

**BEFORE THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BUREAU FOR PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

In the Matter of the Petition to Revoke Probation Against:

GILIGIA COLLEGE

15643 Sherman Way, Unit 140

Van Nuys, CA 91406

BPPE Case No.: 999484

Respondent.

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reprimand is hereby accepted and adopted by the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs as the Decision in the above-entitled matter.

This Decision shall become effective on August 21, 2025.

It is so ORDERED July 18, 2025.

RYAN MARCROFT
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, LEGAL AFFAIRS DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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8 **BEFORE THE**
9 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
10 **FOR THE BUREAU FOR PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION**
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the Petition to Revoke
Probation Against:

13 **GILIGIA COLLEGE**
14 **15643 Sherman Way, Unit 140**
Van Nuys, CA 91406

15 **Approval to Operate No. 55199106**

16 **Respondent.**

Case No. 999484

**STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND
DISCIPLINARY ORDER FOR PUBLIC
REPROVAL**

[Bus. & Prof. Code § 495]

17
18 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-
19 entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:

20 **PARTIES**

21 I. Deborah Cochrane ("Complainant") is the Chief of the Bureau for Private
22 Postsecondary Education ("Bureau"). She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is
23 represented in this matter by Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of California, by Lisa A.
24 Miller, Deputy Attorney General.

25 2. Respondent Giligia College ("Respondent"), owned by Hovhanes Kartounian, is
26 representing itself in this proceeding and has chosen not to exercise its right to be represented by
27 counsel.
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1 **CULPABILITY**

2 8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Petition to
3 Revoke Probation No. 999484.

4 9. Respondent agrees that its Approval to Operate is subject to discipline and it agrees to
5 be bound by the Disciplinary Order below.

6 **CONTINGENCY**

7 10. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Director of the Department of
8 Consumer Affairs or the Director's designee. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for
9 Complainant and the staff of the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education may communicate
10 directly with the Director and staff of the Department of Consumer Affairs regarding this
11 stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent. By signing the
12 stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that they may not withdraw its agreement or seek
13 to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Director considers and acts upon it. If the Director
14 fails to adopt this stipulation as the Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and
15 Disciplinary Order for Public Repeval shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it
16 shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Director shall not be
17 disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.

18 11. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile
19 copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Repeval, including PDF
20 and facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.

21 12. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Repeval is intended by
22 the parties to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment
23 of their agreement. It supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements,
24 understandings, discussions, negotiations, and commitments (written or oral). This Stipulated
25 Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Repeval may not be altered, amended, modified,
26 supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing executed by an authorized representative
27 of each of the parties.

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1 13. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that
2 the Director may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following
3 Disciplinary Order:

4 **DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

5 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Approval to Operate No. 55199106 issued to Giligia
6 College (Respondent), owned by Hovhanes Kartounian, shall be restored and publicly reprovved
7 by the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education under Business and Professions Code section
8 495 in resolution of Petition to Revoke Probation No. 999484, attached as exhibit A.

9 Full Compliance. As a resolution of the charges in Petition to Revoke Probation No.
10 999484, this stipulated settlement is contingent upon Respondent's full compliance with all
11 conditions of this Order. If Respondent fails to satisfy any of these conditions, such failure to
12 comply constitutes cause for discipline, including outright revocation, of Respondent's Approval
13 to Operate No. 55199106.

14 On-Site Inspections. An Authorized Representative of Respondent will be present for any
15 on-site inspections. The inspections will be conducted on an announced or unannounced basis and
16 shall be held during normal business hours.

17 **ACCEPTANCE**

18 I have carefully read the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reapproval.
19 I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Approval to Operate. I enter into this
20 Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reapproval voluntarily, knowingly, and
21 intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Director of the Department
22 of Consumer Affairs.

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24 DATED: 5/21/2025


GILIGIA COLLEGE, HOVHANES
KARTOUNIAN
Respondent

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ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Reproval is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

DATED: 6/30/25

Respectfully submitted,

ROB BONTA
Attorney General of California
NANCY A. KAISER
Supervising Deputy Attorney General


LISA A. MILLER
Deputy Attorney General
Attorneys for Complainant

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Exhibit A

Petition to Revoke Probation No. 999484

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8 **BEFORE THE**
9 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
10 **FOR THE BUREAU FOR PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION**
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the Petition to Revoke
Probation Against:

Case No. 999484

PETITION TO REVOKE PROBATION

13 **GILIGIA COLLEGE**
15643 Sherman Way, Unit 140
14 Van Nuys, CA 91406
Approval to Operate No. 55199106

15 Respondent.

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17 Complainant alleges:

18 **PARTIES**

19 1. Deborah Cochrane ("Complainant") brings this Petition to Revoke Probation solely in
20 her official capacity as the Chief of the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education ("Bureau"),
21 Department of Consumer Affairs ("Department").

