OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA 05 [E8 24 AH 10: 03

IN RE:

VIOLATIONS:

COMMONWEALTH PROFESSIONAL:

Sections 611-A(11) and (20) of 147

GROUP, LTD.

of 2002 (40 P.S. §§ 310.11)

133 North 23rd Street

Mount Penn, PA 19606

Respondent.

Docket No. CO04-10-014

CONSENT ORDER

AND NOW, this 24th day of Achrucy, 2004, this Order is hereby issued by the Deputy Insurance Commissioner of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania pursuant to the statutes cited above and in disposition of the matter captioned above.

- 1. Respondent hereby admits and acknowledges that it has received proper notice of its rights to a formal administrative hearing pursuant to the Administrative Agency Law, 2 Pa.C.S.A. §101, et seq., or other applicable law.
- 2. Respondent hereby waives all rights to a formal administrative hearing in this matter, and agrees that this Consent Order, and the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained herein, shall have the full force and effect of an Order duly entered

in accordance with the adjudicatory procedures set forth in the Administrative Agency Law, <u>supra</u>, or other applicable law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 3. The Deputy Insurance Commissioner finds true and correct each of the following Findings of Fact:
- (a) Respondent is Commonwealth Professional Group, Ltd., and maintains its address at 133 North 23rd Street, Mount Penn, Pennsylvania 19606.
- (b) Respondent, at all relevant times herein, has been a licensed insurance producer.
- (c) During 2003, Respondent acted as the surplus lines licensee and procured two policies from insurers for policyholders through a retail producer that was not licensed in Pennsylvania.
- (d) The unlicensed retail producer was Tim Ailes, Evans Insurance Agency, Akron, Ohio, cited license # 294-48-4872, who procured surplus lines insurance for Mountain View Motel, Duncansville, Pennsylvania.
- (e) The filings submitted by the retail producer were due-diligence affidavits, which certified the insurance was procured in the non-admitted (surplus lines)

market only after he had conducted a diligent search of the admitted market for insurers that had declined to issue the insurance.

- (f) U.S. Underwriters Insurance Company issued policy #CL3067098, effective September 26, 2003, and American Safety Indemnity Corporation issued policy # 10AP-PROP-00037108, effective September 26, 2003.
- (g) On July 14, 2004, Respondent confirmed it procured the surplus lines insurance for the policyholders through the unlicensed producers and their representative producing agencies.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 4. In accord with the above Findings of Fact and applicable provisions of law, the Deputy Insurance Commissioner concludes and finds the following Conclusions of Law:
 - (a) Respondent is subject to the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department.
- (b) Section 611-A(11) of Act 147 of 2002 (40 P.S. 310.11) prohibits a licensee from knowingly accepting insurance business which was sold, solicited or negotiated by a person who is not licensed as an insurance producer.

- (c) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(c) through 3(g) constitute doing business through an unlicensed producer, in violation of Section 611-A(11) of Act 147 of 2003 (40 P.S. §310.11).
- (d) Section 611-A(20) of Act 147 of 2002 prohibits a licensee from demonstrating a lack of general fitness, competence or reliability sufficient to satisfy the department that the licensee is worthy of licensure (40 P.S. § 310.11).
- (e) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(c) through 3(g) violate Section 611-A(20) of Act 147 of 2002.
- (f) Respondent's violations of Sections 611-A(11) and (20) of Act 147 are punishable by the following, under Section 691-A of Act 147 of 2003 (40 P.S. § 310.91):
 - (i) suspension, revocation or refusal to issue the certificate of qualification or license;
 - (ii) imposition of a civil penalty not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) for every violation of the Act;
 - (iii) an order to cease and desist; and
 - (iv) any other conditions as the Commissioner deems appropriate.

<u>ORDER</u>

- 5. In accord with the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Deputy Insurance Commissioner orders and Respondent consents to the following:
 - (a) Respondent shall cease and desist from engaging in the activities described herein in the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.
 - (b) Respondent's certificates and licenses may be immediately suspended by the Department following its investigation and determination that (i) any terms of this Order have not been complied with, or (ii) any complaint against Respondent is accurate and a statute or regulation has been violated. The Department's right to act under this section is limited to a period of three (3) years from the date of this Order.
- (c) Respondent specifically waives its right to prior notice of said suspension, but will be entitled to a hearing upon written request received by the Department no later than thirty (30) days after the date the Department mailed to Respondent by certified mail, return receipt requested, notification of said

suspension, which hearing shall be scheduled for a date within sixty (60) days of the Department's receipt of Respondent's written request.

- (d) At the hearing referred to in paragraph 5(c) of this Order, Respondent shall have the burden of demonstrating that it is worthy of a license.
- (e) In the event Respondent's certificates and licenses are suspended pursuant to paragraph 5(b) above, and Respondent either fails to request a hearing within thirty (30) days or at the hearing fails to demonstrate that he is worthy of a license, Respondent's suspended certificates and licenses shall be revoked.
- 6. In the event the Deputy Insurance Commissioner finds that there has been a breach of any of the provisions of this Order, based upon the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained herein, the Department may pursue any and all legal remedies available, including but not limited to the following: The Department may enforce the provisions of this Order in an administrative action pursuant to the Administrative Agency Law, supra, or other relevant provision of law; or, if applicable, the Department may enforce the provisions of this Order in any other court of law or equity having jurisdiction.

- 7. Alternatively, in the event the Deputy Commissioner finds that there has been a breach of any of the provisions of this Order, the Deputy Commissioner may declare this Order to be null and void and, thereupon, reopen the entire matter for appropriate action pursuant to the Administrative Agency Law, <u>supra</u>, or other relevant provision of law.
- 8. In any such enforcement proceeding, Respondent may contest whether a breach of the provisions of this Order has occurred but may not contest the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained herein.
- 9. Respondent hereby expressly waives any relevant statute of limitations and application of the doctrine of laches for purposes of any enforcement of this Order.
- 10. This Order constitutes the entire agreement of the parties with respect to the matters referred to herein, and it may not be amended or modified except by an amended order signed by all the parties hereto.
- 11. This Order shall be final upon execution by the Deputy Insurance

 Commissioner. Only the Insurance Commissioner or the duly authorized Deputy

 Insurance Commissioner is authorized to bind the Insurance Department with respect to the settlement of the alleged violation of law contained herein, and this Consent

Order is not effective until executed by the Insurance Commissioner or the duly authorized Deputy Insurance Commissioner.

BY: COMMONWEALTH PROFESSIONAL GROUP, LTD., Respondent

President / Vice President

Secretary / Treasurer

RANDOLPH L. ROHRBAUGH Deputy Insurance Commissioner Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA 05 FEB 24, AH 10: 03

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BY: COMMONWEALTH PROFESSIONAL GROUP, LTD., Respondent

President / Vice President

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RANDOLPH L. ROHRBAUGH Deputy Insurance Commissioner Commonwealth of Pennsylvania