

ASHLEY ISOM

4970 Sobb Ave, Las Vegas, NV 89118

3/16/17

Nevada State Board of Pharmacy
431 W Plumb Ln
Reno, NV 89509

Members of the Board,

I am petitioning for reinstatement of my Nevada State Pharmacist license which was revoked Jan 2016. I request to appear before the Board April 2017. I will accept service of the notice by email and waive the 21-day notice requirement.

In 2012, I battled an opiate addiction while working as a clinical pharmacist at Tahoe Pacific Hospital. At that time I entered myself in the PRN-PRN program and admitted that I was not able to quit on my own. I began my path to recovery and worked extremely hard on my personal growth. I started therapy and psychiatry, I attended 12-step meetings often and I had two sponsors. One sponsor for drugs and second sponsor for food. I filled up any spare moment with good activities including taking my therapy dog to visit ill patients in the hospital. I was sure that I would never touch another opiate, but I was naïve underestimating the power of the addictive mindset. In 2015 working 13 or 14 hour shifts without lunch at CVS I diverted a small amount of stimulants from a CVS pharmacy in Reno. I was discovered with the stimulant and thankful no harm was caused to anyone and deeply regret my mistakes.

I know why I relapsed now. First off, I filled my time with many good activities. I took on other people's shifts at work, but when I got tired I began skipping 12-step meetings. I wanted to make as much money as I could at the expense of my health and my relationships. I stopped going to church. One thing slowly lead to another. I hardly noticed because I had my time so jam packed with work and other "good things." In 2016 I neglected self-care. A pharmacist should have a break in a 13 hour

day. Everyone needs to refuel their mind and body. It's an unsafe environment for both pharmacist and patient. No amount of money can compensate for poor physical or mental health.

So much has changed since Jan 2016. I moved with my husband and mother to Las Vegas where my husband could find work and we could still be close to his ailing father. I put first things first. My health, family and relationships are at the top of the list. I developed a true faith and trust in God. I am fully immersed in a lifestyle that ensures lasting change. I have put in place, several forms of accountability: my sponsor, Larry Espadero of PRN, drug testing, my church bishop and other authorities, my employer, and my family. I have continued therapy, psychiatry, PRN, attending my 12 step meetings, working with my sponsor, and getting regular random drug screens (always negative).

The transition mentally and physically has been gradual. One day at a time. I am now a sponsor for other women. I share my experience, strength and hope with other people because it's been found to be part of successful permanent change and prevention of relapse. A month after I lost my license I have had an honest interview and was given the chance to work for the best technology based mental health start-up company called Ginger.io. I am a mental health coach. I relate to my members in high stress jobs. I have learned communication skills, more constructive coping strategies for managing stress, and I know how to implement good habits to guarantee basic self-care for a healthy mind and body.

I now not only attend church and participate in church activities, I also attend the temple and feel worthy to do so. I have the privilege of going to the temple because I went through extensive church discipline and loving guidance from church leaders and my Heavenly Father. I made covenants with God to live a pure life. This is a true and honest commitment to life change. I converted to this church years ago but have never been so grateful to be part of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. I used to have a desire to believe. Now I have faith that has sustained me through physical changes, withdrawal, social guilt, depression and anxiety. Faith then helped to build me back up with a humble confidence as I continue to do the next right thing.

I love my current job, but miss pharmacy. I remember the feeling of knowing that I made a life altering intervention. Or seeing the smile on patients' face when they realize I went the extra mile. Thank you for taking the time to read this petition. I am forever humbled and changed. I gladly accept any decision the Board members believe is best.

Sincerely,

Ashley Isom PharmD, MEd.

Shirley Hunting

From: Shirley Hunting
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 2:31 PM
To: 'Ashley Isom'
Cc: Paul Edwards
Subject: RE: Question: reinstating a revoked license
Attachments: Ashley Isom Notice of Appearance.pdf

Ashley,

Attached is the notice of the date and time of your requested appearance before the Board.

Please confirm that you have received the attached notice and include a statement and that you will accept service of the notice by email and waive the 21-day notice requirement.

Thank you.

