

1 KAMALA D. HARRIS
Attorney General of California
2 ROBERT MCKIM BELL
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
3 KLINT JAMES MCKAY
Deputy Attorney General
4 State Bar No. 120881
California Department of Justice
5 300 South Spring Street, Suite 1702
Los Angeles, California 90013
6 Telephone: (213) 576-1327
Facsimile: (213) 897-9395
7 *Attorneys for Complainant*

8
9 **BEFORE THE**
RESPIRATORY CARE BOARD
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

11
12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 1H 2012 497

13 ARDEN MERIS CAMONAYAN

14 5327 Townsend Avenue
Los Angeles, California 90041

A C C U S A T I O N

15 Respiratory Care Practitioner No. 15496,

16 Respondent.
17

18
19 Complainant alleges:

20 PARTIES

21 1. Stephanie Nunez (“Complainant”) brings this Accusation solely in her official
22 capacity as the Executive Officer of the Respiratory Care Board of California.

23 2. On or about August 28, 1992, the Respiratory Care Board of California (“Board”)
24 issued Respiratory Care Practitioner License Number 15496 to Arden Meris Camonayan
25 (“Respondent”). Respondent’s license was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the
26 charges brought herein and will expire on July 31, 2014, unless renewed.

27 ///

28 ///

JURISDICTION

1
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 3710 of the Code states: "The Respiratory Care Board of California,
5 hereafter referred to as the board, shall enforce and administer this chapter [Chapter 8.3, the
6 Respiratory Care Practice Act]."

7 5. Section 3718 of the Code states: "The board shall issue, deny, suspend, and revoke
8 licenses to practice respiratory care as provided in this chapter."

9 6. Section 3750 of the Code states:
10 "The board may order the denial, suspension or revocation of, or the imposition of
11 probationary conditions upon, a license issued under this chapter, for any of the following causes:

12 " . . .

13 "(j) The commission of any fraudulent, dishonest, or corrupt act which is substantially
14 related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a respiratory care practitioner.

15 " . . . "

16 7. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1399.370, states:

17 "For the purposes of denial, suspension, or revocation of a license, a crime or act shall be
18 considered to be substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a respiratory care
19 practitioner, if it evidences present or potential unfitness of a licensee to perform the functions
20 authorized by his or her license or in a manner inconsistent with the public health, safety, or
21 welfare. Such crimes or acts shall include but not be limited to those involving the following:

22 ". . .

23 "(b) Commission of an act or conviction of a crime involving fraud, fiscal
24 dishonesty, theft or larceny.

25 " . . . "

