

1 ROB BONTA
Attorney General of California
2 SHAWN P. COOK
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
3 NANCY A. KAISER
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
4 State Bar No. 192083
300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702
5 Los Angeles, CA 90013
Telephone: (213) 269-6320
6 Facsimile: (916) 731-2126
E-mail: Nancy.Kaiser@doj.ca.gov
7 *Attorneys for Complainant*

8
9 **BEFORE THE**
BOARD OF PHARMACY
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the Statement of Issues
13 Against:

Case No. 7504

14 **TARANEH SADEGHI**

STATEMENT OF ISSUES

15 **Intern Pharmacist Application Applicant**

16 Respondent.
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18 **PARTIES**

19 1. Anne Sodergren (Complainant) brings this Statement of Issues solely in her official
20 capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy (Board), Department of Consumer
21 Affairs.

22 2. On or about October 24, 2022, the Board received an application for a/an Intern
23 Pharmacist Application from Taraneh Sadeghi (Respondent). On or about October 21, 2022,
24 Respondent certified under penalty of perjury to the truthfulness of all statements, answers, and
25 representations in the application. The Board denied the application on March 14, 2023.

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1 **JURISDICTION**

2 3. This Statement of Issues is brought before the Board under the authority of the
3 following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise
4 indicated.

5 **STATUTORY PROVISIONS**

6 4. Section 480 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

7 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code, a board may deny a
8 license regulated by this code on the grounds that the applicant has been convicted of
9 a crime or has been subject to formal discipline only if either of the following
10 conditions are met:

11 (1) The applicant has been convicted of a crime within the preceding seven
12 years from the date of application that is substantially related to the qualifications,
13 functions, or duties of the business or profession for which the application is made,
14 regardless of whether the applicant was incarcerated for that crime, or the applicant
15 has been convicted of a crime that is substantially related to the qualifications,
16 functions, or duties of the business or profession for which the application is made
17 and for which the applicant is presently incarcerated or for which the applicant was
18 released from incarceration within the preceding seven years from the date of
19 application.

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21 5. Section 4300 of the Code states:

22 (a) Every license issued may be suspended or revoked.

23 (b) The board shall discipline the holder of any license issued by the board,
24 whose default has been entered or whose case has been heard by the board and found
25 guilty, by any of the following methods:

26 (1) Suspending judgment.

27 (2) Placing him or her upon probation.

28 (3) Suspending his or her right to practice for a period not exceeding one year.

(4) Revoking his or her license.

(5) Taking any other action in relation to disciplining him or her as the board in
its discretion may deem proper.

(c) The board may refuse a license to any applicant guilty of unprofessional
conduct. The board may, in its sole discretion, issue a probationary license to any
applicant for a license who is guilty of unprofessional conduct and who has met all
other requirements for licensure. The board may issue the license subject to any
terms or conditions not contrary to public policy, including, but not limited to, the
following:

- 1 (1) Medical or psychiatric evaluation.
- 2 (2) Continuing medical or psychiatric treatment.
- 3 (3) Restriction of type or circumstances of practice.
- 4 (4) Continuing participation in a board-approved rehabilitation program.
- 5 (5) Abstention from the use of alcohol or drugs.
- 6 (6) Random fluid testing for alcohol or drugs.
- 7 (7) Compliance with laws and regulations governing the practice of pharmacy.

8 (d) The board may initiate disciplinary proceedings to revoke or suspend any
9 probationary certificate of licensure for any violation of the terms and conditions of
10 probation. Upon satisfactory completion of probation, the board shall convert the
11 probationary certificate to a regular certificate, free of conditions.

12 (e) The proceedings under this article shall be conducted in accordance with
13 Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of the
14 Government Code, and the board shall have all the powers granted therein. The
15 action shall be final, except that the propriety of the action is subject to review by the
16 superior court pursuant to Section 1094.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

17 **REGULATORY PROVISIONS**

18 6. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1770, states:

19 (a) For the purpose of denial, suspension, or revocation of a personal or facility
20 license pursuant to Section 141 or Division 1.5 (commencing with Section 475) of the
21 Business and Professions Code, a crime, professional misconduct, or act shall be
22 considered substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of the
23 practice, profession, or occupation that may be performed under the license type
24 sought or held if to a substantial degree it evidences present or potential unfitness of
25 an applicant or licensee to perform the functions authorized by the license in a
26 manner consistent with the public health, safety, or welfare.

27 (b) In making the substantial relationship determination required under
28 subdivision (a) for a crime, the board will consider the following criteria:

- 29 (1) The nature and gravity of the offense;
- 30 (2) The number of years elapsed since the date of the offense; and
- 31 (3) The nature and duties of the practice, profession, or occupation that may be
32 performed under the license type sought or held.

33 (c) For purposes of subdivision (a), substantially related crimes, professional
34 misconduct, or acts shall include, but are not limited to, those which:

- 35 (1) Violate or attempt to violate, directly or indirectly, or to aid, abet or
36 conspire to violate, any provision of law of this state, or any other jurisdiction,
37 governing the practice of pharmacy.
- 38 (2) Violate or attempt to violate, directly or indirectly, or to aid, abet or

1 conspire to violate, any provision of Chapter 13 (commencing with Section 801) of
2 Title 21 of the United States Code regulating controlled substances or any law of this
3 state, or any other jurisdiction, relating to controlled substances or dangerous drugs.

4 (3) Violate or attempt to violate, directly or indirectly, or to aid, abet or
5 conspire to violate, any provision of law of this state, or any other jurisdiction,
6 relating to government provided or government supported healthcare.

7 (4) Involve dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption related to money, items,
8 documents, or personal information.

9 (5) Involve a conviction for driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

10 **CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION**

11 **(Conviction of a Substantially Related Crime)**

12 7. Respondent's application is subject to denial under Code section 480, subdivision
13 (a)(1), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1770, in that
14 Respondent was convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or
15 duties of an intern pharmacist. Specifically, on or about July 10, 2023, after her plea of nolo
16 contendere, Respondent was convicted of violating Vehicle Code section 20001, subdivision
17 (b)(1) (hit and run resulting in death or injury) in a criminal proceeding entitled: *The People of the*
18 *State of California v. Taraneh Sadeghi* (Super. Ct. Los Angeles County, 2022, No. GA111793).

19 8. The circumstances surrounding the conviction were that on or about November 30,
20 2021, officers responded to a traffic collision with major injuries. Upon arrival, officers observed
21 an adult male and a baby. The adult male was bleeding from his head and the baby was bleeding
22 heavily from a laceration to his forehead. Officers broadcasted the description of the suspect
23 vehicle and shortly after, officers spotted Respondent driving a vehicle that matched the
24 description of the vehicle that fled the scene of the traffic collision. During an inspection of the
25 outside of Respondent's vehicle, officers noted there was a dent on the hood with possible
26 bloodstains on the front bumper. Respondent admitted she remembered hitting something, but did
27 not know what it was. Respondent admitted she kept driving because she was late for work.

28 **PRAYER**

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged,
and that following the hearing, the Board of Pharmacy issue a decision:

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1. Denying the application of Taraneh Sadeghi for an Intern Pharmacist Application;
- and
2. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: 8/22/2023

Sodergren,
Anne@DCA



Digitally signed by Sodergren,
Anne@DCA
Date: 2023.08.22 18:32:11 -07'00'

ANNE SODERGREN
Executive Officer
Board of Pharmacy
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California
Complainant

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