NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT PROPOSED RULE TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULES RULE 480-41-.05 PRE-HEARING DISCOVERY

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy (hereinafter "Board") proposes a new Rule to the Georgia Board of Pharmacy Rules, Rule 480-41-.05 PRE-HEARING DISCOVERY (hereinafter "proposed rule").

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed rule and a synopsis of the proposed rule, is being forwarded to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on an interested parties list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the proposed rule, and a synopsis of the proposed rule may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Department of Community Health at 2 Peachtree Street, NW, Atlanta, Georgia, 30303. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy's web page at <u>www.gbp.georgia.gov</u>.

<u>A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 11:00 AM on March 19, 2014</u> at the Georgia Board of Pharmacy. Department of Community Health, 2 Peachtree Street, 36th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed rule. At the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to 5 minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. To ensure their consideration, written comments may be received prior to March 12, 2014. Written comments should be addressed to the Executive Director of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at 2 Peachtree Street NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303 FAX: 678-717-6694. You may email your comments to tbattle@dch.ga.gov.

The proposed rule will be considered for adoption by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at its <u>meeting scheduled to begin at 11:05 AM on March 19, 2014</u> at the Georgia Board of Pharmacy, Department of Community Health, 2 Peachtree Street, 36th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy has the authority to adopt the proposed rule pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, and 50-13-13.

At its meeting on December 11, 2013, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of this rule do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22.

Also, at its meeting on December 11, 2013, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A§ 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of this rule will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated and dominant in the field of pharmacy.

For further information, contact the Board office at 404-651-8000.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 27th day of January, 2014.

D. Butte

Tanja D. Battle Executive Director Georgia Board of Pharmacy

Posted: January 12, 2014

SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED RULE OF THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULES RULE 480-41-.05 PRE-HEARING DISCOVERY

Purpose of Rule: The purpose of this rule is to prohibit other forms of pre-hearing discovery not provided for under the Rules or by statute.

Main Features: The main feature of this rule is to permit an exception for pre-hearing discovery that is expressly authorized by Rules or statute.

PROPOSED RULE FOR THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULES RULE 489-41-.05 PRE-HEARING DISCOVERY

NOTE: Struck through text is proposed to be deleted. Underlined text is proposed to be added.

480-41-.05 Pre-Hearing Discovery

Except as may be expressly authorized by these Rules or by statute, no other forms of prehearing discovery shall be authorized or permitted including, but not limited to, interrogatorics and requests for production of documents and other materials.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, and 50-13-13