26 ///
27 ///
28 ///
29 ///
30 ///
31 ///
32 ///
33 ///
34 ///
35 ///
36 ///
37 ///
38 ///
39 ///
40 ///
41 ///
42 ///
43 ///
44 ///
45 ///
46 ///
47 ///
48 ///
49 ///
50 ///
51 ///
52 ///
53 ///
54 ///
55 ///
56 ///
57 ///
58 ///
59 ///
60 ///
61 ///
62 ///
63 ///
64 ///
65 ///
66 ///
67 ///
68 ///
69 ///
70 ///
71 ///
72 ///
73 ///
74 ///
75 ///
76 ///
77 ///
78 ///
79 ///
80 ///
81 ///
82 ///
83 ///
84 ///
85 ///
86 ///
87 ///
88 ///
89 ///
90 ///
91 ///
92 ///
93 ///
94 ///
95 ///
96 ///
97 ///
98 ///
99 ///
100 ///
101 ///
102 ///
103 ///
104 ///
105 ///
106 ///
107 ///
108 ///
109 ///
110 ///
111 ///
112 ///
113 ///
114 ///
115 ///
116 ///
117 ///
118 ///
119 ///
120 ///
121 ///
122 ///
123 ///
124 ///
125 ///
126 ///
127 ///
128 ///
129 ///
130 ///
131 ///
132 ///
133 ///
134 ///
135 ///
136 ///
137 ///
138 ///
139 ///
140 ///
141 ///
142 ///
143 ///
144 ///
145 ///
146 ///
147 ///
148 ///
149 ///
150 ///
151 ///
152 ///
153 ///
154 ///
155 ///
156 ///
157 ///
158 ///
159 ///
160 ///
161 ///
162 ///
163 ///
164 ///
165 ///
166 ///
167 ///
168 ///
169 ///
170 ///
171 ///
172 ///
173 ///
174 ///
175 ///
176 ///
177 ///
178 ///
179 ///
180 ///
181 ///
182 ///
183 ///
184 ///
185 ///
186 ///
187 ///
188 ///
189 ///
190 ///
191 ///
192 ///
193 ///
194 ///
195 ///
196 ///
197 ///
198 ///
199 ///
200 ///
201 ///
202 ///
203 ///
204 ///
205 ///
206 ///
207 ///
208 ///
209 ///
210 ///
211 ///
212 ///
213 ///
214 ///
215 ///
216 ///
217 ///
218 ///
219 ///
220 ///
221 ///
222 ///
223 ///
224 ///
225 ///
226 ///
227 ///
228 ///
229 ///
230 ///
231 ///
232 ///
233 ///
234 ///
235 ///
236 ///
237 ///
238 ///
239 ///
240 ///
241 ///
242 ///
243 ///
244 ///
245 ///
246 ///
247 ///
248 ///
249 ///
250 ///
251 ///
252 ///
253 ///
254 ///
255 ///
256 ///
257 ///
258 ///
259 ///
260 ///
261 ///
262 ///
263 ///
264 ///
265 ///
266 ///
267 ///
268 ///
269 ///
270 ///
271 ///
272 ///
273 ///
274 ///
275 ///
276 ///
277 ///
278 ///
279 ///
280 ///
281 ///
282 ///
283 ///
284 ///
285 ///
286 ///
287 ///
288 ///
289 ///
290 ///
291 ///
292 ///
293 ///
294 ///
295 ///
296 ///
297 ///
298 ///
299 ///
300 ///
301 ///
302 ///
303 ///
304 ///
305 ///
306 ///
307 ///
308 ///
309 ///
310 ///
311 ///
312 ///
313 ///
314 ///
315 ///
316 ///
317 ///
318 ///
319 ///
320 ///
321 ///
322 ///
323 ///
324 ///
325 ///
326 ///
327 ///
328 ///
329 ///
330 ///
331 ///
332 ///
333 ///
334 ///
335 ///
336 ///
337 ///
338 ///
339 ///
340 ///
341 ///
342 ///
343 ///
344 ///
345 ///
346 ///
347 ///
348 ///
349 ///
350 ///
351 ///
352 ///
353 ///
354 ///
355 ///
356 ///
357 ///
358 ///
359 ///
360 ///
361 ///
362 ///
363 ///
364 ///
365 ///
366 ///
367 ///
368 ///
369 ///
370 ///
371 ///
372 ///
373 ///
374 ///
375 ///
376 ///
377 ///
378 ///
379 ///
380 ///
381 ///
382 ///
383 ///
384 ///
385 ///
386 ///
387 ///
388 ///
389 ///
390 ///
391 ///
392 ///
393 ///
394 ///
395 ///
396 ///
397 ///
398 ///
399 ///
400 ///
401 ///
402 ///
403 ///
404 ///
405 ///
406 ///
407 ///
408 ///
409 ///
410 ///
411 ///
412 ///
413 ///
414 ///
415 ///
416 ///
417 ///
418 ///
419 ///
420 ///
421 ///
422 ///
423 ///
424 ///
425 ///
426 ///
427 ///
428 ///
429 ///
430 ///
431 ///
432 ///
433 ///
434 ///
435 ///
436 ///
437 ///
438 ///
439 ///
440 ///
441 ///
442 ///
443 ///
444 ///
445 ///
446 ///
447 ///
448 ///
449 ///
450 ///
451 ///
452 ///
453 ///
454 ///
455 ///
456 ///
457 ///
458 ///
459 ///
