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BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE:	:	VIOLATIONS:
	:	
KAREN N. SICIGNANO 34 East Main Street, 3rd Floor Ephrata, PA 17522	: : :	Sections 611-A(20) and 678-A(b) of Act 147 of 2002 (40 P.S. §§ 310.11 and 310.78)
	:	
	:	
Respondent.	:	Docket No. CO05-04-023

CONSENT ORDER

AND NOW, this 28th day of November, 2005, 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 she has received proper notice of her rights to a formal administrative hearing pursuant to the Administrative Agency Law, 2 Pa.C.S. § 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, supra, 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 Karen N. Sicignano, and maintains her address at 34 East Main Street, 3rd Floor, Ephrata, Pennsylvania 17522.

(b) Respondent became licensed as an insurance producer on October 6, 2004.

(c) On July 14, 2004, Respondent was arrested for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol, a misdemeanor (second offense), by the East Cocalico Township Police Department in Denver, Pennsylvania.

(d) On October 24, 2004, Respondent informed the Insurance Department of the aforementioned arrest for the charge of Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol.

(e) On February 18, 2005, Respondent pleaded guilty to the aforementioned DUI offense, in the Court of Common Pleas, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and was sentenced to intermediate punishment for five years, to include 90 days work release, house arrest for 90 days, intensive supervision for three months and the remainder on probation, $1,500.00 fine and costs, $4,427 in restitution to the victim of a vehicle accident, impaired driving program, ignition interlock program, drug and alcohol evaluation testing, 100 hours of community service and 12 to 18 months of suspension of driving privileges.

(f) Respondent did report her arrest to the Department, however failed to notify the Department within 30 days of her conviction for the charges.

(g) Respondent has agreed to enroll in the Agents Helping Agents program.

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(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).

(c) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(c) through 3(g) violates Section 611-A(20) of Act 147 of 2002.

(d) Section 678-A(b) of Act 147 of 2002 requires within 30 days of being charged with criminal conduct, a licensee shall report the charges to the Department. The licensee shall provide the Department with a copy of the criminal complaint, information or indictment, a copy of the order resulting from any pretrial hearing, or a report of the final disposition of the charges (40 P.S. § 310.78(b)).

(e) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(c) through 3(g) violates Section 678-A(b) of Act 147 of 2002.

(f) Respondent's violations of Sections 611-A(20) and 678-A(b) of Act 147 of 2002 are punishable by the following, under Section 691-A of Act 147 of 2002 (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 each violation of the Act;

(iii) an order to cease and desist; and

(iv) any other conditions as the Commissioner deems appropriate.

ORDER

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 shall pay a civil penalty of One Thousand Dollars ($1,000.00) to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Payment of this penalty shall be made by certified check or money order, payable to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Payment should be directed to Sharon L. Harbert, Administrative Assistant, Bureau of Enforcement, 1227 Strawberry Square, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120. Payment may be enclosed with the Consent Order, but must be paid in any event no later than thirty (30) days after the date of the Consent Order.

(c) Respondent's certificates and licenses may be immediately suspended by the Department following its investigation and determination that (i) penalty payment has not been made, or (ii) any other terms of this Order have not been complied with, or (iii) 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 five (5) years from the date of this Order.

(d) Respondent specifically waives her 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.

(e) At the hearing referred to in paragraph 5(d) of this Order, Respondent shall have the burden of demonstrating that she is worthy of a license.

(f) In the event Respondent's certificates and licenses are suspended pursuant to paragraph 5(c) above, and Respondent either fails to request a hearing within thirty (30) days or at the hearing fails to demonstrate that she 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, supra, 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: _____
KAREN N. SICIGNANO, Respondent

_____
RANDOLPH L. ROHRBAUGH
Deputy Insurance Commissioner
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania