

BEFORE THE INDIANA  
BOARD OF PHARMACY  
CAUSE NUMBER: 2021 IBP 0009

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF: )  
 )  
SUSAN NORTHROP, R.PH. )  
 )  
LICENSE NO: 26016401A (ACTIVE) )



**PETITION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

The State of Indiana, Office of the Indiana Attorney General, herein (“Petitioner”), Deputy Attorney General, Ryan P. Eldridge, pursuant to Ind. Code Ch. 4-21.5-4 *et seq.*, and Ind. Code § 25-1-9-10, respectively submits to the Indiana Board of Pharmacy (“Board”), Petitioner’s “Petition for Summary Suspension” (“Petition”), against the Indiana pharmacist license of Susan Northrop, R.Ph. (“Respondent”). In support of its Petition, Petitioner alleges the following:

1. Respondent is a pharmacist in the State of Indiana having been issued license number 26016401A by examination on August 10, 1988.
2. Respondent’s address on file with the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency (“IPLA”) is 3279 North Hamilton Road, Mulberry, Indiana 46058.
3. Respondent is a “practitioner” as that term is defined by Ind. Code § 25-1-9-2.

**FACTS SUPPORTING CLEAR AND IMMEDIATE DANGER**

**Previous History of Diversion**

4. On May 25, 2012, Respondent’s license was suspended by this Board for diversion of controlled substances (Phentermine and Hydrocodone) from Kroger Pharmacy.
5. On June 25, 2013, Respondent was reinstated on probation by this Board.
6. On August 11, 2016, Respondent’s probation was withdrawn by this Board.

## **Tampering and Diversion of Controlled Substances**

7. Between September 20, 2016 and December 9, 2020, Respondent was employed at Miller's Pharmacy located in LaGrange, Indiana, as a licensed Pharmacist.

8. Miller's Pharmacy is a small-town community pharmacy that employs one (1) pharmacist and one (1) to two (2) technicians typically per shift.

9. On January 3, 2019, Respondent received a verbal warning for the self-filling of her Amphetamine Salts prescriptions. In addition, Respondent received a verbal warning for prematurely filling her own prescriptions.

10. On February 14, 2019, Respondent received a written warning and counseling because she continued to self-fill her Amphetamine Salts prescriptions, despite her previous verbal warning.

11. On or about November 28, 2020, Brad Crawford ("Mr. Crawford"), Miller's Pharmacy Manager, observed a tampered prescription for Adderall XR 15mg. Specifically, Mr. Crawford observed inconsistency in the capsules' volumes (beads).

12. As a result of Mr. Crawford's observation, Mr. Crawford initiated an investigation into these stimulant discrepancies.

13. During the course of Mr. Crawford's investigation, Mr. Crawford observed a thirty (30) tablet discrepancy in Methylphenidate ER 54mg tablets. He also identified a prescription filled and tendered by Respondent, which occurred after the store was closed, to a patient without a signature, despite the fact that Miller's records indicated that the same patient picked up the same medication two (2) days earlier.

14. On December 8, 2020, Julie Rasler, Ph.T. (“Ms. Rasler”) noticed that a generic Adderall 30mg ER capsule appeared “crushed or bent.” Ms. Rasler informed Mr. Crawford of this discovery.

15. Based on Ms. Rasler’s information, Mr. Crawford and Dan Lovell (“Mr. Lovell”), Miller’s Store Manager, appeared at the store after hours on December 8, 2020. Mr. Crawford noticed that both the brand name Adderall XR 10mg and generic ER 10mg stock bottles were missing from the shelves.

16. Mr. Crawford also inspected the Adderall XR 15mg stock bottle and found that capsules within the bottle had been tampered with.

17. Mr. Crawford called the police to notify them of the likely diversion and asked them to be on site the next morning.

18. The next morning, on December 9, 2020, Mr. Crawford found that the two (2) stock bottles that were previously missing had now reappeared on the shelf.

19. While Respondent was being interviewed by police, Mr. Crawford gathered Respondent’s belongings. Mr. Crawford found a prescription vial in her sweater pocket that contained beads that had been emptied from controlled substances by Respondent.

20. It was determined that Respondent was responsible for removing beads completely or partially from controlled substances. In addition, after reviewing camera footage, Respondent filled and took at least one (1) fraudulent prescription from the store.

21. Respondent admitted to the diversion in her interview with Mr. Lovell and the police. Respondent was subsequently terminated from Miller’s Pharmacy.

22. Mr. Crawford then completed a full audit of controlled substances and filed a DEA 106 Form. The DEA 106 form listed the loss of 1,198 capsules/tablets of Adderall XR,

Dextroamphetamine ER, Dexmethylphenidate ER, Methylphenidate CD, and Methylphenidate ER, of varying strengths from Miller's Pharmacy.

**CHARGE – CLEAR AND IMMEDIATE DANGER TO THE PUBLIC**

23. Paragraph One (¶1) through Paragraph Twenty-Two (¶22) are incorporated by reference herein.

24. Pursuant to Ind. Code 25-1-9-10, Respondent represents a clear and immediate danger if allowed to continue to practice.

**WHEREFORE**, Pursuant to Ind. Code ch. 4-21.5-4 Petitioner requests that this Board set this matter for an emergency hearing on Petitioner's Petition, grant Petitioner's Petition, and suspend Respondent's Indiana Pharmacist license for a period of not more than ninety (90) days, and any other relief provided for by law.

Respectfully submitted,

Office of the Indiana Attorney General

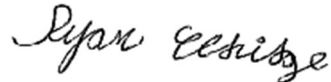
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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that a copy of the "Petition for Summary Suspension" has been duly served upon Respondent listed below, by United States mail, first-class, postage prepaid, on this 3rd day of February, 2021.

Susan Northrop, R.Ph.  
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Mulberry, IN 46058



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