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

11 In the Matter of the Amended Accusation
12 Against:

Case No. 1A-2016-184

13 **SEUNG YUEB HAN, L.Ac.**
14 **525 S. Berendo St., Unit #301**
Los Angeles, CA 90020
15 **Acupuncturist No. AC 12521**

AMENDED ACCUSATION

16 Respondent.

17 Complainant alleges:

18 **PARTIES**

19 1. Benjamin Bodea (Complainant) brings this Amended Accusation solely in his official
20 capacity as the Executive Officer of the Acupuncture Board, Department of Consumer Affairs.

21 2. On or about August 25, 2008, the Acupuncture Board issued Acupuncturist Number
22 AC 12521 to Seung Yueb Han, L.Ac. (Respondent). The Acupuncture License was in full force
23 and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on June 30, 2018,
24 unless renewed.

25 **JURISDICTION**

26 3. This Amended Accusation is brought before the Acupuncture Board (Board),
27 Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section
28 references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.

1 4. Section 4928.1 of the Code states:

2 “Protection of the public shall be the highest priority for the Acupuncture Board in
3 exercising its licensing, regulatory, and disciplinary functions. Whenever the protection of the
4 public is inconsistent with other interests sought to be promoted, the protection of the public shall
5 be paramount.”

6 5. Section 4955 of the Code states:

7 “The board may deny, suspend, or revoke, or impose probationary conditions upon, the
8 license of any acupuncturist if he or she is guilty of unprofessional conduct.

9 “Unprofessional conduct shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

10 “... ”

11 “(b) Conviction of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions,
12 or duties of an acupuncturist, the record of conviction being conclusive evidence
13 thereof.

14 “... ”

15 “(d) Aiding or abetting in, or violating or conspiring in, directly or indirectly,
16 the violation of the terms of this chapter or any regulation adopted by the board
17 pursuant to this chapter.

18 “... ”

19 6. Section 4956 of the Code states:

20 “A plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea of nolo contendere made to a
21 charge which is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of an acupuncturist
22 is deemed to be a conviction within the meaning of this chapter.

23 “The board may order a license suspended or revoked, or may deny a license, or may
24 impose probationary conditions upon a license, when the time for appeal has elapsed, or the
25 judgment of conviction has been affirmed on appeal, or when an order granting probation is made
26 suspending the imposition of sentence irrespective of a subsequent order under the provisions of
27 Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code allowing the person to withdraw his or her pleas of guilty and to
28 enter a plea of not guilty, or setting aside the verdict of guilty, or dismissing the accusation,

1 complaint, information, or indictment.”

2 7. Section 490 of the Code states:

3 “(a) In addition to any other action that a board is permitted to take against a licensee, a
4 board may suspend or revoke a license on the ground that the licensee has been convicted of a
5 crime, if the crime is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business
6 or profession for which the license was issued.

7 “(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a board may exercise any authority to
8 discipline a licensee for conviction of a crime that is independent of the authority granted under
9 subdivision (a) only if the crime is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties
10 of the business or profession for which the licensee's license was issued.

11 “(c) A conviction within the meaning of this section means a plea or verdict of guilty or a
12 conviction following a plea of nolo contendere. Any action that a board is permitted to take
13 following the establishment of a conviction may be taken when the time for appeal has elapsed, or
14 the judgment of conviction has been affirmed on appeal, or when an order granting probation is
15 made suspending the imposition of sentence, irrespective of a subsequent order under the
16 provisions of Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code.

17 “(d) The Legislature hereby finds and declares that the application of this section has been
18 made unclear by the holding in *Petropoulos v. Department of Real Estate* (2006) 142 Cal.App.4th
19 554, and that the holding in that case has placed a significant number of statutes and regulations
20 in question, resulting in potential harm to the consumers of California from licensees who have
21 been convicted of crimes. Therefore, the Legislature finds and declares that this section
22 establishes an independent basis for a board to impose discipline upon a licensee, and that the
23 amendments to this section made by Senate Bill 797 of the 2007 -08 Regular Session do not
24 constitute a change to, but rather are declaratory of, existing law.”

25 8. Section 493 of the Code states:

26 “Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in a proceeding conducted by a board within
27 the department pursuant to law to deny an application for a license or to suspend or revoke a
28 license or otherwise take disciplinary action against a person who holds a license, upon the

1 ground that the applicant or the licensee has been convicted of a crime substantially related to the
2 qualifications, functions, and duties of the licensee in question, the record of conviction of the
3 crime shall be conclusive evidence of the fact that the conviction occurred, but only of that fact,
4 and the board may inquire into the circumstances surrounding the commission of the crime in
5 order to fix the degree of discipline or to determine if the conviction is substantially related to the
6 qualifications, functions, and duties of the licensee in question.

7 “As used in this section, ‘license’ includes ‘certificate,’ ‘permit,’ ‘authority,’ and
8 ‘registration.’”

