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

11 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 1A-2019-228

12 **AIPING LIU, L.Ac.**
13 **3375 Scott Avenue #220**
Santa Clara, CA 95054

DEFAULT DECISION AND ORDER

[Gov. Code, §11520]

14 **Acupuncture License No. 16042,**

15 Respondent.

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18 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

19 1. On or about April 13, 2026, Complainant Benjamin Bodea, in his official capacity as
20 the Executive Officer of the Acupuncture Board, Department of Consumer Affairs (Board), filed
21 Accusation No. 1A-2019-228 against LIU, AIPING, L.Ac. (Respondent) before the Board.

22 2. On or about April 7, 2014, the Board issued Acupuncture License No. 16042 to
23 Respondent. The Acupuncture License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the
24 charges brought herein and will expire on April 30, 2027, unless renewed. (Exhibit Package,
25 Exhibit 1¹: Certificate of Licensure.)

26 3. The Foundation for International Services, Inc. (FIS), based in Edmonds,
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28 ¹ The evidence supporting this Default Decision and Order is submitted herewith as the
“Exhibit Package.”

1 Washington, is a company that evaluates academic credentials from a foreign country and
2 determines whether such credentials are equivalent to those earned in the United States.

3 4. On September 27, 2013, Respondent applied to sit for the Board's acupuncture
4 licensing examination and provided required documentation for evaluation. The documents
5 included an FIS Evaluation Report (FIS Report). The FIS Report, dated June 19, 2013, indicated
6 that Respondent attended Beijing Guangming Chinese Medicine University from September 1987
7 to July 1991.

8 5. On November 22, 2013, the Board approved Respondent to take the examination on
9 February 20, 2014. Respondent passed the examination and was issued her acupuncture license
10 on April 7, 2014.

11 6. On October 29, 2019, the Board learned from an FIS employee that the June 19,
12 2013, FIS Report was fraudulent, FIS had no records of evaluating Respondent's education, and
13 the sales order on the FIS Report was used for another individual.

14 7. On December 16, 2025, another FIS employee confirmed that the June 19, 2013, FIS
15 Report was a forgery, FIS had no records of evaluating Respondent's education, and the sales
16 order on the FIS Report was used for another individual.

17 8. On or about April 13, 2026, Cindy Johnson, an employee of the Complainant
18 Agency, served by Certified and First Class Mail a copy of the Accusation No. 1A-2019-228,
19 Statement to Respondent; Notice of Defense; Request for Discovery; and Discovery Statutes to
20 Respondent's address of record with the Board, which was and is 3375 Scott Avenue #220
21 Santa Clara, CA 95054. (Exhibit Package, Exhibit 2: Accusation, Related Documents, and
22 Declaration of Service.)

23 9. Service of the Accusation was effective as a matter of law under the provisions of
24 Government Code section 11505, subdivision (c).

25 10. Respondent failed to file a Notice of Defense within 15 days after service upon her of
26 the Accusation and therefore waived her right to a hearing on the merits of Accusation No. 1A-
27 2019-228.

28 11. On or about, an employee of the Attorney General's Office sent a Courtesy Notice of

1 Default (Courtesy Notice) to Respondent at Respondent's address of record, which was and is
2 3375 Scott Avenue #220, Santa Clara, CA 95054. The Courtesy Notice advised Respondent of
3 the service of the Accusation and provided Respondent with an opportunity to file a Notice of
4 Defense and request relief from default. The Courtesy Notice included a copy of the Accusation,
5 the Statement to Respondent, a Notice of Defense, Request for Discovery, and discovery statutes,
6 and it advised Respondent that she was in default. (Exhibit Package, Exhibit 3: Courtesy Notice
7 of Default.

8 12. On May 21, 2026, an employee of the Attorney General's Office received documents
9 entitled, "Cost of Suit Summary" and "Default Costs," which indicated that the Department of
10 Justice has billed the Board \$3,756.25 for the time spent working on this matter through May 21,
11 2026. (Exhibit Package, Exhibit 4: Certification of Prosecution Costs, Declaration of C. Hay-Mie
12 Cho.)

