The record before me shows that Registrant's New Mexico controlled substance license No. CS00021066 expired on October 31, 2017. Certification of New Mexico Board of Pharmacy Controlled Substance License dated January 4, 2018 (GE–4), at 1; New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department website Screen Print dated April 18, 2018 (GE–9), at 1. Indeed, Registrant admitted in his CAP that he ''inadvertently neglected to renew'' his New Mexico controlled substance license and that it expired on October 31, 2017. CAP, at 1. Further, New Mexico's online records, of which I take official notice, show that New Mexico controlled substance registration No. CS00021066 issued to Registrant was renewed on July 9, 2018 and expired on October 31, 2018.[4] New Mexico Regulation & Licensing Department ''Web Lookup/Verification,'' *http://verification.rld.state.nm.us* (last visited January 17, 2019).

Accordingly, I find that Registrant currently is neither licensed to engage in the practice of medicine nor licensed to dispense controlled substances in New Mexico, the State in which he is registered with the DEA.

Discussion

Pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 824(a)(3), the Attorney General is authorized to suspend or revoke a registration issued under section 823 of the Controlled Substances Act (hereinafter, CSA), ''upon a finding that the registrant . . . has had his State license or registration suspended . . . [or] revoked . . . by competent State authority and is no longer authorized by State law to engage in the . . . dispensing of controlled substances.'' With respect to a practitioner, the DEA has long held that the possession of authority to dispense controlled substances under the laws of the State in which a practitioner engages in professional practice is a fundamental condition for obtaining and maintaining a practitioner's registration. *See, e.g., James L. Hooper, M.D.,* 76 FR 71,371 (2011), *pet. for rev. denied,* 481 Fed. Appx. 826 (4th Cir. 2012); *Frederick Marsh Blanton, M.D.,* 43 FR 27,616, 27,617 (1978).

This rule derives from the text of two provisions of the CSA. First, Congress defined the term ''practitioner'' to mean ''a physician . . . or other person licensed, registered, or otherwise permitted, by . . . the jurisdiction in which he practices . . ., to distribute, dispense, . . . [or] administer . . . a controlled substance in the course of professional practice.'' 21 U.S.C. 802(21). Second, in setting the requirements for obtaining a practitioner's registration, Congress directed that ''[t]he Attorney General shall register practitioners . . . if the applicant is authorized to dispense . . . controlled substances under the laws of the State in which he practices.'' 21 U.S.C. 823(f). Because Congress has clearly mandated that a practitioner possess State authority in order to be deemed a practitioner under the CSA, the DEA has held repeatedly that revocation of a practitioner's registration is the appropriate sanction whenever he is no longer authorized to dispense controlled substances under the laws of the State in which he practices. *See, e.g., Hooper, supra,* 76 FR at 71,371–72; *Sheran Arden Yeates, M.D.,* 71 FR 39,130, 39,131 (2006); *Dominick A. Ricci, M.D.,* 58 FR 51,104, 51,105 (1993); *Bobby Watts, M.D.,* 53 FR 11,919, 11,920 (1988), *Blanton, supra,* 43 FR at 27,617.

Under longstanding Agency precedent, DEA revokes the registration of a practitioner who lacks State authority to handle controlled substances even when the practitioner's State authority was suspended summarily or pending a final decision on the merits. *See, e.g., Bourne Pharmacy, Inc.,* 72 FR 18,273, 18,274 (2007). Similarly, the facts that a State immediately suspended a registrant's registration and that the registrant may, some day, regain his State registration to dispense controlled substances do not change the salient fact—the registrant is not currently authorized to handle controlled substances in the State in which he is registered. *Mehdi Nikparvarfard, M.D.,* 83 FR 14,503, 14,504 (2018).

Here, Registrant admitted that he did not have authority in New Mexico to practice medicine or dispense controlled substances when he submitted his CAP. Further, New Mexico's online records show that Registrant is currently not licensed to practice medicine or to handle controlled substances. As such, Registrant does not have authority to dispense controlled substances in New Mexico at this time. N.M. Stat. Ann. § 30–31–13(D) (Westlaw, current through the end of the Second Regular Session of the 53rd Legislature (2018)) (Practitioners must be registered to dispense any controlled substances.). Registrant, therefore, is not presently eligible for a DEA registration. Accordingly, I will order that Registrant's DEA registration be revoked and that any pending application regarding a registration in New Mexico be denied. 21 U.S.C. 824(a)(3); 21 U.S.C. 823(f).[5]

Order

Pursuant to 28 CFR 0.100(b) and the authority thus vested in me by 21 U.S.C. 824(a), I order that DEA Certificate of Registration No. BN3803423 issued to Miles Nelson, M.D., be, and it hereby is, revoked. Pursuant to 28 CFR 0.100(b) and the authority thus vested in me by 21 U.S.C. 823(f), I further order that any pending application of Miles Nelson, M.D., to renew or modify this registration, as well as any other pending application by him for registration in the State of New Mexico, be, and it hereby is, denied. This Order is effective March 13, 2019.

Dated: January 17, 2019.

Uttam Dhillon,

Acting Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2019–01850 Filed 2–8–19; 8:45 am]

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[4] *See* footnote 3. If Registrant disputes this finding, he may do so according to the terms stated in footnote 3.

[5] Given my finding that Registrant is not currently authorized to handle controlled substances in New Mexico, I find that his CAP provides no basis for me to discontinue or defer this proceeding. 21 U.S.C. 824(c)(3).

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Drug Enforcement Administration

[Docket No. DEA–392]

Importer of Controlled Substances Application: Stepan Company

ACTION: Notice of application.

