STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
HEALTH SERVICES REGULATION
BOARD OF PHARMACY

vs.

EDWARD J. SULLIVAN
RPh 04216

CONSENT ORDER


After consideration by the Department, the following constitutes the Findings of Fact with respect to the professional performance of the Respondent:

1. Respondent is a pharmacist licensed to practice pharmacy in the State of Rhode Island.

2. That on or about August 14, 2009, the Respondent diverted controlled substances (hydrocodone) from the Rite Aid Pharmacy, North Providence, RI and supplied controlled substances and other prescription medication (fioricet, famotidine) to other pharmacy personnel.

3. That the conduct described in paragraph two (2) constitutes unprofessional conduct as defined in Section 5-19.1-21 and Section 24.1(11) of the Rules and Regulations promulgated thereunder.
The parties agree as follows:

1. Respondent is a pharmacist registered to practice pharmacy in the State of Rhode Island.

2. Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of the Department and hereby agrees to remain under the jurisdiction of the Department.

3. Respondent has read this Consent Order and understands that it is a proposal of the Department and is subject to the final approval by the Department. This Consent Order and the contents thereof are not binding on Respondent until final approval by the Department.

4. Respondent hereby acknowledges and waives:
   a) The right to appear personally or by counsel or both before the Department;
   b) The right to produce witnesses and evidence in his behalf at a hearing;
   c) The right to cross-examine witnesses;
   d) The right to have subpoenas issued by the Department;
   e) The right to further procedural steps except for those specifically contained herein;
   f) Any and all rights of appeal of this Consent Order;
   g) Any objection to the fact that this Consent Order will be presented to the Department for consideration and review;
   h) Any objection to the fact that it will be necessary for the Department to become acquainted with all evidence pertaining to this matter in order to adequately review this Consent Order;
i) Any objection to the fact that potential bias against the Respondent may occur as a result of the presentation of this Consent Order to the Department.

5. This Consent Order shall become part of the public record of this proceeding once it is accepted by all parties.

6. Respondent admits the allegations contained above.

7. Respondent’s license as a pharmacist is hereby surrendered for a minimum period of one and one half (1 ½) years.

8. That Respondent shall continue treatment and/or counseling for substance abuse with a healthcare provider approved by the Board and shall continue such treatment and/or counseling as the healthcare professional rendering care deems appropriate. Further, it shall be the responsibility of Respondent to have his treating healthcare professional and/or counselor submit monthly progress reports to the Board. Said reports shall include treatment and/or counseling reports and random urine screening.

9. Respondent waives confidentiality of his treatment and will direct the healthcare professional rendering treatment to release any progress reports to the Department including but not limited to monthly progress reports and random urine and drug screening reports for the duration of the Respondent’s treatment program.

10. This Consent Order will be transmitted forthwith to the healthcare professional which is hereby directed by the Respondent to notify the Department of any breach or termination by the Respondent of his treatment.
11. That should Respondent comply with the laws and regulations governing the practice of pharmacy, he may reapply to the Department for a license to practice pharmacy following a minimum period of one and one half (1 ½) years.

12. That should Respondent fail to comply with the laws and regulations governing the practice of pharmacy and/or fail to comply with the terms of this Order, his license as a pharmacist shall be subject to further appropriate disciplinary actions.

13. That this Consent Order shall remain in full force and effect pending further Order of the Board,

[Signatures]

Edward J. Sullivan
Chairperson
Board of Pharmacy

Ratified as an Order of the Board of Pharmacy on this 15th day of July 2010.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the within Consent Order was mailed by certified mail to Edward J. Sullivan, 161 Curtis Street, Cranston RI 02920 on this _____ day of ______________________ 2010.