

By Anita Joseph

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8 **BEFORE THE**
SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY
9 **AND HEARING AID DISPENSERS BOARD**
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

11 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 11-2014-70

12 **PAIGE ROSCHELLE VEGA**
13 **3206 Melanie Rd**
Marina, CA 93933

A C C U S A T I O N

14 **Speech-Language Pathologist License No.**
15 **SP 21885**

16 Respondent.

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18 Complainant alleges:

19 **PARTIES**

20 1. Paul Sanchez (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in his official capacity as
21 the Executive Officer of the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid
22 Dispensers Board (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs.

23 2. On or about January 18, 2013, the Board issued a Required Professional Experience
24 Temporary License Number RPE 8122 to Paige Roschelle Vega (Respondent).

25 On or about June 5, 2014, the Board issued Speech-Language Pathologist License Number
26 SP 21885 to Respondent. The Speech-Language Pathologist was in full force and effect at all
27 times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on January 31, 2016, unless renewed.

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JURISDICTION

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2 3. This Accusation is brought before the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology
3 and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority
4 of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless
5 otherwise indicated.

6 4. Section 2530.1 of the Code states:

7 "The Legislature finds and declares that the practice of speech-language pathology and
8 audiology and hearing aid dispensing in California affects the public health, safety, and welfare
9 and there is a necessity for those professions to be subject to regulation and control."

10 5. Section 2531.5 of the Code states: "The board shall issue, suspend, and revoke
11 licenses and approvals to practice speech-language pathology and audiology as authorized by this
12 chapter."

13 6. Section 2533 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

14 "The board may refuse to issue, or issue subject to terms and conditions, a license on the
15 grounds specified in Section 480, or may suspend, revoke, or impose terms and conditions upon
16 the license of any licensee for any of the following:

17 "(a) Conviction of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of
18 a speech-language pathologist or audiologist or hearing aid dispenser, as the case may be. The
19 record of the conviction shall be conclusive evidence thereof.

20 "(c) (1) The use or administering to himself or herself, of any controlled substance; (2) the
21 use of any of the dangerous drugs specified in Section 4022, or of alcoholic beverages, to the
22 extent, or in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to the licensee, to any other person, or to the
23 public, or to the extent that the use impairs the ability of the licensee to practice speech-language
24 pathology or audiology safely; (3) more than one misdemeanor or any felony involving the use,
25 consumption, or self-administration of any of the substances referred to in this section; or (4) any
26 combination of paragraph (1), (2), or (3). The record of the conviction shall be conclusive
27 evidence of unprofessional conduct."

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1 that she was not aware that the noise was coming from her vehicle. Officer Fernandez looked at
2 the flat tire as he spoke to Respondent, and it appeared to him that Respondent had possibly
3 struck a curb or something similar since there was a large side air bubble damage to the tire. He
4 asked Respondent for her driver's license but she was unable to provide it. She told the officer
5 that her license was in her purse in her boyfriend's vehicle, and that he had been following behind
6 her.

7 13. As they spoke, Officer Fernandez smelled alcohol on Respondent's breath. He
8 observed that her face was flushed, her eyes were red, bloodshot and watery, and her speech was
9 slurred. He asked Respondent to exit her vehicle to perform field sobriety tests (FST).

10 14. Before beginning the FST, Respondent informed the officer that she drank two
11 glasses of wine; her last drink was approximately 15 minutes prior to the traffic stop; she ate steak
12 fries with her drinks; and ate a pasta salad at approximately 6:00 p.m. Officer Fernandez
13 explained and demonstrated the FST to Respondent. She performed poorly, and after the tests
14 were completed, Officer Fernandez arrested Respondent for violating Vehicle Code (VC) section
15 23152(a) [driving under the influence of alcohol.]

16 15. Respondent submitted to a breath test on a Preliminary Alcohol Screening (PAS)
17 device. Her test results were positive for alcohol in the amount of .17% at 11:52 p.m. and .17% at
18 11:55 p.m.

19 16. On or about August 2, 2013, a criminal complaint titled *People of the State of*
20 *California vs. Paige Roschelle Vega* was filed in Monterey County Superior Court, Salinas
21 Division, Case Number MS314151A. Count 1 charged Respondent with a misdemeanor violation
22 of VC 23152(a) with a special allegation that Respondent's blood alcohol concentration was
23 0.15% and more, within the meaning of VC 23578. Count 2 charged a misdemeanor violation of
24 VC 23152(b) [driving while having a .08% or higher blood alcohol content] with a special
25 allegation as to excess blood alcohol per VC 23578.

26 17. On or about August 13, 2013, Respondent pled guilty to a misdemeanor violation of
27 VC 23152(b) and she admitted the special allegation of driving with a high blood alcohol
28 concentration. She was placed on conditional probation for five years, ordered to serve 10 days in

1 jail with credit for two days served and allowed to enroll in the Work Alternative Program. She
2 was ordered to pay fines and enroll and complete a three month First Offender program, in
3 addition to other probation conditions.

4 **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

5 (Substantially-Related Conviction)

6 18. On or about September 7, 2013, at approximately 7:00 p.m., United States Rangers
7 Wolf and Doyle were on patrol in Yosemite National Park. They observed a woman (later
8 identified as Respondent) driving a vehicle at a rate of speed higher than the posted speed limit of
9 25 miles per hour. Using his radar unit, Ranger Wolf confirmed that Respondent's speed was 37
10 miles per hour and she accelerated to 40 miles per hour before passing his location. He followed
11 Respondent into a parking space at the Yosemite Lodge parking lot.

12 19. Ranger Wolf contacted Respondent and explained to her that he stopped her based on
13 her driving speed. He asked for her driver's license, and when Respondent opened her wallet, he
14 saw a California driver's license. Respondent told Ranger Wolf that she did not have her license,
15 and he told her that he saw her license in her wallet. Respondent stated that she had an old license
16 from when she was sixteen. Ranger Wolf asked for her old license, and informed her that the
17 number sequence on the old license would be the same as her current license. When he checked
18 the license status, he was informed that Respondent's license was suspended due to her DUI
19 conviction. Ranger Wolf questioned Respondent as to whether she had ever been arrested, and
20 she admitted that she had recently been arrested for driving under the influence. When asked if
21 she knew that her driver's license was suspended, Respondent stated, "yes" but that she was
22 trying to receive an extension on her license.

23 20. Respondent agreed to a PAS test, and the results indicated a 0.054 breath alcohol
24 content. She admitted that she had shared a bottle of wine with two friends, and she stated that
25 they finished drinking the wine around 11:00 a.m.. At the Yosemite Holding Facility,
26 Respondent's blood alcohol content was measured at 7:55 p.m., and was positive for alcohol in
27 the amount of 0.03%.

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2. Ordering Paige Roschelle Vega to pay the Speech-Language Pathology and
Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board the reasonable costs of the investigation and
enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3;

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

DATED: October 5, 2015 

PAUL SANCHEZ
Executive Officer
Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and
Hearing Aid Dispensers Board
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California
Complainant

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