DATES: Registered bulk manufacturers of the affected basic classes, and applicants therefore, may file written comments on or objections to the issuance of the proposed registration on or before March 13, 2019. Such persons may also file a written request for a hearing on the application on or before March 13, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to: Drug Enforcement Administration, Attention: DEA Federal Register Representative/DPW, 8701 Morrissette Drive, Springfield, Virginia 22152. All requests for hearing must be sent to: Drug Enforcement Administration, Attn: Administrator, 8701 Morrissette Drive, Springfield, Virginia 22152. All requests for hearing should also be sent to: (1) Drug Enforcement Administration, Attn: Hearing Clerk/OALJ, 8701 Morrissette Drive, Springfield, Virginia 22152; and (2) Drug Enforcement Administration, Attn: DEA Federal Register Representative/DPW, 8701 Morrissette Drive, Springfield, Virginia 22152.

Comments and requests for hearing on applications to import narcotic raw material are not appropriate. 72 FR 3417 (January 25, 2007).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Attorney General has delegated his authority under the Controlled Substances Act to the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), 28 CFR 0.100(b). Authority to exercise all necessary functions with respect to the promulgation and implementation of 21 CFR part 1301, incident to the registration of manufacturers, distributors, dispensers, importers, and exporters of controlled substances (other than final orders in connection with suspension, denial, or revocation of registration) has been redelegated to the Assistant Administrator of the DEA Diversion Control Division (''Assistant Administrator'') pursuant to section 7 of 28 CFR part 0, appendix to subpart R.

In accordance with 21 CFR 1301.34(a), this is notice that on December 6, 2018, Stepan Company, 100 West Hunter Avenue, Maywood, New Jersey 07607–1021 applied to be registered as an importer of the following basic class of controlled substance:

Controlled substance	Drug code	Schedule
Coca Leaves	9040	II

The company plans to import the listed controlled substance in bulk for the manufacture of controlled substances for distribution to its customers.

Dated: February 4, 2019.

John J. Martin,

Assistant Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2019–01847 Filed 2–8–19; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Drug Enforcement Administration

[Docket No. DEA–392]

Bulk Manufacturer of Controlled Substances Registration

ACTION: Notice of registration.

SUMMARY: The registrant listed below has applied for and been granted a registration by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) as bulk manufacturer of a schedule I controlled substance.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The company listed below applied to be registered as a bulk manufacturer of a various basic class of a schedule I controlled substance. Information on the previously published notice is listed in the table below. No comments or objections were submitted for this notice.

Company	FR Docket	Published
Specgx, LLC	83 FR 51983	October 15, 2018.

The DEA has considered the factors in 21 U.S.C. 823(a) and determined that the registration of this registrant to manufacture the applicable basic class of controlled substance is consistent with the public interest and with United States obligations under international treaties, conventions, or protocols in effect on May 1, 1971. The DEA investigated the company's maintenance of effective controls against diversion by inspecting and testing the company's physical security systems, verifying the company's compliance with state and local laws, and reviewing the company's background and history.

Therefore, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 823(a), and in accordance with 21 CFR 1301.33, the DEA has granted a registration as a bulk manufacturer to the above listed company.

Dated: January 30, 2019.

John J. Martin,

Assistant Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2019–01862 Filed 2–8–19; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Drug Enforcement Administration

[Docket No. 19–2]

Paul Surinder Singh, D.O.; Decision And Order

On August 8, 2018, the Assistant Administrator, Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), issued an Order to Show Cause to Paul Surinder Singh, D.O. (Respondent), of Tehachapi, California. The Show Cause Order proposed the revocation of Respondent's DEA Certificate of Registration No. BS7367623 on the ground that he has ''no state authority to handle controlled substances.'' Order to Show Cause, at 1 (citing 21 U.S.C. 824(a)(3)). For the same reason, the Order also proposed the denial of any of Respondent's ''applications for renewal or modification of such registration and any applications for any other DEA registrations.'' *Id.*

With respect to the Agency's jurisdiction, the Show Cause Order alleged that Respondent is the holder of Certificate of Registration No. BS7367623, pursuant to which he is authorized to dispense controlled substances as a practitioner in schedules II through V, at the registered address of 276 C South Mill Street, Tehachapi, California. *Id.* The Order also alleged that this registration does not expire until February 28, 2019. *Id.*

Regarding the substantive grounds for the proceeding, the Show Cause Order alleged that on April 17, 2017, the Osteopathic Medical Board of California (OMBC) ''adopted the Proposed Decision of an Administrative Law Judge . . . recommending revocation of'' Respondent's ''Osteopathic Physician's License,'' effective on May 17, 2017. *Id.* As a result, the Order alleged that Respondent is ''without authority to handle controlled substances in the State of California, the [S]tate in which [he is] registered with DEA.'' *Id.* at 1–2. Based on his ''lack of authority to [dispense] controlled substances in . . . California,'' the Order asserted that ''DEA must revoke'' Respondent's registration. *Id.* at 2 (citing 21 U.S.C. 824(a)(3); 21 CFR 1301.37(b)).

The Show Cause Order notified Respondent of (1) his right to request a hearing on the allegations or to submit a written statement in lieu of a hearing, (2) the procedure for electing either option, and (3) the consequence for failing to elect either option. *Id.* (citing 21 CFR 1301.43). The Order also notified Respondent of his right to submit a corrective action plan. *Id.* at 2–3 (citing 21 U.S.C. 824(c)(2)(C)).

On October 15, 2018, Respondent filed a letter (dated October 9, 2018) indicating that the Show Cause Order was ''delivered to [him] by DEA agents