Shirley

From: Ashley Isom [mailto:ashley.isom@pharmacy.nv.gov]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:59 AM
To: Shirley Hunting <shunting@pharmacy.nv.gov>
Subject: Re: Question: reinstating a revoked license

Shirley,

Absolutely! Will do. Thank you so much for your response!

Ashley

On Mar 16, 2017, at 10:54 AM, Shirley Hunting <shunting@pharmacy.nv.gov> wrote:

Hi Ashley,

You may send the petition and supporting documents via email if you wish.

Nevada law requires the Board to give licensees a 21 day notice before a hearing to reinstate their license. The 21 working day deadline for the April 2017 meeting has passed. However, that requirement can be waived by the licensee.

If you are interested in appearing at the April meeting and waiving the 21-day deadline, your petition must be submitted to the Board Office no later than Monday, March 20, 2017. In addition, your request to appear will need to include a statement that you will accept service of the notice by email and waive the 21-day notice requirement.

Otherwise, the next scheduled Board Meeting is in June in Reno.

Please contact me or Paul Edwards if you have further questions.

Thank you.

Shirley

From: Ashley Isom [mailto:ashley.isom@pharmacy.nv.gov]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 6:47 AM
To: Shirley Hunting <shunting@pharmacy.nv.gov>
Subject: Re: Question: reinstating a revoked license

Hello Shirley!

This is Ashley Isom, inquiring whether I email my petition to the Board or send in a physical hard copy.

Thank you much,

Ashley

From: Shirley Hunting <shunting@pharmacy.nv.gov>
To: " " < " >
Cc: Paul Edwards <pedwards@pharmacy.nv.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 22, 2016 1:49 PM
Subject: FW: Question: reinstating a revoked license

Ms. Isom,

Our regulations allow for you to petition the Board for reinstatement of your revoked pharmacist registration. I copied and pasted the rule below for your review:

NRS 639.257: Reinstatement of revoked certificate, license or permit.

1. A person whose certificate, license or permit has been revoked may petition the Board for reinstatement after a period of not less than 1 year has lapsed since the date of revocation.

2. The petition shall state such facts as may be required by the Board and shall be heard by the Board at its next regular meeting held not earlier than 30 days after the petition is filed. Such petition may be considered by the Board while the petitioner is under sentence for any criminal offense, including any period during which the petitioner is on probation or parole, only if the Board members, by a majority vote, find that the public interest would best be served by such reinstatement.

3. In considering reinstatement the Board may investigate and consider all activities of the petitioner since the time the original certificate, license or permit was issued and his or her ability, character and reputation. The affirmative vote of at least three members is necessary for reinstatement of a certificate, license or permit with or without terms, conditions and restrictions.
(Added to NRS by 1967, 1661)

Per that regulation, you need to file a "petition" with the Board requesting reinstatement. That "petition" can be in the form of a letter addressed to the Board making a case for why it can and should trust you to return to work in a pharmacy again. I suggest that you discuss in your letter the reason(s) for which your registration was revoked.

You should also present and explain any evidence you may have to support your argument that those circumstances will not arise again in the future.

Once we receive that letter/petition and any documents or other evidence you wish to present to the Board, we will set the matter for hearing. You will be required to appear before the Board to discuss your petition. It will then make a decision. Please understand that it is entirely up to the Board's discretion whether to grant or deny your petition.

If you have any questions, please contact the Board's general counsel Paul Edwards. Mr. Edwards can be reached at (775) 850-1440 or pedwards@pharmacy.nv.gov.

Thank you.

Shirley Hunting
Board Coordinator
Custodian of Records
Nevada State Board of Pharmacy
Phone: 775-850-1440
Fax: 775-850-1448

From: Ashley Isom [
Sent: Thursday, December 22, 2016 1:02 PM
To: Pharmacy Board
Subject: Question: reinstating a revoked license

To whom it may concern:

I have questions about reinstating a revoked pharmacist license. I hope you can give me some tips so that I can be prepared when going in front of the Board sometime after 2/2017. What is the Board looking for? Letter from Larry Esperedero (PRN-PRN)? Current employer? etc? I want to provide enough information, but not so much that I waste their time.

Thank you!

Ashley Isom PharmD.