22 2. On or about January 3, 2011, the Bureau issued Approval to Operate Number
23 55199106 to Giligia College ("Respondent"), owned by Hovhanes Kartounian. The Approval to
24 Operate was in effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on June
25 30, 2029, unless renewed.

26 3. In a disciplinary action titled "*In the Matter of the Accusation Against Giligia*
27 *College*," Case No. 999484, the Director of the Department for the Bureau, issued a decision,
28 effective January 3, 2020, in which Respondent's Approval to Operate was revoked. However,

1 the revocation was stayed and Respondent's Approval to Operate was placed on probation for a
2 period of five (5) years with certain terms and conditions. A copy of that decision is attached as
3 Exhibit A and is incorporated by reference.

4 JURISDICTION

5 4. This Petition to Revoke Probation is brought before the Director of the Department
6 for the Bureau under Probation Term and Condition Number 12 of the Decision and Order. That
7 term and condition states:

8 12. VIOLATION OF PROBATION -- If respondent violates probation in any
9 respect, the Bureau, after giving respondent notice and opportunity to be heard, may
10 revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order which was stayed. If an Accusation
11 or a Petition to Revoke Probation is filed against respondent during probation, the Bureau
shall have continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final, and the period of probation
shall be extended, and respondent shall comply with all probation conditions, until the
matter is final.

12 STATUTORY AND REGULATORY PROVISIONS

13 5. Title 5, California Code of Regulations, section 71930 states in part:

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15 (c) A record is considered current for three years following a student's
16 completion or withdrawal. A record may be stored on microfilm, microfiche,
17 computer disk, or any other method of record storage only if all of the following
apply:

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19 (3) The institution has personnel scheduled to be present at all times
20 during normal business hours who know how to operate the devices and can
explain the operation of the devices to any person authorized by the Act to
inspect and copy records; and

21 (4) Any person authorized by the Act or this chapter to inspect and copy
22 records shall be given immediate access to the document reproduction devices
23 for the purpose of inspecting and copying stored records and shall, upon
request, reimburse the institution for the reasonable cost of using the
24 institution's equipment and material to make copies at a rate not to exceed ten
cents (\$0.10) per page.

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26 (e) All records that the institution is required to maintain by the Act or this
27 chapter shall be made immediately available by the institution for inspection and
copying during normal business hours by the Bureau and any entity authorized to
conduct investigations.

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FACTS

6. On August 21, 2024, a Bureau inspector conducted an unannounced compliance inspection at Respondent's facility. Respondent's school catalog listed its office hours of operation as Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The inspector arrived at Respondent's institution at 10:00 a.m., and the doors to the institution were locked. The inspector knocked on the door and called the school's main number. There was no answer at the institution's doors or on the institution's phone.

7. The Bureau's inspector observed a sign on the door directing deliveries to Respondent to Suite 270 in the building. The inspector went to Suite 270, identified herself and announced that she was at Respondent's institution to conduct an inspection. The person she spoke to in Suite 270 (who was not one of Respondent's employees) stated that he would contact Respondent and let them know she was there for an unannounced compliance inspection. The person in Suite 270 called Respondent's Chief Administrative Officer and Financial Aid Director/Officer ("CAO") and put the CAO on the phone with the Bureau's inspector. The CAO informed the Bureau's inspector that she was not at Respondent's institution because it was her day off and she did not have any classes that day. The CAO also stated that Respondent's owner would not be reporting to the school for the inspection. After asking about the school's compliance options, Respondent's CAO told the Bureau's inspector that neither she nor anyone else working for Respondent would be reporting to the facility that day for the inspection.

8. On December 5, 2024, the Bureau issued Citation No. 24250178 to Respondent alleging Respondent violated California Code of Regulations, title 5, section 71930, subdivision (c)(3)-(4) and (e) (Maintenance of Records). This citation ordered Respondent to pay an administrative fine of \$5,000.

9. On December 10, 2024, the Bureau issued Respondent a Notice of Violation because Respondent failed to obey all laws governing the operation of a private postsecondary education institution based on the issuance of Citation No. 24250178 (violation of Probation Term 1) and failed to comply with the terms of probation (violation of Probation Term 2).

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1 **FIRST CAUSE TO REVOKE PROBATION**

2 (Failure to Obey All Laws)

3 10. At all times after the effective date of Respondent's probation, Condition 1 stated:

4 1. OBEY ALL LAWS -- Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws
5 and regulations governing the operation of a private postsecondary educational institution
6 in California. Respondent shall submit, in writing, a full detailed account of any and all
violations of the law to the Bureau within five (5) days of discovery. . . .