13 **STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

14 13. Business and Professions Code section 118 states, in pertinent part:

15 (b) The suspension, expiration, or forfeiture by operation of law of a license
16 issued by a board in the department, or its suspension, forfeiture, or cancellation by
17 order of the board or by order of a court of law, or its surrender without the written
18 consent of the board, shall not, during any period in which it may be renewed,
19 restored, reissued, or reinstated, deprive the board of its authority to institute or
20 continue a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee upon any ground provided by
21 law or to enter an order suspending or revoking the license or otherwise taking
22 disciplinary action against the license on any such ground.

23 14. Government Code section 11506 states, in pertinent part:

24 (c) The respondent shall be entitled to a hearing on the merits if the respondent
25 files a notice of defense, and the notice shall be deemed a specific denial of all parts
26 of the accusation not expressly admitted. Failure to file a notice of defense shall
27 constitute a waiver of respondent's right to a hearing, but the agency in its discretion
28 may nevertheless grant a hearing.

15. California Government Code section 11520 states, in pertinent part:

(a) If the respondent either fails to file a notice of defense or to appear at the
hearing, the agency may take action based upon the respondent's express admissions
or upon other evidence and affidavits may be used as evidence without any notice to
respondent.

16. Business and Professions Code section 4959 states:

(a) The board may request the administrative law judge, under his or her

proposed decision in resolution of a disciplinary proceeding before the board, to direct any licensee found guilty of unprofessional conduct to pay to the board a sum not to exceed actual and reasonable costs of the investigation and prosecution of the case.

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

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

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

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

DETERMINATION OF ISSUES

1. Based on the foregoing findings of fact, Respondent Aiping Liu, L.Ac. has subjected her Acupuncture License No. 16042 to discipline.

2. A copy of the Accusation and the related documents and Declaration of Service are attached here as Exhibit.

3. The Board has jurisdiction to adjudicate this case by default.

4. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4959, the Board is authorized to order Respondent to pay the Board the reasonable costs of investigation and enforcement of the case prayed for in the Accusation total, \$3,756.25, based on the Certification of Costs attached as Exhibit 2 in the Exhibit Package.

5. The Board is authorized to revoke Respondent's Acupuncture License based upon the following violations alleged in the Accusation:

a. On September 27, 2013, Respondent submitted an FIS Report dated June 19, 2013, as part of her application to sit for the Board's acupuncture licensing examination.

b. On November 22, 2013, the Board approved Respondent to take the examination on February 20, 2014. Respondent passed the examination and was issued her acupuncture license

1 on April 7, 2014.

2 c. On October 29, 2019, the Board learned from an FIS employee that the June 19,
3 2013, FIS Report was fraudulent, FIS had no records of evaluating Respondent's education, and
4 the sales order on the FIS Report was used for another individual.

5 d. On December 16, 2025, another FIS employee confirmed that the June 19, 2013, FIS
6 Report was a forgery, FIS had no records of evaluating Respondent's education, and the sales
7 order on the FIS Report was used for another individual.

8 **ORDER**

9 IT IS SO ORDERED that Acupuncture License No. 16042, heretofore issued to
10 Respondent AIPING LIU, L.Ac., is revoked. Respondent AIPING LIU, L.Ac. is ordered to pay
11 the Board the costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case in the amount of \$3,756.25.

12 The filing of bankruptcy by Respondent shall not relieve Respondent of her responsibility
13 to reimburse the Board for its costs. Respondent's Acupuncture License may not be renewed or
14 reinstated unless all costs ordered under Business and Professions Code section 4959 have been
15 paid.

16 If Respondent ever files an application for re-licensure or reinstatement in the State of
17 California, the Board shall treat it as a petition for reinstatement of a revoked license.
18 Respondent must comply with all the laws, regulations, and procedures for reinstatement of a
19 revoked license in effect at the time the petition is filed.

20 **Pursuant to Government Code section 11520, subdivision (c), Respondent may serve a**
21 **written motion requesting that the Decision be vacated and stating the grounds relied on**
22 **within seven (7) days after service of the Decision on Respondent.** The Board in its discretion
23 may vacate the Decision and grant a hearing on a showing of good cause, as defined in the
24 statute.

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This Decision shall become effective on 7/12/2026.

It is so ORDERED 6/12/2026.

Original Signature on File

FOR THE ACUPUNCTURE BOARD
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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