460 ///
461 ///
462 ///
463 ///
464 ///
465 ///
466 ///
467 ///
468 ///
469 ///
470 ///
471 ///
472 ///
473 ///
474 ///
475 ///
476 ///
477 ///
478 ///
479 ///
480 ///
481 ///
482 ///
483 ///
484 ///
485 ///
486 ///
487 ///
488 ///
489 ///
490 ///
491 ///
492 ///
493 ///
494 ///
495 ///
496 ///
497 ///
498 ///
499 ///
500 ///
501 ///
502 ///
503 ///
504 ///
505 ///
506 ///
507 ///
508 ///
509 ///
510 ///
511 ///
512 ///
513 ///
514 ///
515 ///
516 ///
517 ///
518 ///
519 ///
520 ///
521 ///
522 ///
523 ///
524 ///
525 ///
526 ///
527 ///
528 ///
529 ///
530 ///
531 ///
532 ///
533 ///
534 ///
535 ///
536 ///
537 ///
538 ///
539 ///
540 ///
541 ///
542 ///
543 ///
544 ///
545 ///
546 ///
547 ///
548 ///
549 ///
550 ///
551 ///
552 ///
553 ///
554 ///
555 ///
556 ///
557 ///
558 ///
559 ///
560 ///
561 ///
562 ///
563 ///
564 ///
565 ///
566 ///
567 ///
568 ///
569 ///
570 ///
571 ///
572 ///
573 ///
574 ///
575 ///
576 ///
577 ///
578 ///
579 ///
580 ///
581 ///
582 ///
583 ///
584 ///
585 ///
586 ///
587 ///
588 ///
589 ///
590 ///
591 ///
592 ///
593 ///
594 ///
595 ///
596 ///
597 ///
598 ///
599 ///
600 ///
601 ///
602 ///
603 ///
604 ///
605 ///
606 ///
607 ///
608 ///
609 ///
610 ///
611 ///
612 ///
613 ///
614 ///
615 ///
616 ///
617 ///
618 ///
619 ///
620 ///
621 ///
622 ///
623 ///
624 ///
625 ///
626 ///
627 ///
628 ///
629 ///
630 ///
631 ///
632 ///
633 ///
634 ///
635 ///
636 ///
637 ///
638 ///
639 ///
640 ///
641 ///
642 ///
643 ///
644 ///
645 ///
646 ///
647 ///
648 ///
649 ///
650 ///
651 ///
652 ///
653 ///
654 ///
655 ///
656 ///
657 ///
658 ///
659 ///
660 ///
661 ///
662 ///
663 ///
664 ///
665 ///
666 ///
667 ///
668 ///
669 ///
670 ///
671 ///
672 ///
673 ///
674 ///
675 ///
676 ///
677 ///
678 ///
679 ///
680 ///
681 ///
682 ///
683 ///
684 ///
685 ///
686 ///
687 ///
688 ///
689 ///
690 ///
691 ///
692 ///
693 ///
694 ///
695 ///
696 ///
697 ///
698 ///
699 ///
700 ///
701 ///
702 ///
703 ///
704 ///
705 ///
706 ///
707 ///
708 ///
709 ///
710 ///
711 ///
712 ///
713 ///
714 ///
715 ///
716 ///
717 ///
718 ///
719 ///
720 ///
721 ///
722 ///
723 ///
724 ///
725 ///
726 ///
727 ///
728 ///
729 ///
730 ///
731 ///
732 ///
733 ///
734 ///
735 ///
736 ///
737 ///
738 ///
739 ///
740 ///
741 ///
742 ///
743 ///
744 ///
745 ///
746 ///
747 ///
748 ///
749 ///
750 ///
751 ///
752 ///
753 ///
754 ///
755 ///
756 ///
757 ///
758 ///
759 ///
760 ///
761 ///
762 ///
763 ///
764 ///
765 ///
766 ///
767 ///
768 ///
769 ///
770 ///
771 ///
772 ///
773 ///
774 ///
775 ///
776 ///
777 ///
778 ///
779 ///
780 ///
781 ///
782 ///
783 ///
784 ///
785 ///
786 ///
787 ///
788 ///
789 ///
790 ///
791 ///
792 ///
793 ///
794 ///
795 ///
796 ///
797 ///
798 ///
799 ///
800 ///
801 ///
802 ///
803 ///
804 ///
805 ///
806 ///
807 ///
808 ///
809 ///
810 ///
811 ///
812 ///
813 ///
814 ///
815 ///
816 ///
817 ///
818 ///
819 ///
820 ///
821 ///
822 ///
823 ///
824 ///
825 ///
826 ///
827 ///
828 ///
829 ///
830 ///
831 ///
832 ///
833 ///
834 ///
835 ///
836 ///
837 ///
838 ///
839 ///
840 ///
841 ///
842 ///
843 ///
844 ///
845 ///
846 ///
847 ///
848 ///
849 ///
850 ///
851 ///
852 ///
853 ///
854 ///
855 ///
856 ///
857 ///
858 ///
859 ///
860 ///
861 ///
862 ///
863 ///
864 ///
865 ///
866 ///
867 ///
868 ///
869 ///
870 ///
871 ///
872 ///
873 ///
874 ///
875 ///
876 ///
877 ///
878 ///
879 ///
880 ///
881 ///
882 ///
883 ///
