# BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA 2011 APR 26 AM 11: 20

**ADMIN HEARINGS OFFICE** 

IN RE:

**VIOLATIONS:** 

CLAUDE CHAMBERS

40 P.S. §§ 310.11(5), (6), (7), (17)

8317 Marlborough Drive

20 and 1171.5(a)(12)

Jonesboro, GA 30238-2942

Respondent.

Docket No. CO11-04-006

# **CONSENT ORDER**

AND NOW, this 26th day of Open , 2011, this Order is hereby issued by the Insurance Department 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 he has received proper notice of his 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 Insurance Department finds true and correct each of the following Findings of Fact:
  - (a) Respondent is Claude Chambers and maintains his address at 8317 Marlborough Drive, Jonesboro, GA 30238-2942.
  - (b) At all relevant times herein, Respondent has held an individual resident producer license, No. 371057 to conduct the business of insurance in Pennsylvania.
  - (c) Between December 27, 1999 and March 11, 2010, Respondent had been an employee of Benefits Services, Inc. (hereinafter BSI), the for-profit entity of the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce (herein after GPCC), both located at 200 S. Broad Street, Suite 700, Philadelphia, PA 19102.
  - (d) While employed at BSI, Respondent was responsible for submitting insurance business to Independence Blue Cross (hereinafter IBC) on behalf of BSI.
  - (e) Respondent has admitted that between December 1, 2008 and

    March 11, 2010, he intentionally manipulated group census data for business

submitted to IBC in order to secure lower group premium rates for customers.

- (f) Between December 1, 2008 and March 11, 2010, Respondent failed to submit complete and accurate census data information for group members to IBC for at least thirteen (13) IBC group policies.
- (g) Respondent's actions resulted in a net loss of premium for IBC in the amount of \$61,421.92.
- (h) As a result of Respondent's actions, Respondent was terminated for cause by Benefits Services, Inc. (BSI) and the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce (GPCC) on March 11, 2010.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 4. In accord with the above Findings of Fact and applicable provisions of law, the Insurance Department concludes and finds the following Conclusions of Law:
  - (a) Respondent is subject to the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania Insurance

    Department.

- (b) 40 P.S. § 310.11(5) prohibits a licensee or an applicant from intentionally misrepresenting the terms of an actual or proposed insurance contract or application for insurance.
- (c) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(e) and 3(f) violate 40 P.S. § 310.11(5).
- (d) 40 P.S. § 310.11(6) prohibits a licensee or an applicant from committing any unfair insurance practice or fraud.
- (e) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(e) and 3(f) violate 40 P.S. § 310.11(6).
- (f) 40 P.S. § 310.11(7) prohibits a licensee or an applicant from using fraudulent, coercive or dishonest practices or demonstrating incompetence, untrustworthiness or financial irresponsibility in the conduct of doing business.
- (g) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(e) and 3(f) violate 40 P.S. § 310.11(7).
- (h) 40 P.S. § 310.11(17) prohibits a licensee or an applicant from committing fraud, forgery, dishonest acts or an act involving a breach of fiduciary duty.

- (i) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(e) and 3(f) violate 40 P.S. § 310.11(17).
- (j) 40 P.S. § 310.11(20) 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.
- (k) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(e) through 3(g) violate 40 P.S. § 310.11(20).
- (I) Respondent's violations of Sections 310.11(5), (6), (7), (17) and (20) are punishable by the following, under 40 P.S. § 310.91:
  - (i) suspension, revocation or refusal to issue the 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.
- (m) 40 P.S. § 1171.5(a)(12) prohibits agents from making false or fraudulent statements or representations on or relative to an application for an insurance policy.

- (n) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(e) and 3(f) constitute making false or fraudulent statements or representations on or relative to an application for an insurance policy and violate 40 P.S. § 1171.5(a)(12).
- (o) Respondent's violations of 40 P. S. § 1171.5(a)(12), is punishable by the following, under 40 Purdons Statutes, Sections 1171.8, 1171.9, and 1171.11:
  - (i) an order requiring Respondent to cease and desist from engaging in such violation and/or, if such violation is a method of competition, act or practice defined in Section 5 of this Act, suspension or revocation of Respondent's license(s);
  - (ii) commencement of an action against Respondent for the following civil penalties:
    - (1) for each method of competition, act or practice defined in Section 5 and in violation of the Act which Respondent knew or reasonably should have known was such a violation, a penalty of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) for each violation, not to exceed an aggregate penalty of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) in any six month period;

- (2) for each method of competition, act or practice defined in Section 5 and in violation of this Act which Respondent did not know nor reasonably should have known was such a violation, a penalty of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) for each violation, not to exceed an aggregate penalty of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) in any six month period;
- (3) for each violation of an Order issued by the Commissioner pursuant to Section 9 of the Act, while such Order is in effect, a penalty of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00).

# **ORDER**

- 5. In accord with the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Insurance Department 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) All licenses of Respondent to do the business of insurance are hereby revoked.

- (c) If Respondent should ever become licensed in the future, his 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 five (5) years from the date of issuance of such licenses.
- (d) Respondent specifically waives his 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 he is worthy of an insurance license.
- (f) In the event Respondent's 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 he is worthy of a license, Respondent's suspended licenses shall be revoked.

- 6. In the event the Insurance Department 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 Insurance Department finds that there has been a breach of any of the provisions of this Order, the Department 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 Insurance Department. Only the Insurance Commissioner or a duly authorized delegee is authorized to bind the Insurance Department with respect to the settlement of the alleged violations of law contained herein, and this Consent Order is not effective until executed by the Insurance Commissioner or a duly authorized delegee.

BY:

CLAUDE CHAMBERS, Respondent

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

By: RONALD A. GALLAGHER, JR.

Deputy Insurance Commissioner