7 11. Respondent's probation is subject to revocation because Respondent failed to comply
8 with Probation Condition 1, referenced above, by failing to obey all federal, state, and local laws
9 and regulations governing the operation of a private postsecondary educational institution in
10 California. On August 21, 2024, the Bureau attempted to conduct an unannounced compliance
11 inspection. Respondent failed to have personnel available during its published and advertised
12 normal business hours to provide the Bureau's inspector with access to all records required to be
13 maintained. This constitutes a violation of California Code of Regulations, title 5, section 71930,
14 subdivisions (c)(3)-(4) and (e). Complainant refers to and by this reference incorporates the
15 allegations set forth above in paragraphs 6 through 9, inclusive, as though set forth fully herein.

16 **SECOND CAUSE TO REVOKE PROBATION**

17 (Failure to Comply with Probation Terms)

18 12. At all times after the effective date of Respondent's probation, Condition 2 stated:

19 2. COMPLIANCE WITH PROBATION AND QUARTERLY REPORTING --
20 Respondent shall fully comply with the terms and conditions of probation established by
the Bureau and shall cooperate with representatives of the Bureau in its monitoring and
investigation of the respondent's compliance with probation. . . .

21 13. Respondent's probation is subject to revocation because Respondent failed to comply
22 with Probation Condition 2, referenced above, by failing to comply with all probation terms. As
23 outlined above, on August 21, 2024, Respondent violated California Code of Regulations, title 5,
24 section 71930, subdivisions (c)(3)-(4) and (e). This violation constituted a violation of Probation
25 Term 1, which also constitutes a violation of Probation Term 2. Complainant refers to and by this
26 reference incorporates the allegations set forth above in paragraphs 6 through 9, inclusive, as
27 though set forth fully herein.

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DISCIPLINE CONSIDERATIONS

14. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondent, Complainant alleges that on or about January 3, 2020, in a prior disciplinary action titled "*In the Matter of the Accusation Against Giligia College*," before the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs in Case No. 999484, Respondent's Approval to Operate was revoked, with the revocation stayed pending a five-year probation. That decision is now final and is incorporated by reference as if fully set forth.

15. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondent, Complainant alleges that on or about April 26, 2023, in a prior action, the Bureau issued Modified Citation No. 2223096 and ordered Respondent to pay an administrative fine in the amount of \$5,002 for two violations of California Code of Regulations, title 5, section 74110 in conjunction with Education Code section 94934 (Failure to File Annual Report). The Bureau also ordered Respondent to file its 2020 and 2021 annual reports. Respondent complied with the abatement order and paid the fine. The modified citation is now final.

16. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondent, Complainant alleges that Respondent previously committed the following probation violations:

- i. On October 21, 2022, the Bureau issued Respondent a Notice of Violation because Respondent failed to submit a 2022 Second Quarter (April 1st to June 30th) Report of Compliance within ten days of completion of the quarter (violation of Probation Term 2); failed to submit a student roster (violation of Probation Term 6); and failed to submit an Operations Auditor written report (violation of Probation Term 17). After the Bureau mailed this Notice of Violation to Respondent, Respondent resolved these violations with the Bureau.
- ii. On March 17, 2023, the Bureau issued Respondent a Notice of Violation because Respondent failed to submit all components of its 2020 Annual Report, due December 1, 2021, and 2021 Annual Report, due December 1, 2022 (violation of Probation Term 1). As a result of this failure, the Bureau issued Citation No. 2223096 to Respondent and ordered Respondent to pay an administrative fine in the

1 amount of \$5,002. After the Bureau mailed this Notice of Violation and issued
2 Citation No. 2223096 to Respondent, Respondent resolved these violations with the
3 Bureau.

4 iii. On July 22, 2024, the Bureau issued Respondent a Notice of Violation because
5 Respondent failed to submit a 2024 Second Quarter (April 1st to June 30th) Report of
6 Compliance within ten days of completion of the quarter (violation of Probation
7 Term 2); failed to submit a student roster (violation of Probation Term 6); and failed
8 to submit an Operations Auditor written report (violation of Probation Term 17).
9 After the Bureau mailed this Notice of Violation to Respondent, Respondent
10 resolved these violations with the Bureau.

11 **PRAYER**

12 WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged,
13 and that following the hearing, the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs issue a
14 decision:

15 1. Revoking the probation that was granted by the Bureau for Private Postsecondary
16 Education in Case No. 999484 and imposing the disciplinary order that was stayed, thereby
17 revoking Approval to Operate No. 55199106 issued to Giligia College, owned by Hovhanes
18 Kartounian;

19 2. Revoking or suspending Approval to Operate No. 55199106, issued to Giligia
20 College, owned by Hovhanes Kartounian; and

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

22
23 DATED: 12/23/2024

Deborah Cochrane

DEBORAH COCHRANE

Chief

Bureau for Private Postsecondary

Education

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California

Complainant

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