884 ///
885 ///
886 ///
887 ///
888 ///
889 ///
890 ///
891 ///
892 ///
893 ///
894 ///
895 ///
896 ///
897 ///
898 ///
899 ///
900 ///
901 ///
902 ///
903 ///
904 ///
905 ///
906 ///
907 ///
908 ///
909 ///
910 ///
911 ///
912 ///
913 ///
914 ///
915 ///
916 ///
917 ///
918 ///
919 ///
920 ///
921 ///
922 ///
923 ///
924 ///
925 ///
926 ///
927 ///
928 ///
929 ///
930 ///
931 ///
932 ///
933 ///
934 ///
935 ///
936 ///
937 ///
938 ///
939 ///
940 ///
941 ///
942 ///
943 ///
944 ///
945 ///
946 ///
947 ///
948 ///
949 ///
950 ///
951 ///
952 ///
953 ///
954 ///
955 ///
956 ///
957 ///
958 ///
959 ///
960 ///
961 ///
962 ///
963 ///
964 ///
965 ///
966 ///
967 ///
968 ///
969 ///
970 ///
971 ///
972 ///
973 ///
974 ///
975 ///
976 ///
977 ///
978 ///
979 ///
980 ///
981 ///
982 ///
983 ///
984 ///
985 ///
986 ///
987 ///
988 ///
989 ///
990 ///
991 ///
992 ///
993 ///
994 ///
995 ///
996 ///
997 ///
998 ///
999 ///
1000 ///
1001 ///
1002 ///
1003 ///
1004 ///
1005 ///
1006 ///
1007 ///
1008 ///
1009 ///
1010 ///
1011 ///
1012 ///
1013 ///
1014 ///
1015 ///
1016 ///
1017 ///
1018 ///
1019 ///
1020 ///
1021 ///
1022 ///
1023 ///
1024 ///
1025 ///
1026 ///
1027 ///
1028 ///
1029 ///
1030 ///
1031 ///
1032 ///
1033 ///
1034 ///
1035 ///
1036 ///
1037 ///
1038 ///
1039 ///
1040 ///
1041 ///
1042 ///
1043 ///
1044 ///
1045 ///
1046 ///
1047 ///
1048 ///
1049 ///
1050 ///
1051 ///
1052 ///
1053 ///
1054 ///
1055 ///
1056 ///
1057 ///
1058 ///
1059 ///
1060 ///
1061 ///
1062 ///
1063 ///
1064 ///
1065 ///
1066 ///
1067 ///
1068 ///
1069 ///
1070 ///
1071 ///
1072 ///
1073 ///
1074 ///
1075 ///
1076 ///
1077 ///
1078 ///
1079 ///
1080 ///
1081 ///
1082 ///
1083 ///
1084 ///
1085 ///
1086 ///
1087 ///
1088 ///
1089 ///
1090 ///
1091 ///
1092 ///
1093 ///
1094 ///
1095 ///
1096 ///
1097 ///
1098 ///
1099 ///
1100 ///
1101 ///
1102 ///
1103 ///
1104 ///
1105 ///
1106 ///
1107 ///
1108 ///
1109 ///
1110 ///
1111 ///
1112 ///
1113 ///
1114 ///
1115 ///
1116 ///
1117 ///
1118 ///
1119 ///
1120 ///
1121 ///
1122 ///
1123 ///
1124 ///
1125 ///
1126 ///
1127 ///
1128 ///
1129 ///
1130 ///
1131 ///
1132 ///
1133 ///
1134 ///
1135 ///
1136 ///
1137 ///
1138 ///
1139 ///
1140 ///
1141 ///
1142 ///
1143 ///
1144 ///
1145 ///
1146 ///
1147 ///
1148 ///
1149 ///
1150 ///
1151 ///
1152 ///
1153 ///
1154 ///
1155 ///
1156 ///
1157 ///
1158 ///
1159 ///
1160 ///
1161 ///
1162 ///
1163 ///
1164 ///
1165 ///
1166 ///
1167 ///
1168 ///
1169 ///
1170 ///
1171 ///
1172 ///
1173 ///
1174 ///
1175 ///
1176 ///
1177 ///
1178 ///
1179 ///
1180 ///
1181 ///
1182 ///
1183 ///
1184 ///
1185 ///
1186 ///
1187 ///
1188 ///
1189 ///
1190 ///
1191 ///
1192 ///
1193 ///
1194 ///
1195 ///
1196 ///
1197 ///
1198 ///
1199 ///
1200 ///
1201 ///
1202 ///
1203 ///
1204 ///
1205 ///
1206 ///
1207 ///
1208 ///
1209 ///
1210 ///
1211 ///
1212 ///
1213 ///
1214 ///
1215 ///
1216 ///
1217 ///
1218 ///
1219 ///
1220 ///
1221 ///
1222 ///
1223 ///
1224 ///
1225 ///
1226 ///
1227 ///
1228 ///
1229 ///
1230 ///
1231 ///
1232 ///
1233 ///
1234 ///
1235 ///
1236 ///
1237 ///
1238 ///
1239 ///
1240 ///
1241 ///
1242 ///
1243 ///
1244 ///
1245 ///
1246 ///
1247 ///
1248 ///
1249 ///
1250 ///
1251 ///
1252 ///
1253 ///
1254 ///
1255 ///
1256 ///
1257 ///
1258 ///
1259 ///
1260 ///
1261 ///
1262 ///
1263 ///
1264 ///
1265 ///
1266 ///
1267 ///
1268 ///
1269 ///
1270 ///
1271 ///
1272 ///
1273 ///<