BEFORE THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY,	)	CASE NO. 15-074-RPH-N
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	
v.)	
	)	NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION
ASHLEY ISOM, R.PH.	)	AND ACCUSATION
Certificate of Registration No. 17655,)	
)	
Respondent.	/	

Larry L. Pinson, in his official capacity as Executive Secretary of the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy, makes the following that will serve as both a notice of intended action under Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 233B.127(3), and as an accusation under NRS 639.241.

I.

The Nevada State Board of Pharmacy (Board) has jurisdiction over this matter because Respondent Ashley Isom, R.Ph., Certificate of Registration No. 17655, was a registered pharmacist with the Board at the time of the events alleged herein.

II.

On or about December 10, 2015, Board Staff received notification from the CVS Health Director of Regulatory Affairs (CVS) indicating that Ms. Isom diverted controlled substances and dangerous drugs during her employment at CVS Pharmacy #157.

III.

During an interview conducted by a CVS Regional Loss Protection Manager, and in a written statement, Ms. Isom admitted to diverting the following drugs beginning in July 2015 through December 2015:

- 5 tablets Metformin 1000 mg.
- 1 tablet Ritalin (generic) 10 mg.
- 6 tablets Phentermine 37.5 mg.
- 2 capsules Phentermine 30 mg.
- 6 tablets Amphetamine salts 30 mg.
- 10 tablets Amphetamine salts 10 mg.

IV.

In her written statement, Ms. Isom indicates that she diverted the drugs for personal use to relieve the stress in her life.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

V.


By diverting controlled substances, as detailed above, Ms. Isom violated Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 453.331(1)(d) and/or NRS 453.336(1), and/or Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 639.945(1)(g) and/or (h), which violations are grounds for action pursuant to NRS 639.210(1), (4), (11), and/or (12), as well as NRS 639.255.

VI.

By diverting dangerous drugs, as detailed above, Ms. Isom violated NAC 639.945(1)(g) and/or (h), which violations are grounds for action pursuant to NRS 639.210(1), (4), (11), and/or (12), as well as NRS 639.255.

WHEREFORE, it is requested that the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy take appropriate disciplinary action with respect to the certificate of registration of this respondent.

Signed this 10th day of December, 2015.



Larry L. Pinson, Pharm.D., Executive Secretary
Nevada State Board of Pharmacy

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT

You have the right to show the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy that your conduct, as alleged above, complies with all lawful requirements regarding your certificate of registration. To do so, you must mail to the Board within 15 days of your receipt of this Notice of Intended Action and Accusation a written statement showing your compliance.

BEFORE THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY,	)	CASE NO. 15-074-RPH-N
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	
v.)	
	)	STATEMENT TO THE RESPONDENT
ASHLEY ISOM, R.PH.	)	NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION
Certificate of Registration No. 17655,	)	AND ACCUSATION
	)	RIGHT TO HEARING
Respondent.)	
	/	

TO THE RESPONDENT ABOVE-NAMED: PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT:

I.

Pursuant to the authority and jurisdiction conferred upon the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy (Board) by NRS 639.241 to NRS 639.2576, inclusive, and NRS chapter 233B, a Notice of Intended Action and Accusation has been filed with the Board by the Petitioner, Larry L. Pinson, Executive Secretary for the Board, alleging grounds for imposition of disciplinary action by the Board against you, as is more fully explained and set forth in the Notice of Intended Action and Accusation served herewith and hereby incorporated reference herein.

II.

You have the right to a hearing before the Board to answer the Notice of Intended Action and Accusation and present evidence and argument on all issues involved, either personally or through counsel. Should you desire a hearing, it is required that you complete two copies of the Answer and Notice of Defense documents served herewith and file said copies with the Board within fifteen (15) days of receipt of this Statement and Notice, and of the Notice of Intended Action and Accusation served within.

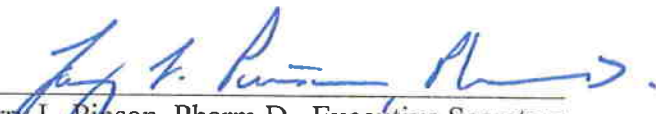
III.

