in the normal course of medical treatment of Petitioner.

8. Petitioner shall authorize NCPRN and any treating physician or other health care provider to release Petitioner's medical records to the Board.

9. Prior to the commencement of the practice of pharmacy, Petitioner shall submit documentation of his current continuing education hours to the Board's Executive Director. These hours shall total thirty (30), with sixteen (16) being live or contact hours.

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

11. 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 15th day of February, 2011.

NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF PHARMACY

By: ____________________________
Jack W. Campbell IV
Executive Director
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on February 22, 2011, I hand-served a copy of this Order Reinstating License With Conditions on Petitioner:

Jack W. Campbell IV
Executive Director

cc: Williams License File, #09245
Cindy Clark, North Carolina Pharmacist Recovery Network
1011 Pemberton Hill Road
Suite 202
Apex, NC 27502-4266