9 9. Section 2052 of the Code states:

10 “(a) Notwithstanding Section 146, any person who practices or attempts to practice, or who
11 advertises or holds himself or herself out as practicing, any system or mode of treating the sick or
12 afflicted in this state, or who diagnoses, treats, operates for, or prescribes for any ailment,
13 blemish, deformity, disease, disfigurement, disorder, injury, or other physical or mental condition
14 of any person, without having at the time of so doing a valid, unrevoked, or unsuspended
15 certificate as provided in this chapter or without being authorized to perform the act pursuant to a
16 certificate obtained in accordance with some other provision of law is guilty of a public offense,
17 punishable by a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), by imprisonment pursuant to
18 subdivision (h) of Section 1170 of the Penal Code, by imprisonment in a county jail not
19 exceeding one year, or by both the fine and either imprisonment.

20 “(b) Any person who conspires with or aids or abets another to commit any act described in
21 subdivision (a) is guilty of a public offense, subject to the punishment described in that
22 subdivision.

23 “(c) The remedy provided in this section shall not preclude any other remedy provided by
24 law.”

25 COSTS

26 10. Section 4959 of the Code states:

27 “(a) The board may request the administrative law judge, under his or her proposed
28 decision in resolution of a disciplinary proceeding before the board, to direct any licensee found

1 guilty of unprofessional conduct to pay to the board a sum not to exceed actual and reasonable
2 costs of the investigation and prosecution of the case.

3 “(b) The costs to be assessed shall be fixed by the administrative law judge and shall not in
4 any event be increased by the board. When the board does not adopt a proposed decision and
5 remands the case to an administrative law judge, the administrative law judge shall not increase
6 the amount of any costs assessed in the proposed decision.

7 “(c) When the payment directed in the board's order for payment of costs is not made by
8 the licensee, the board may enforce the order for payment in the superior court in the county
9 where the administrative hearing was held. This right of enforcement shall be in addition to any
10 other rights the board may have as to any licensee directed to pay costs.

11 “(d) In any judicial action for the recovery of costs, proof of the board's decision shall be
12 conclusive proof of the validity of the order of payment and the terms for payment.

13 “(e) All costs recovered under this section shall be considered a reimbursement for costs
14 incurred and shall be deposited in the Acupuncture Fund.”

15 **FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

16 (Conviction of a Crime)

17 11. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct under Code
18 section 4955 subdivision (b), in that he was convicted of violating Business and Professions Code
19 section 2052, subdivision (a), commonly known as unlicensed practice of medicine, a crime
20 which is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of an acupuncturist.

21 The circumstances are as follows:

22 12. On or about July 28, 2016, in proceedings entitled *People of the State of California v.*
23 *Seung Yueb Han*, then pending in the Superior Court of California, case number BA442753, after
24 a plea of nolo contendere, Respondent was convicted of Count 1, a violation of Business and
25 Professions Code section 2052, subdivision (a), as a misdemeanor.

26 13. Following Respondent's plea of nolo contendere the Court placed Respondent on
27 three (3) years probation, and ordered him, inter alia, to obey all laws, perform 300 hours of
28 community service, and pay a fine of \$222.00.

1 14. The facts underlying the above conviction are:

2 15. Respondent was employed part time as a registered nurse at the Regen Medical Clinic
3 located in Los Angeles, California. The clinic provided medical cosmetic services. A licensed
4 physician was the owner of the medical clinic, and performed consultations on the patients, as did
5 Respondent. The licensed physician did not perform procedures at the clinic.

6 16. On August 4, 2015, an undercover investigator, posing as a patient, entered the Regen
7 Medical Clinic. She was greeted by S.K. an aesthetician who provided a medical form to
8 complete. The investigator told S.K. she was interested in Botox treatment and a mole removal.
9 The investigator was led into an examination room, where Respondent spoke with her. The
10 investigator informed Respondent that she was interested in Botox and mole removal.
11 Respondent examined her face and discussed the benefits of Botox for wrinkles and laser for
12 mole removal. Respondent said he would be the one administering the treatments.

13 17. On November 10, 2015, the investigator, posing as a patient, returned to Regen
14 Medical Clinic. She was greeted by S.K. and Respondent. There was no physician present in the
15 office. Respondent advised the investigator that he would administer Botox via injection.

16 18. Respondent's treatment of the investigator constituted the unlicensed practice of
17 medicine.

18 19. As a result of his plea on July 28, 2016, to a misdemeanor violation of Business and
19 Professions Code section 2052, subdivision (a), Respondent was convicted of an offense
20 substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of an acupuncturist, and cause for
21 discipline exists.

22 **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

23 (Unprofessional Conduct)

24 20. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 4955, subdivision (b),
25 in that he engaged in unprofessional conduct. The circumstances are as follows:

26 21. The facts and circumstances in paragraphs 11 through 19 are incorporated by
27 reference as if set forth in full herein.

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PRAYER

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

- 1. Revoking or suspending Acupuncturist License Number AC 12521, issued to Seung Yueb Han, L.Ac.;
- 2. Ordering Seung Yueb Han to pay the Acupuncture Board the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4959;
- 3. If placed on probation, ordering him to pay to the Acupuncture Board the costs of probation monitoring; and,
- 4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: SEP 20 2017



BENJAMIN BODEA
Executive Officer
Acupuncture Board
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California
Complainant

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