The Board has reserved Wednesday, January 13, 2016, as the date for a hearing on this matter at the Hilton Garden Inn, 7830 S. Las Vegas Blvd., Las Vegas, Nevada. The hour of the hearing will be set by letter to follow.

IV.

Failure to complete and file your Notice of Defense with the Board and thereby request a hearing within the time allowed shall constitute a waiver of your right to a hearing in this matter and give cause for the entering of your default to the Notice of Intended Action and Accusation filed herein, unless the Board, in its sole discretion, elects to grant or hold a hearing nonetheless.

DATED this 10th day of December, 2015.



Larry L. Pinson, Pharm.D., Executive Secretary
Nevada State Board of Pharmacy

BEFORE THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY,	)	CASE NO. 15-074-RPH-N
)	
Petitioner,)	
v.)	
)	
ASHLEY ISOM, R.PH.	)	ANSWER AND NOTICE
Certificate of Registration No. 17655,	)	OF DEFENSE
)	
Respondent.)	
	/	

Respondent above named, in answer to the Notice of Intended Action and Accusation filed in the above-entitled matter before the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy, declares:

1. That his objection to the Notice of Intended Action and Accusation as being incomplete or failing to state clearly the charges against him, is hereby interposed on the following grounds: (State specific objections or insert "none").

2. That, in answer to the Notice of Intended Action and Accusation, he admits, denies and alleges as follows:

I hereby declare, under penalty of perjury, that the foregoing Answer and Notice of Defense, and all facts therein stated, are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

DATED this ___ day of _____, 2015.

ASHLEY ISOM, R.PH.

BEFORE THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY,	)	CASE NO. 15-074-RPH-N
)	
Petitioner,)	
v.	)	FINDINGS OF FACT,
	)	CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND
ASHLEY ISOM, R.PH.	)	ORDER
Certificate of Registration No. 17655,)	
)	
Respondent.	/	

This matter came before the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy (Board) at its regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, January 13, 2016, in Las Vegas, Nevada. S. Paul Edwards, Esq., appeared before the Board in his capacity as its General Counsel. Respondent Ashley Isom, R.Ph. (Ms. Isom), Certificate of Registration No. 17655, responded to the Accusation, and appeared without counsel at the hearing. Based on the evidence presented, the Board issues the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. In December 2015, Board Staff received notification from the CVS Health Director of Regulatory Affairs (CVS) indicating that Ms. Isom diverted controlled substances and dangerous drugs during her employment at CVS Pharmacy #157.
2. During an interview conducted by a CVS Regional Loss Protection Manager, and in a written statement, Ms. Isom admitted to diverting small amounts of controlled substances and dangerous drugs.
3. In a subsequent written statement, Ms. Isom stated that she diverted the drugs for personal use to relieve the stress in her life.

4. Ms. Isom further admitted through testimony at the hearing to the allegations in the Accusation.

5. These findings are supported by exhibits and testimony presented to the Board at the hearing, and which the Board admitted into evidence.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

6. The Board has jurisdiction over this matter because Respondent Ashley Isom, R.Ph. (Ms. Isom), Certificate of Registration No. 17655, was a registered pharmacist with the Board at the time of the events alleged herein.

7. By diverting controlled substances, as alleged in the Accusation, and as stated in the findings above, Ms. Isom violated NRS 453.336(1), as well as NAC 639.945(1)(h).

8. Those violations are grounds for action pursuant to NRS 639.210(1), (4), and (11), as well as NRS 639.255.

THEREFORE, THE BOARD HEREBY ORDERS:

9. The registration of Respondent Ashley Isom, R.Ph. (Ms. Isom), Certificate of Registration No. 17655, is hereby revoked effective immediately.

10. Ms. Isom may not work in any facility licensed by the Board, including a pharmacy, in any capacity, unless and until she has applied to the Board for reinstatement and the Board reinstates her registration.

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11. In the event Ms. Isom applies for reinstatement, or for any other registration or certificate with the Board, she shall appear before the Board to answer questions and give testimony regarding her application and the facts and circumstances underlying this matter.

Signed this 4 day of February, 2016.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leo Basch". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Leo Basch, President
Nevada State Board of Pharmacy