BEFORE THE
ACUPUNCTURE BOARD
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

TERESA TRANG NGUYEN, L.Ac.
2081 South Gail Lane
Anaheim, CA 92802

Acupuncturist License No. AC 8980,

Respondent.

PARTIES

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

2. On or about March 14, 2003, the Acupuncture Board issued Acupuncturist License No. AC 8980 to Teresa Trang Nguyen, L.Ac. (Respondent). The Acupuncturist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on April 30, 2020, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

3. This Accusation is brought before the Board, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise indicated.
4. Section 4955 of the Code states in pertinent part:

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

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

"..."

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

"..."

"(h) Disciplinary action taken by any public agency for any act substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of an acupuncturist or any professional health care licensee.

"(i) Any action or conduct that would have warranted the denial of the acupuncture license.

"..."

PRIOR DISCIPLINE

5. In a prior disciplinary action brought by Board of Registered Nursing, entitled In the Matter of the Accusation Against Teresa Trang Nguyen, Case No.2018-826, the Board of Registered Nursing issued a decision, effective November 23, 2018, in which Respondent’s Registered Nurse License, license no. 785966; Nurse Practitioner Certificate, certificate no. 95000667; and Nurse Practitioner Furnishing Certificate, certificate no. 95000667, were revoked. However, the revocations were stayed and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of three (3) years with certain terms and conditions. A true copy of that decision and order, is attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein. Respondent remains on probation with the Board of Registered Nursing.

COSTS

6. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the
administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of
the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and
enforcement of the case.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

7. On or about May 8, 2017, Patient 1, a 15-year-old male, was seen by Respondent at
an urgent care clinic. Patient 1 complained of a 15-pound weight loss in the prior two weeks,
frequent urination, insatiable thirst, and crystals in his urine. Patient 1’s mother was concerned
Patient 1 might be diabetic.

8. Despite Patient 1’s finger glucose test result being elevated, an elevated urine dip test
result, and abnormal ketones, Respondent failed to transfer Patient 1 to a higher level of care for
further work-up and treatment. Instead, Respondent prescribed Metformin and sent Patient 1
home with blood testing supplies and a laboratory slip for a fasting blood test.

9. On May 9, 2017, Patient 1 provided a blood sample. The test results were reported
on May 10, 2017, which revealed an elevated blood glucose result, an abnormal hemoglobin A1c
level, and a low c-peptide result. Respondent failed to contact Patient 1’s mother regarding the
abnormal results.

10. On May 17, 2017, Patient 1 was seen by another provider at the urgent care center
who referred Patient 1 to an endocrinologist for further evaluation.

11. On May 24, 2017, Patient 1 was seen by an endocrinologist and was immediately
admitted to the hospital for further laboratory work-up, initiation of subcutaneous insulin and
diabetes education.

12. On May 31, 2018, the Board of Registered Nursing filed Accusation No. 2018-826,
which alleged Gross Negligence, Incompetence, and Unprofessional Conduct.

13. On August 15, 2018, Respondent signed a Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary

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1 For privacy purposes, the patient in this Accusation is referred to as Patient 1.
2 Metformin is an oral medication commonly used in the treatment of type 2 diabetes.
3 An elevated blood glucose reading, an abnormal hemoglobin A1c, and a low c-peptide
result are typically seen with type 1 diabetes prior to insulin initiation.
Order in which she admitted the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 2018-826.

**CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

(Disciplinary Action Taken by the California Board of Registered Nursing)

14. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 4955, subdivision (h) of the Code in that she has incurred disciplinary action by any public agency for acts substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of an acupuncturist or any professional health care licensee. The circumstances are as follows:

15. Complainant refers to and, by this reference, incorporates paragraphs 5, and 7 through 13, above, as though set forth fully herein.

16. Respondent’s acts and/or omissions as set forth in Paragraphs 5, and 7 through 15, above, whether proven individually, jointly, or in any combination thereof, constitute disciplinary action by the taken by any public agency for acts substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of an acupuncturist or any professional health care licensee, pursuant to section 4955, subdivision (h), of the Code. Therefore, cause for discipline exists.

**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 No. AC 8980, issued to Teresa Trang Nguyen, L.Ac.;

2. Ordering Teresa Trang Nguyen, L.Ac. to pay the Acupuncture Board the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4959; and, if placed on probation, the costs of probation monitoring; and,

3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: October 9, 2019

Original Signature on File

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

Complainant

(TERESA TRANG NGUYEN, L.AC.) ACCUSATION