1 COST RECOVERY

2 8. Section 3753.1 of the Code states:

3 "(a) An administrative disciplinary decision imposing terms of probation may include,
4 among other things, a requirement that the licensee - probationer pay the monetary costs
5 associated with monitoring the probation.

6 "(b) The board shall not renew or reinstate the license of any licensee who has failed to pay
7 all of the costs ordered under this section once a licensee has served his or her term of probation."

8 9. Section 3753.5, subdivision (a) of the Code states:

9 "In any order issued in resolution of a disciplinary proceeding before the board, the board or
10 the administrative law judge may direct any practitioner or applicant found to have committed a
11 violation or violations of law or any term and condition of board probation to pay to the board a
12 sum not to exceed the costs of the investigation and prosecution of the case. A certified copy of
13 the actual costs, or a good faith estimate of costs where actual costs are not available, signed by
14 the official custodian of the record or his or her designated representative shall be prima facie
15 evidence of the actual costs of the investigation and prosecution of the case."

16 10. Section 3753.7 of the Code provides that for purposes of the Respiratory Care
17 Practice Act, costs of prosecution shall include attorney general or other prosecuting attorney
18 fees, expert witness fees, and other administrative, filing, and service fees.

19 FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

20 (Commission of Fraudulent, Dishonest, or Corrupt Acts)

21 11. Respondent's license is subject to disciplinary action under Business and Professions
22 Code section 3750, subdivision (j) and California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1399.370,
23 subdivision (b) for commission of fraudulent, dishonest, or corrupt acts that are substantially
24 related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a respiratory care practitioner. Respondent
25 defrauded one of his employees by borrowing money under false circumstances and failed to
26 repay it, causing this individual severe financial and personal injury and loss, including the
27 foreclosure of his home. The facts and circumstances are as follows:
28

1 A. At all times relevant to the charges herein brought, and particularly between 1999 and
2 2006, Respondent was a licensed respiratory care therapist and owned and operated a respiratory
3 care registry business known as PRN Staffing, Staffing PRN, or a similar appellation.

4 B. In the course of this business, Respondent hired A.A., who was also a licensed
5 respiratory care therapist.

6 C. Respondent scheduled himself and A.A to work together at the same hospitals and
7 over time, befriended A.A.. In the course of conversations with A.A, Respondent learned that
8 A.A.'s wife had been killed in a traffic accident, and that as a result of an ensuing personal injury
9 settlement, A.A had paid off his home and debts.

10 D. Respondent then began to urge A.A. to borrow money secured by his home and lend
11 it to Respondent, purportedly to expand Respondent's business. Because Respondent employed
12 A.A., A.A. felt compelled to do as Respondent urged, despite having grave misgivings about
13 placing the residence of himself and his children at risk. Therefore, on July 31, 2006, after
14 borrowing money secured by his house, A.A. lent Respondent \$100,000.

15 E. In fact, Respondent did not intend to nor did he utilize the money as promised;
16 instead, he immediately expended it for his own personal expenses and lifestyle. He thereafter
17 failed and refused to repay A.A. the borrowed funds, including but not limited to issuing checks
18 on accounts with insufficient funds or which had been closed.

19 F. When A.A. sought repayment, Respondent unsuccessfully attempted to discharge the
20 obligation through bankruptcy, thus causing A.A. still more financial loss in defending his
21 interests in that proceeding.

22 G. As a result of Respondent's actions, A.A. lost his employment with Respondent and
23 his house to foreclosure, leaving him and his children destitute.

24 H. Respondent misused his position as A.A.'s employer to victimize and defraud A.A.,
25 thus causing him and his children tremendous financial and personal loss and suffering.

26 12. As a result of the above actions, Respondent's license is subject to disciplinary action
27 for fraud against an employee under Code section 3750(j) and California Code of Regulations,
28 title 16, section 1399.370, subdivision (b).

